

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BLUE ISLAND CITY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MAY 16, 2024**

1) **Call to Order**

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City of Blue Island was called to order by Mayor Bilotto at 6:01 p.m. on March 16, 2024.

2) **Pledge of Allegiance**

3) **Roll Call**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present:	4	Carr, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee
Absent:	3	Roll, Johnson, Montoya
Present Also:	4	Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk Erin Blake, City Attorney Thomas Wogan, City Administrator Mark Patoska, Deputy City Administrator

4) **Presentation of Journal of Proceedings**

No comment.

5) **Public Comment**

Pastor Ricky Dukes respectfully welcomes everyone to an open house for a new Christian school at 127th and Wood from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., which will feature classes for grades K-8th grade.

6) **New Business**

No new business.

7) **Mayor's Report**

a. Bid Opening for the Sale of City Owned Property.

2845 141st Place - Tyler Variety and Loving Home - \$3,000
3127 141st Place – Tyler Variety and Loving Home - \$10,000
2843 141st Place – Dale D. Jones - \$6,000
2845 141st Place – Rembrandt Builders - \$12,000

3127 141st Place – Rembrandt Builders - \$11,000
1859 Burr Oak – Christ Zacharias - \$2,000

- b. Ordinance 2024-__ : An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Promissory Note in Connection with Municipal Acquisition of a Vehicle for the City of Blue Island, Illinois.**

The Mayor noted that this note is for a new lift truck for Public Works that will be financed by Wintrust Bank for four years at 6% interest.

Alderman Fahrenwald inquired whether there would be a discount if they paid up front. Deputy City Administrator, Mark Patoska, remarked that they expected to pay 8.25% interest but that he would inquire.

- c. Ordinance 2024-__ : An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois Granting a Special Use Permitting Blue Island Auto Parts, Inc. to Operate an Auto Recycling Use within the I-2 General Industry District (13545 Sacramento Ave).**

The Mayor stated that page three lists all of the requirements; nonetheless, he has always remembered it as a junk yard throughout his life.

City Attorney, Erin Blake, noted that there is currently no junk yard listed as a use in the existing Zoning code and that the company has gone to planning and zoning numerous times in relation to the same. The PZBA has placed 17 restrictions on their ability to operate, including non-transferability of the special use, traffic requirements, noise limitations, ect.

- d. Ordinance 2024-__ : An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois Approving a Variance for the Property Located at 2101 120th Street.**

Alderman Fahrenwald stated there is a fence ordinance in place, and a six-foot white fence, based on that ordinance, would be heavily penalized. Therefore, he was curious as to how the PZBA voted to approve the fence variance. City Attorney, Erin Blake, stated he would speak with the Zoning Attorney and provide Alderman Fahrenwald with a response prior to the next City Council meeting.

The property owner claimed that there is nighttime traffic and various items have been stolen from their house and captured on camera.

Alderman Fahrenwald remarked that he appreciates the desire for the fence, and was just curious regarding the approval process.

- e. Ordinance 2024-__ : An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois Authorizing a Fee for Vehicle Registration for Motor Vehicles with C-Truck Plates.**

The Mayor noted that the city has never had a C-Truck plate sticker.

Alderman McGee inquired about the weight of the vehicle. Mark Patoska, Deputy City Administrator, indicated that C-trucks weigh between 8,000 and 9,000 pounds, and that last year, because we did not have a municipal sticker, we sold them the "B" truck sticker for \$55 rather than the correct \$65 amount.

f. Discussion regarding the train station fence bid.

The Mayor noted that there was a bid to replace the 900 feet of missing and rusting fence that surrounded the Vermont train station. There were four bidders, with prices ranging from \$60,000 to \$90,000.

Alderman Fahrenwald questioned the style of the fence. The Mayor noted that it is black and three-tiered, which is consistent with IDOT requirements.

Alderman Fahrenwald asked what they were planning to do with the large parking lot beside the water reclamation. The Mayor indicated that there are numerous concerns and it is only utilized for special events, but that it should be discussed.

The Aldermen had no issues with retroactive approval of the bid award to the lowest responsible bidder at the next meeting.

g. Mayor's Announcements/Comments.

The Mayor remarked that he had a wonderful vacation and met numerous different mayors, including a senator. It was good to see where his father grew up and where all of the Italians in Blue Island came from. Mr. Rubino did an excellent job in organizing the trip and the Mayor expects to return soon.

The Mayor added that he had received several text messages about how successful Mai Fest was.

8) City Clerk's Announcements/Reports/Comments

a. City Clerk's Announcements.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, commended the Art Alliance and all of the municipal departments for their contributions to making Mai Fest a recurring tradition.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, announced that the Hometown Heroes banners will be displayed next week.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone to attend the Bottle Rocket activity at the Blue Island Public Library on 5/18/24 from 1 pm until 2:30 pm.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, encouraged everyone to visit the Flower Sale this Saturday at York and Western.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, informed everyone that TGIF will begin on June 14th and end on August 24th. The Hope Center will sell its fruits and vegetables. We will also have more food and craft booths.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, informed everyone that the Community Yard Sale will take place on July 26, 27, and 28th and it is free of charge. Sign up at the Clerk's office.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, expressed gratitude to everyone who attended Municipal Clerks Week. A number of community members, including Mrs. Thompson, a former alderman, came out.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone to Cop on Top, a fundraiser for Special Olympics, at Dunkin Donuts on Vermont and 127th, from 5 a.m. to noon. They will be selling t-shirts and/or tumblers.

9) **City's Attorney's Report**

a. **Attorney Announcements.**

No comment.

10) **City Administrator's Announcements/Reports/Comments**

a. **City Administrator's Announcements/Comments**

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, remarked that housing court has seen a lot more activity, thus the City will now be holding two court dates per month. Code enforcement has increased thanks to the efforts of Community Service Officers.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, reminded everyone that due to the inclement weather, households should document and take photos in order to file for flood repairs.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, reminded everyone that the city stickers would be ready by next week, and that the Clerk's office would be open from 8 a.m. to noon every Saturday in June.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, indicated that last week he had the honor of accompanying Mitchell Soto-Rodriguez to Washington, D.C., where she was invited by Senator Durbin to appear before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday afternoon. She spent six hours preparing and an hour answering questions. She did an excellent job, and put Blue Island on the map.

Alderman Fahrenwald commended Officer Soto-Rodriguez on her excellent performance and expressed his gratitude for representing the City so well and making such a positive impression on the world. I also want to thank Chief Farr for facilitating everything.

Mitchell Soto-Rodriguez thanked Thomas Wogan and everyone for the support.

11) Aldermanic Announcements/Reports/Comments

a. Aldermanic Announcements/Reports/Comments

Alderman Rita inquired about the parking placards for medical providers and expressed her satisfaction with the completion of the alleyways.

Alderman Fahrenwald informed everyone that Valerie Kehoe plans to plant flowers along Western on Saturday and is searching for volunteers. Everyone will gather at City Hall at noon.

12) Adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to discuss litigation that has been filed and is pending before a court or an administrative tribunal and actions of probable or imminent litigation.

No Executive Session.

13) Motion for Adjournment

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

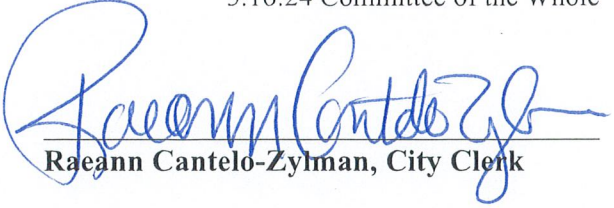
Ayes: 4 Carr, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Roll, Johnson, Montoya

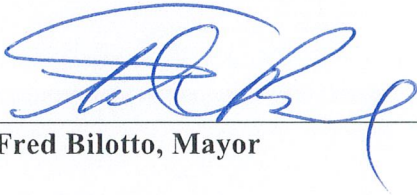
Abstention: 0

There being four (4) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.



Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS
11TH DAY OF JUNE 2024**



Fred Bilotto, Mayor