

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDING OF THE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 23, 2024**

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 7:01 p.m. on April 23, 2024.

2) **Pledge of Allegiance**

3) **Roll Call**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present:	6	Carr, Roll, Johnson, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee
Absent:	1	Montoya
Present Also:	5	Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk Jairo Frausto, Treasurer Erin Blake, City Attorney Thomas Wogan, City Administrator Mark Patoska, Deputy City Administrator

4) **Presentation of Journal of Proceedings**

Motion by Alderman Johnson, second by Alderman Roll to approve the Committee of the Whole Minutes from the March 13, 2024.

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

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

Motion by Alderman Johnson, second by Alderman Roll to approve the City Council Minutes from the April 9, 2024.

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

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

5) Public Comment

Mission Covenant Church commended everyone for restoring the alley and following through on notices and signage, as well as Public Works for providing garbage cans.

A Blue Island resident complained that it was unfair that Public Works would not take up debris even if it was only sticks of wood. I also wanted to know about the policy about marijuana nuisance.

Mr. Stevo appreciates the city's enhancements, but he wants to know where the money comes from. I'd like to see the hospital reopen, but State Representative Robert Rita has failed us. Also, what are the Mayor's office hours? City Attorney, Erin Blake stated that it is public feedback and the Council is not compelled to respond.

6) Old Business

No old business.

7) New Business

a. Tree Arbor Day Proclamation.

Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Carr to approve the Tree Arbor Day Proclamation.

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

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

The Mayor encouraged Blue Island people to continue celebrating Arbor Day on 4/23/24, which helps to moderate temperatures, cleans the air, provides habitat for wildlife, and lowers heating and cooling expenditures, among other benefits.

8) Mayor's Report

a. Motion for Approval of Payroll for April 12, 2024, for \$437,652.41 (gross).

Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Carr to approve Payroll for April 12, 2024, for \$437,652.41 (gross).

Ayes: 6 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee
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 dated April 19, 2024, for \$602,317.89.

Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Roll to approve Accounts Payable dated April 19, 2024, for \$602,317.89.

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

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

Alderman Fahrenwald highlighted the line item for Blue Island Maps. The Mayor mentioned that these are historical maps that would be placed in the East Annex.

- c. Ordinance 2024-019: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island Amending Ordinance Number 2024-004 that Granted Preliminary Approval of a Planned Unit Development within the UTOD District.**

Motion by Alderman McGee, second by Alderman Roll for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-019.

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Montoya

Abstention: 0

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

- d. Ordinance 2024-020: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island Amending Chapter 77 “Residential Parking” of the Code of Blue Island, Illinois.**

Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Roll for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-020.

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Montoya

Abstention: 0

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

Alderman McGee stated that parking would be limited to one hour. The Mayor indicated that they will clean 119th to 135th and replace outdated and faded signage.

- e. Ordinance 2024-021: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois Amending Chapter 72 “Parking Regulations” of the Code of Blue Island, Illinois.**

Motion by Alderman Carr, second by Alderman Fahrenwald for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-021.

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

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

f. Ordinance 2024-022: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois Amending Chapter 30 “City Council” of the Code of Blue Island, Illinois.

Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Fahrenwald for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-022.

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

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

g. Resolution 2024-018: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Designating the Deputy City Administrator as the Authorized Representative to Sign the Highway Authority Agreement for Environmental Remediation at 12548 S. Western.

Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Fahrenwald for Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-018.

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

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

Alderman Fahrenwald noted that the content was highly technical. Could you elaborate? The Mayor noted that the City obtained an IEPA grant to fix gas tanks that have been there for more than a decade, the City is not doing the job. This will occur sometime throughout the summer. City Deputy Administrator, Mark Patoska, noted that there is a corrective action plan for soil contamination at 12548 Western, as well as an agreement between adjoining property owners and IDOT.

- h. Resolution 2024-019: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Authorizing and Approving a Proposal from Alliant Insurance Services, Inc. for General Liability Insurance from United Specialty Insurance Company.**

Motion by Alderman Johnson, second by Alderman McGee for Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-019.

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

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

Alderman Rita could you please repeat that? The Mayor stated that this is for City Hall.

- i. Ordinance 2024-023: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois Amending Chapter 92 “Fair Housing” of the Code of Blue Island, Illinois.**

Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Johnson for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-023.

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

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

Alderman McGee stated that he cannot believe it had never been done before.

j. Mayor's Announcements/Comments.

The Mayor noted that the alleys are moving full speed ahead, depending on the weather. Travis Parry from Burke Engineering is working with Michael Schroeder from Public Works on the final phase, hopefully wherever we can depending on how much money we have, but he feels it will be one more and all of the alleys in the City will be completed. Mr. Parry is preparing a rough draft of every alley for the alderman to ensure that none of them are missed.

The Mayor noted that they are finishing up work that was not completed last year from the road program from 119th to Gregory, repairing nearly every single sidewalk and curve, leading to 119th Place, Elm Drive, Union Street, and finally concluding in Sacramento, depending on water main replacement.

The Mayor there has been no indication regarding the start date of the deconstruction.

The Mayor remarked that Olde Western odds and ends are still being completed to make it safe for the Mai Fest on 5/11/24, and both construction companies have been notified.

The Mayor indicated that the departments are moving on and planning for the remainder of the year, but City Hall is experiencing staffing hardships, including filling positions and advertising them on the website.

9) City Clerk's Announcements/Reports/Comments

a. City Clerk's Announcements

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone to pick up an Oak sampling to plan in their yard at the Blue Island Public Library until the rest of the month.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, reminded everyone to fill out the Block Party and Special Events forms, which are available in the Clerk's office.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, informed everyone that the Community Clean Up will take place this Saturday, 4/27/24 on York and Western. The Mayor and administration will be cooking for everyone at 11:30 am.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone to the Mai Fest on 5/11/24 from 12 pm until 5 pm on Olde Western.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone to the Flower Sale and Chalk Walk in May on York and Western.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, thanked everyone who contributed to the building of bird houses at the Meadows Golf Course in an effort to kick off Earth Week.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone to the Neighborhood Watch Group #37 on 5/9/24 at 7 pm at Evangelical Church located at 2253 120th Street.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone that St. Donatus Church is hosting Sweet and Treats this Sunday after every mass the 9 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 1:30 p.m. to support altar servers.

10) Treasurer's Report

a. City Treasurer's Announcements/Comments

No comment.

11) City Attorney's Report

a. Attorney's Announcements/Comments

No comment.

12) City Administrator's Announcements/Reports/Comments

a. City Administrator's Announcements/Comments

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, advised the Council that the code enforcement reports would be provided to the aldermen, but they would not be categorized by ward.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, informed the Council that the city stickers will probably be going on sale by the middle of May.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, informed the Council that the water balance payment was received from the hospital. The City is almost done with the first phase of the project to replace water meters on commercial properties—we're 90% of the way there. The City wishes to start with the residential meters which are the main source of trouble and consistently provide zero readings for water.

Alderman Rita inquired as to when you believe the residential meters will be introduced. Thomas Wogan, City Administrator, noted that they hope to begin by mid-summer since they need to order equipment and schedule manpower at Calumet City Plumbing. They require advance notice to schedule visits as early as July; but, they can complete this project throughout the year, particularly the previous route they were able to work on in November and December of previous year.

13) Aldermanic Announcements/Reports/Comments

Alderman Johnson stated that he has been attempting to contact Cook County to express his concerns about the bridge on Kedzie; however, he has had no success. The bridge from 135th to 143rd and Kedzie is very dark, and many accidents have occurred, as well as debris thrown out by there, posing a hazard to everyone nearby. He also stressed the need of increasing the number of people who volunteer for community cleanups.

14) 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; and pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6) to discuss employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of certain employees.

Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Fahrenwald to enter Executive Session.

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

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

Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman McGee to Reconvene.

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

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

The Mayor stated possible imminent litigation.

15) Motion for Adjournment

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

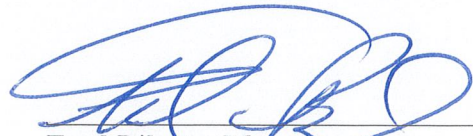
Ayes: 6 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Montoya
Abstention: 0

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

The Mayor reminded everyone that the next Committee of the Whole will be held on Thursday, 5/16/24.

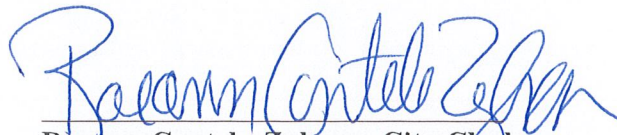
The meeting was adjourned 8:10 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled May 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.



Fred Bilotto, Mayor

**APPROVED BY ME THIS
14TH DAY OF MAY, 2024**



Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk