

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BLUE ISLAND CITY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
JUNE 13, 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 June 13, 2024.

2) **Pledge of Allegiance**

3) **Roll Call**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present:	3	Johnson, Fahrenwald, McGee, Bilotto
Absent:	4	Carr, Roll, Montoya, Rita
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**

None.

5) **Public Comment**

No comment.

6) **New Business**

None.

7) **Mayor's Report**

a. Discussion regarding fence installation scoring rubric.

City Attorney, Erin Blake, stated that the fencing amendment to the zoning code was never passed. She met with various department heads, including the Building Department, who believe the rubric initially presented is difficult for residents to understand. Department heads believed that the same results could be obtained without using a sophisticated rubric. The Mayor said that the simplest solution is to prohibit white pvc fencing.

Alderman Fahrenwald showed photographs of fences comparing white pvc fences to wood fences and demonstrated how the wood fences appeared nicer not only now but also throughout time. He stated that he would like to see the fences set back at least one foot when they are installed.

Alderman Johnson asked if an all-white fence could still go to Planning and Zoning for a variance. Alderman Fahrenwald stated that yes they could. This would just assist the Building Department authorities in preventing people from installing PVC fences.

b. Updates and Recommendations from Illinois Municipal League Regarding 2024 Legislative Session.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, gave a report to the City Council outlining some of the changes that Governor Pritzker made during the legislative session, including the elimination of the one percent grocery tax and the potential to replace the same with a locally imposed sales tax. Specifically, individual communities would have the authority to enact a resolution or ordinance outlining their plans for using the funds obtained from the sales tax increase.

c. Discussion regarding Resident Parking Only Restrictions.

The Mayor stated that there are various complaints and that a potential solution would be to make those streets surrounding Fulton and Chatham resident parking only.

Chief Farr added that he and the Deputy Chief drove and met with a few individuals who provided video of the gatherings and fights occurring in that area in the evening. The police picked up a large amount of garbage during this visit and the Chief noted that it is only a matter of time before these gatherings get out of control.

d. Mayor's Announcements/Comments.

The Mayor announced that work on 123rd Street for the summer program would soon start.

The Mayor also mentioned that there will be a city float in the Fourth of July parade, he invited the Aldermen to join. He noted the City had received over 70 entries for the parade.

8) City Clerk's Announcements/Reports/Comments

a. City Clerk's Announcements.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone to the motorcycle blessing organized by Mission Covenant Church on 6/23/24 at 10:30 a.m.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, welcomed everyone to the grand opening of the Beloved Family Wellness Center on 6/27/24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, indicated that Eisenhower would begin construction on the new field house and theater upgrades.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone to attend the Blue Island Blues and Barbeque event at the John D. Rita Center on 6/29/24 from 11 a.m. until dusk.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, welcomed everyone to attend TGIF on Friday, which would feature eight vendors, music, and food. This year, she noted that there would be a new farmer, Produce Brothers.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone to attend the Fourth of July parade that will begin at 12 p.m.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, reminded everyone to purchase his or her city stickers.

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

a. **Attorney Announcements.**

No report.

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

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

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, indicated that the Illinois General Assembly recently approved the 2025 State budget, which included a proposal to abolish the 1% statewide grocery tax. He noted that to compensate for the revenue shortfall, the state directed local municipalities to pass an ordinance or resolution.

11) **Aldermanic Announcements/Reports/Comments**

a. **Aldermanic Announcements/Reports/Comments**

Alderman McGee urged everyone to visit his or her senior neighbors, particularly during hot weather.

- 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 Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Johnson to adjourn the regular meeting.

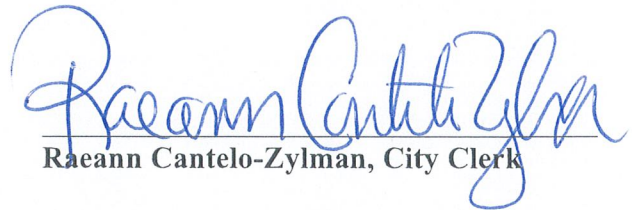
Ayes: 3 Johnson, Fahrenwald, McGee, Bilotto

Nays: 0

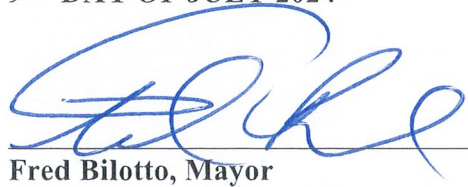
Absent: 4 Carr, Roll, Montoya, Rita

Abstention: 0

There being three (3) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.


Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk

APPROVED BY ME THIS
9TH DAY OF JULY 2024


Fred Bilotto, Mayor