

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDING OF THE  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 8, 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 7:00 p.m. on October 8, 2024.

2) **Pledge of Allegiance**

3) **Roll Call**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present:	7	Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya (7:05 pm), Rita Fahrenwald, McGee
Absent:	0	
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**

a. **Motion by Alderman McGee, second by Alderman Carr to approve the City Council Minutes from the September 10, 2024, City Council 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.

b. **Motion by Alderman Johnson, second by Alderman McGee to approve the City Council Minutes from the September 12, 2024, Committee of the Whole meeting.**

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

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

Alderman McGee requested that the City review the anomalies in Alderman Montoya's attendance.

5) **Public Comment**

Mission Covenant Church is having a Pinktober Cancer Wellness event on 10/29/24 at 10:30 a.m.

6) **Old Business**

No old business.

7) **New Business**

**a. Police Department Recognition Awards.**

Chief Farr awarded the following awards:

Officer Lambert, 1 Life Saving Medal, 1 Unit Citation  
Officer Pulido, 1 Life Saving Medal, 3 Unit Citations  
Detective Spivey, 2 Unit Citations  
Detective Reyes, 2 Unit Citations  
CSO Watson, 1 Unit Citation  
CSO Tannura, 1 Unit Citation  
Detective Ramos, 1 Unit Citation  
Officer Hilt, 1 Unit Citation  
Officer Golembiewski, 1 Life Saving Medal, 1 Unit Citation  
Officer Doolan, 1 Life Saving Medal, 1 Unit Citation  
Officer Esparza, 1 Unit Citation  
Sergeant Babbitt, Gallantry Star

**b. Proclamation for National Disability Employment Awareness Month.**

The Mayor read a proclamation and declared October 2024 as National Disability Employment Awareness in the City of Blue Island.

8) **Mayor's Report**

a. **Motion for Approval of Payroll for September 13, 2024, for \$443,291.34 (gross).**

**Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Carr to approve Payroll for September 13, 2024, for \$443,291.34 (gross).**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

b. **Motion for Approval of Payroll for September 27, 2024, for \$473,975.98 (gross).**

**Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman McGee to approve Payroll for September 27, 2024, for \$473,975.98 (gross).**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

c. **Motion for Retroactive Approval of Accounts Payable dated September 25, 2024, for \$682,460.10 (gross).**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Montoya to approve Accounts Payable.**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

- d. **Motion for Approval of Accounts Payable dated October 9, 2024, for \$2,420,796.47(gross) and Manual Checks dated September 12, 2024, in the amount of \$21,800.00.**

**Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Johnson to approve Accounts Payable.**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

- e. **Motion to Deem Smitty's Tree Service, Inc. as the Lowest Responsible Bidder and Award the Contract for the 2024 Tree Removal and Pruning Program to Smitty's Tree Service, Inc.**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Johnson to Award Contract to Smitty's Tree Service, Inc.**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Alderman Fahrenwald expressed gratitude to Valerie Kehoe, Public Works' Michael Schroeder, and the City Council for their assistance in ensuring the safety of these trees. He noted that this fall, 245 trees will be pruned and 113 will be removed thanks to the grant obtained by the Forestry Board.

- f. Resolution 2024-037: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Authorizing and Approving the Execution of the Agreement by and between the City and Fresh Coast Capital, LLC d/b/a Greenprint Partners Related to Funding for the Green Stormwater Infrastructure Project.**

**Motion by Alderman Johnson, second by Alderman Montoya for Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-037.**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald,  
McGee  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0  
Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

- g. Resolution 2024-038: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Ratifying the Execution of an Enrollment Agreement by and Between the City and T-Mobile USA, Inc. Related to Wireless Services.**

**Motion by Alderman Carr, second by Alderman Roll for Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-038.**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald,  
McGee  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0  
Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

- h. Resolution 2024-039: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Adopting the 2024 Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Roll for Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-039.**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald,  
McGee

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

- i. Resolution 2024-040: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Setting the Date and Hours for Trick or Treating in the City for Halloween 2024.**

**Motion by Alderman Rita, second by Alderman Roll for Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-040.**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

- j. Resolution 2024-041: 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 for the Policy Term October 3, 2024-October 3, 2025.**

**Motion by Alderman McGee, second by Alderman Johnson for Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-041.**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

- k. Resolution 2024-042: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, to Authorize and Approve an Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the City and Various Municipalities Regarding the 2023 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Award.**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Carr for Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-042.**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0  
Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Alderman Rita asked why the City was approving a 2023 grant for the JAG Program Award. Commander Dennis Sepessy explained that there was a delay by the City in awarding the grant.

- l. Resolution 2024-043: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Authorizing and Approving the Execution of the 2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Subrecipient Agreement.**

**Motion by Alderman McGee, second by Alderman Johnson for Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-043.**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0  
Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The Mayor stated the grant will cover Irving Avenue from 119th and 122nd streets.

- m. Resolution 2024-044: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, to Authorize and Approve an Intergovernmental Agreement by and**

**between the City and Various Municipalities Regarding the 2024 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Award.**

**Motion by Alderman Carr, second by Alderman Fahrenwald for Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-044.**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0  
Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

- n. Ordinance 2024-040: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Amending Title XI (“Business Regulations”) of Chapter 111 (“Alcoholic Liquor”) of the Code of the City of Blue Island.**

**Motion by Alderman McGee, second by Alderman Johnson for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-040.**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0  
Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Alderman Fahrenwald inquired regarding the changes to the liquor license code. The Mayor noted that there is a Sunday Bears game in England and that certain bars in the City would like to open at 8:00 a.m. for the same, but the Code does not address this type of request.

- o. Ordinance 2024-041: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Amending Chapter 77 “Parking Schedules” of the Code of Ordinances Regarding Designated Residential Permit Parking Only Zone B-10 to Include Clinton Avenue.**



**Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Fahrenwald for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2024-041.**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0  
Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

**p. Mayor's Announcements/Comments.**

The Mayor noted that the Police Department provided an excellent presentation on the department's overall progress, and that they had done an outstanding job despite the shortages.

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

**a. City Clerk's Announcements**

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, called on everyone to set up a scarecrow in front of their home, business, or at York and Western.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited residents to attend the Howl O'ween at The Meadows Golf Course, which runs from 12 to 4 p.m. The Stray Dog Project will have vendors, food, drinks, selfie station and a doggie parade. Sign up in the Clerk's Office.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, reminded everyone that the Blue Island Park District and the Blue Island Public Library have various Halloween events, which you may check out online.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, indicated that Day of the Dead will be held on 11/2/24 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. This year, the City is collaborating with District 218 to create a fun-filled program of events for the community.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, asked everyone to mark their calendars for the Kringle Mart on 12/7/24, which will include children's rides, a tree lighting with the Mayor, and the iconic light parade.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, asked everyone to celebrate the countdown to 2025 in front of the Lyric with music and fireworks.

**10) Treasurer's Report**

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

**Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Montoya for September 2024 Treasurer's Report.**

Ayes: 7 Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald,  
McGee

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstention: 0

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

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

No comment.

**11) City Attorney's Report**

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

No comment.

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

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

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, announced that the administration is working on the year's last quarter, compiling financials and wrapping up the audit. He reminded the Aldermen that discussions regarding appropriations would begin soon.

Alderman Johnson inquired about the appropriations for splash pads.

Alderman Rita asked when the audit was scheduled to take place. City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, stated the audit will be presented to the Council in October, the tax levy will be filed in November, and the appropriations work will be done in December and January.

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

Alderman Rita praised Openlands, Valerie Kehoe, Public Works, the Forestry Board, Park District, State Representative Bob Rita, and all volunteers for the planting of trees in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward.

Alderman Johnson praised Valerie Kehoe and Public Works for cleaning up the Community Garden and working on the fruit plants. He invited everyone to the John D. Rita Recreation Center to see the new floors, which had a Blue Island decal in the center. He also thanked the finance department for their assistance with the new floors.

Alderman Montoya welcomed everyone to the annual truck or treat at the Park District on 10/26/24.

**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.

No Executive Session.

**15) Motion for Adjournment**

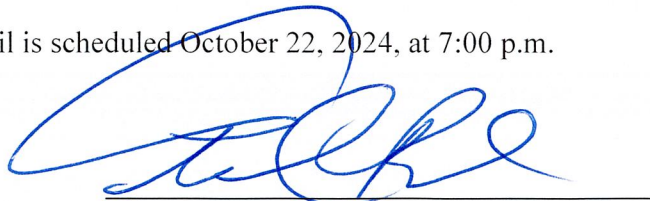
**Motion by Alderman Rita, second by Alderman Fahrenwald to adjourn the regular meeting.**

Ayes:	7	Carr, Roll, Johnson, Montoya, Rita, Fahrenwald, McGee
Nays:	0	
Absent:	0	
Abstention:	0	

There being seven (7) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned 7:41 p.m.

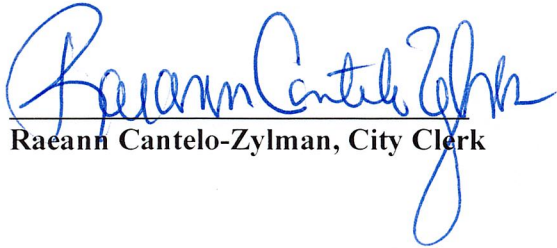
The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled October 22, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.



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Fred Bilotto, Mayor

**APPROVED BY ME THIS  
22<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2024**



Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk