

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDING OF THE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 8, 2022**

1) **Call to Order**

The Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Blue Island was called to order by Mayor Bilotto at 7:00 p.m. on March 8, 2022.

2) **Pledge of Allegiance**

3) **Roll Call**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present:	6	Johnson, Fahrenwald, Rita, McGee, Carr, Roll
Absent:	1	Montoya
Present Also:		Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk Erin Blake, City Attorney

4) **Presentation of Journal of Proceedings**

Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Carr to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2022, Regular Meeting of City Council.

Ayes:	6	Johnson, Fahrenwald, Rita, McGee, Carr, Roll
Nays:	0	
Absent:	1	Montoya
Abstention:	0	

There being six (6) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

5) **Public Comment**

A Blue Island resident commended the Police Chief and urged him to consider the implementation of an alternative policing plan.

6) Old Business

No old business.

7) New Business

No new business.

8) Report of City Officials

Mayor:

a. Motion for Approval of Payroll for March 4, 2022, for \$350,337.43 (gross).

Motion by Alderman Rita, second by Alderman McGee to approve Payroll for March 4, 2022, for \$350,337.43 (gross).

Ayes:	6	Johnson, Fahrenwald, Rita, McGee, Carr, Roll
Nays:	0	
Absent:	1	Montoya
Abstention:	0	

There being six (6) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

b. Motion for Approval of Accounts Payable for \$540,633.75.

Motion by Alderman Rita, second by Alderman Fahrenwald to approve Accounts Payable for \$540,633.75.

Ayes:	6	Johnson, Fahrenwald, Rita, McGee, Carr, Roll
Nays:	0	
Absent:	1	Montoya
Abstention:	0	

There being six (6) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Alderman Fahrenwald requested that the Thornton rebate contained within the accounts payable ledger only be paid if the City would incur late fees, due to the condition of their property.

c. Nomination for the Medal of Honor and Medal of Valor for the May 10, 2022 Illinois State Fire Marshal Ceremony.

The Mayor stated the Fire Department responded to an emergency call on Saturday, February 19, 2022, in which they saved two women from a fire. Unfortunately, one of the women died of her injuries.

The Chief's Recognition Award and Nomination for the Medal of Honor were presented to: Fire Fighter John McClement and Fire Fighter Anthony Parillo

d. Olde Western Avenue Streetscape.

The Mayor stated that Hitchcock Design would present their plans for Olde Western to the City Council during the Committee of the Whole meeting.

e. Resolution No. 2022-013: A Resolution Approving the Subrecipient Agreement for the Community Development Block Grant Program, Program Year 2022, City of Blue Island Street Resurfacing Project, and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Agreement and the Subrecipient Agreement.

Motion by Alderman Johnson, second by Alderman McGee for Adoption of Resolution No. 2022-013.

Ayes: 6 Johnson, Fahrenwald, Rita, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Rita

Abstention: 1 Fahrenwald

There being six (6) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Alderman Fahrenwald requested that New Street be resurfaced utilizing these grant funds.

f. Resolution No. 2022-014: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Approving the Execution of a Purchase and Sale Agreement for the Sale of City Owned Property at 12945 S. Mozart Street, Blue Island, Illinois 60406.

Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Fahrenwald for Adoption of Resolution No. 2022-014.

Ayes: 6 Johnson, Fahrenwald, Rita, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Montoya

Abstention: 0

There being six (6) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

g. Ordinance No. 2022-015: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, To Enforce Ordinance 90-212 and 2014-44 Regarding Retiree Health Insurance Coverage.

Withdrawn. The Mayor stated that the City handled retiree health insurance in 2011 and 2014 and the City would just begin to enforce those laws and educate retirees on next steps.

Mayor:

a. Mayor's Report

The Mayor announced the appointment of Anthony Strezo to Sergeant.

Sgt. Anthony Strezo extended his thanks for the promotion.

The Mayor stated that Mario Mendez, owner of Mario's Tacos, passed away after a long battle with cancer. He established his business in Blue Island in 1975 and it is currently undergoing remodeling.

The Mayor stated that over 630 property citations were heard in the administrative Court on February 23, 2022 and over \$106,000 in fines were imposed. The Mayor noted that the Building Department is working hard and focusing on repeat offenders.

The Mayor informed City Council that the new fire truck would be delivered tomorrow.

City Clerk:

b. City Clerk's Announcements

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman stated the Blue Island Library will host their annual Spring Snowman Burning in the parking lot across the street from the library on 3/19/2022 at 4 pm.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman stated the coordinator for the former St. Benedict Parish will be holding a station of the cross event on Good Friday at 2 pm. All department heads have been informed.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman stated that the Blue Island Trouble Makers will sponsor an antique car show in honor of police week. This will take place in Double Play’s parking lot on 5/15/2022 from 8 am until 5 pm.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman reported that the Hometown Heroes program started. She asked residents who have served in the armed forces to sign up and she explained that each veteran will have a banner on street poles lining Western from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman stated that the Community Clean-up Committee is taking volunteers. She asked residents to sign up on the website or at City Hall. The event will take place on April 23, 2022.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman stated the Blue Island Art Alliance will host an arts and crafts fair on 4/30/2022. More information to come.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman informed us that the Blue Island Public Library applied and was selected for the Competitive Federal Humanities Grant in the amount of \$10,000. This grant will help the library recover from the coronavirus pandemic.

The Mayor stated that the Fireworks will be July 3, 2022.

City Treasurer:

a. Treasurer’s Report February 2022.

Motion by Alderman McGee, second by Alderman Roll for Treasurer’s Report February 2022.

Ayes:	6	Johnson, Fahrenwald, Rita, McGee, Carr, Roll
Nays:	0	
Absent:	1	Montoya
Abstention:	0	

There being six (6) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The Mayor reported that the Treasurer is feeling better and is hoping to be back very soon.

Alderman Fahrenwald inquired about parking ticket revenue.

City Attorney:

a. Attorney’s Report.

City Attorney stated she passed out an ordinance that Alderman McGee and the Building Official were working on relating to intent to sell inspections that would be discussed at the COW meeting.

9) **City Administrator Announcements/Reports/Comments**

a. Request for Proposals – Accounting Firms

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan explained that the City published a request for proposals seeking a new accounting firm. John Kasperek Co. was the only vendor to respond to the RFP. Kasperek had been the City's auditor for several years and the City recommended entering into a contract with them for accounting services.

Alderman Johnson was not in agreement with Kasperek becoming the City's accountant.

b. Appropriations Ordinance.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan stated the City has been working diligently on this appropriation.

Alderman Roll reported that they are working on modeling various fund increases and decreases to forecast spending and are doing their best to be transparent and show where money is being spent by the City.

Alderman Fahrenwald stated the challenge will be to have the appropriation done by 3/31/2022.

c. City Administrator's Report.

Nothing to Report.

10) **Aldermanic Announcements/Reports/Comments**

Alderman Carr thanked the Fire Chief and the Police Chief for recognizing first responders. She had not seen public acknowledgement of promotions in some years and expected to see more of the same.

Alderman Johnson commended first responders for putting their lives on the line to provide a safety net. He also noted that the California Gardens is an excellent place to build a route to bypass trains during an emergency. He reported that the Untouchables are back! He encouraged anyone interested in joining to reach out.

Alderman Fahrenwald stated that he values democracy and considers himself fortunate to be able to participate in it given the current circumstances in the Ukraine.

11) **Motion for Adjournment**

Motion by Alderman Rita, second by Alderman Roll to adjourn the regular meeting.

Ayes: 6 Johnson, Fahrenwald, Rita, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays: 0

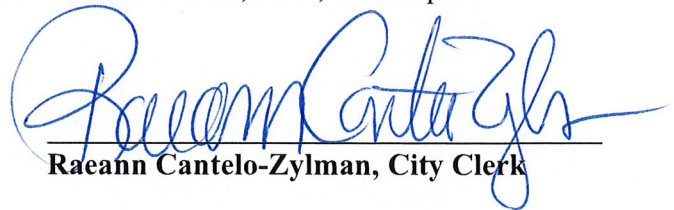
Absent: 1 Montoya

Abstention: 0

There being six (6) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.


The meeting was adjourned 7:58 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled March 22, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.



Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS
22ND DAY OF MARCH 2022**



Fred Bilotto, Mayor