

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDING OF THE  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
JULY 9, 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 7:02 p.m. on July 9, 2024.

**2) Pledge of Allegiance**

**3) Roll Call**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present:	6	Carr, Roll, Johnson (7:07 pm), Montoya, Fahrenwald, McGee
Absent:	1	Rita
Present Also:	4	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 McGee, second by Alderman Carr to approve the City Council Minutes from the June 25, 2024, City Council meeting.**

Ayes:	5	Carr, Roll, Johnson, Fahrenwald, McGee
Nays:	0	
Absent:	2	Montoya (break 8:55 pm), Rita
Abstention:	0	

There being five (5) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

**5) Public Comment**

Mission Covenant Church thanked the City for the Fourth of July parade and notes that they had a great time. She also stated that the community needs to fill a void by assisting people who are in need of a job, food, and other necessities.

A Blue Island resident for the last seventeen years received a property tax bill and needs help understand why it increased 20 to 30 percent.

6) **Old Business**

No old business.

7) **New Business**

No new business.

8) **Mayor’s Report**

**a. Motion for Approval of Payroll for July 5, 2024, for \$468,983.85 (gross).**

**Motion by Alderman Montoya, second by Alderman McGee to approve Payroll for July 5, 2024, for \$468,983.85 (gross).**

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

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

**b. Motion for Approval of Accounts Payable dated July 10, 2024, for \$503,576.19 (gross), approval of Manual Check dated June 13, 2024 for \$4,325.00 (gross); approval of Manual Check dated June 24, 2024 for \$30,516.03 (gross); approval of Manual Check dated June 25, 2024 for \$66,895.00 (gross), and approval of Manual Check dated July 3, 2024 for \$4,500 (gross).**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Carr to approve Accounts Payable for Several Accounts Payable Check Runs.**

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

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

- c. **Resolution 2024-025: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Awarding the Bid to the Lowest Responsive Bidder, H&H Electric Company, for the Western Avenue LED Conversion Project.**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Montoya for Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-025.**

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

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

The Mayor declared that once done, all of the City's lights will be converted to LED.

- d. **Resolution 2024-026: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Establishing a Sister City Relationship with Castrolibero, Italy.**

**Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Johnson for Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-026.**

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

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

- e. **Mayor's Announcements/Comments.**

The Mayor stated that the Fourth of July Parade was a success even though it was drizzling. There were 120 entries, twelve floats, three marching bands, national guard, color guard, Old Bess, an old police car with a retired Deputy Chief who was

happy to drive in the parade and a new fireworks company. The Fire Department and Police Department fed the national guard after the parade.

The Mayor stated that the next big event will be the Day of the Dead.

The Mayor asserted that he had spoken with numerous mayors in the area about the increase in residents' property tax bills. He stated that 80% of the tax bill goes to school districts, that the City capped its tax collection at 4.9%; therefore, the City had nothing to do with the increase. The Mayor of Harvey convened a news conference to obtain all information from the Cook County Assessor Office regarding the increase. Residents should notify the Cook County Assessor with any concerns.

9) **City Clerk's Announcements/Reports/Comments**

**a. City Clerk's Announcements**

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, thanked everyone who helped make the Fourth of July Parade a success. She is pleased with all the wonderful comments.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone to the Blue Island Crawly Trolley this Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at 6 pm, which begins at the Lyric.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, reminded everyone to register for the Community Garage Sale on July 26, 27, and 28<sup>th</sup>. Sign up at the City Clerk's office.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, encouraged everyone to attend the Christmas Light Parade Fundraiser at the Lyric on 7/26/24 at 6 pm.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, revealed that the City of Blue Island and the Park District will collaborate with the Lyric on August 4, 2024, to bring Grease to the Island, including a car show.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone to the National Night Out on 8/6/24.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, reminded everyone that the St. Donatus Carnival will be 8/7/24 to 8/11/24.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone to the Blue Island Health Fair on 9/28/24 at the Blue Island Beer Company.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone for the Howl O'ween parade on 10/19/24 at the Meadows Golf Course.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, reminded everyone that the Day of the Dead celebration will be held on 11/2/24.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, advised everyone to start preparing for the scarecrow decorations.

The Mayor stated the Guildhaus will have the Blue Bridges 5k on Sunday, September 22, 2024.

The Mayor stated that the Friends of the Cal-Sag Trail will also be celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary on 9/22/24.

**10) Treasurer's Report**

**a. Motion to Approve the June 2024 Treasurer's Report.**

**Motion by Alderman Carr, second by Alderman Montoya for June 2024 Treasurer's Report.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Rita

Abstention: 0

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

**b. City Treasurer's Announcements/Comments**

No comment.

**11) City Attorney's Report**

**a. Attorney's Announcements/Comments**

No report.

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

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

No report.

**13) Aldermanic Announcements/Reports/Comments**

Alderman Carr congratulated the Fire Department, Police Department, and Public Works for taking part in the Fourth of July Parade. My family and grandchildren were pleased to see all of the cars participate, particularly Santa Claus, who was off duty.

Alderman McGee praised everyone involved in organizing the Fourth of July Parade. He will look forward to the parade each year.

Alderman Johnson complimented all of the departments, particularly Public Works, for cleaning up everything so promptly and safely after the parade. He also thanked everyone who came out to the Blues and Barbeque event. He noted that the residents felt a part of the community. Finally, he noted his concern regarding the increase in property taxes.

- 14) **Adjourn to Executive Session** pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) to discuss the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired.

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

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

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

**Motion by Alderman McGee, second by Alderman Roll to Reconvene.**

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

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

The Mayor stated the City Council discussed the purchase, sale, or lease real property.

- 15) **Motion for Adjournment**

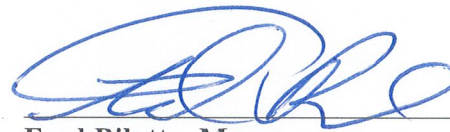
**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Johnson to adjourn the regular meeting.**

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

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

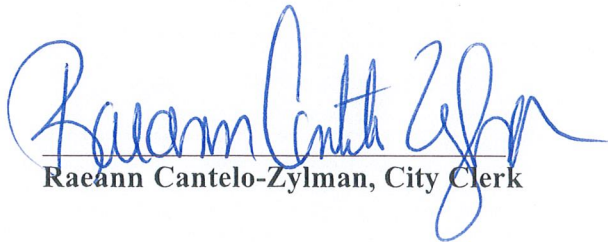
The meeting was adjourned 9:20 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled July 23, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.



**Fred Bilotto, Mayor**

**APPROVED BY ME THIS  
23<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2024**



**Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk**