

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDING OF THE  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 12, 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 November 12, 2024.

**2) Pledge of Allegiance**

**3) Roll Call**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present:	5	Fahrenwald, McGee, Carr, Roll (remotely), Montoya
Absent:	1	Johnson
Present Also:	4	Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk Nancy Rita, Treasurer Erin Blake, City Attorney Thomas Wogan, City Administrator

**4) Presentation of Journal of Proceedings**

- a. Motion to Allow Alderman Joshua Roll to Attend the Meeting Remotely Due to Family or Other Emergency and Pursuant to the City of Blue Island's Remote Attendance Policy.**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman McGee to allow  
Alderman Roll to Attend the Meeting Remotely.**

Ayes:	4	Fahrenwald, McGee, Carr, Montoya
Nays:	0	
Absent:	1	Johnson
Abstention:	0	

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

**b. Motion to Approve the City Council Minutes from the October 22, 2024 City Council Meeting.**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Montoya to approve the City Council Minutes from the October 22, 2024, City Council meeting.**

Ayes: 5 Fahrenwald, McGee, Carr, Montoya, Roll

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johnson

Abstention: 0

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

**5) Public Comment**

Mission Covenant Church asked everyone to take part in a food and toy drive in collaboration with the Salvation Army. The food items must be submitted by 11/15/24 and the toys by early December.

The Blue Island Robbins Neighborhood Network (BIRNN) in partnership with Compudopt and Cook County Digital Equity invites everyone to attend a "Digital Life Celebration" event on 11/21/24, from 3 to 6 pm at the John D. Rita Community Center. This event aims to bridge the digital divide by providing 300 laptops and 200 high-speed internet hotspots to Blue Island and Robbins residents. Attendees will also have an opportunity to learn about digital literacy and receive two years of free technical support with their devices.

**6) Old Business**

No old business.

**7) New Business**

**a. Proclamation honoring Korbakes' 110<sup>th</sup> Year in Blue Island.**

The Mayor stated that the family was unable to attend and the proclamation would be continued to the next meeting.

**8) Mayor's Report**

**a. Motion for Approval of Payroll for October 25, 2024, for \$468,166.06 (gross).**

**Motion by Alderman Carr, second by Alderman Montoya to approve Payroll for October 25, 2024, for \$468,166.06 (gross).**

Ayes: 5 Fahrenwald, McGee, Carr, Roll, Montoya  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 1 Johnson  
Abstention: 0

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

**b. Motion for Approval of Payroll for November 8, 2024, for \$463,123.70 (gross).**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Carr to approve Payroll for November 8, 2024, for \$463,123.70 (gross).**

Ayes: 5 Fahrenwald, McGee, Carr, Roll, Montoya  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 1 Johnson  
Abstention: 0

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

**c. Motion for Approval of Accounts Payable dated November 13, 2024, for \$759,714.04 (gross).**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman McGee to approve Accounts Payable for November 13, 2024, for \$759,714.04 (gross).**

Ayes: 5 Fahrenwald, McGee, Carr, Roll, Montoya  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 1 Johnson  
Abstention: 0

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

**d. Motion to Approve Mayoral Appointment to City of Blue Island Library Board of Trustees.**

The Mayor noted this appointment would also be continued to the next meeting..

- e. **Resolution 2024-046: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois to Authorize and Approve an Agreement with the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS).**

**Motion by Alderman Carr, second by Alderman McGee for Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-046.**

Ayes: 5 Fahrenwald, McGee, Carr, Roll, Montoya  
 Nays: 0  
 Absent: 1 Johnson  
 Abstention: 0

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

- f. **Mayor’s Announcements/Comments.**

The Mayor noted that major infrastructure improvements are coming to an end, and that any remaining work will be completed in the spring as asphalt manufacturers close for the season. They have begun working on certain alleyways that were scheduled for next year; however, completion is dependent on the weather and the plants' ability to continue operations.

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

- a. **City Clerk’s Announcements**

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, thanked everyone who built scarecrows and noted her appreciation for the ten schools that participated in the voting process.

**City of Blue Island Scarecrow Contest 2024  
Categories**

**Residents**

1<sup>st</sup> place – Mildret Delgadillo  
2<sup>nd</sup> place – Chavez Family  
3<sup>rd</sup> place – Casasola Family

**Blue Island Business**

1<sup>st</sup> place - State Farm  
2<sup>nd</sup> place – The Lyric Theater  
3<sup>rd</sup> place – Corona

**Blue Island Groups**

1<sup>st</sup> place – Blue Cap School  
2<sup>nd</sup> place - Up House

**Blue Island Organizations**

1<sup>st</sup> place – Art Alliance  
2<sup>nd</sup> place - Forestry Board

3<sup>rd</sup> place – Guildhaus

3<sup>rd</sup> place – Blue Island Chamber of Commerce

**City Departments**

1<sup>st</sup> place – Building Department

2<sup>nd</sup> place – Fire Department

3<sup>rd</sup> place – The Meadows Golf Course

**City Officials**

1<sup>st</sup> place – Joshua Roll

2<sup>nd</sup> place – Gabriel McGee

3<sup>rd</sup> place – Luiz Montoya

**10) Treasurer’s Report**

**a. Motion to Approve October 2024 Treasurer’s Report.**

**Motion by Alderman Montoya, second by Alderman Fahrenwald for Approval of the October 2024 Treasurer’s Report.**

Ayes: 5 Fahrenwald, McGee, Carr, Roll, Montoya

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johnson

Abstention: 0

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

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

No report.

**11) City Attorney’s Report**

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

No report.

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

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

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, stated that alderman headshots will be required for the website overhaul, and that a date for the photos must be set.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, stated that the City is waiting for the audit to be completed. He expected the audit to be done by the end of November so that appropriation planning could begin in December.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, advised the Council that Department Heads are being scheduled to present to City Council in response to the Council's requests.

David Haywood, Fire Chief, reported that the Fire Department is assessed by ISO as a 3. ISO is a private firm that assesses how rapidly Fire departments put out fires through dispatching, training, documenting, fleet age, and water infrastructure. ISO's grading system ranges from one to ten, with one being the best; and so Blue Island's Fire department is doing very well.

The Department received 4,700 calls in 2022, 4,300 in 2023, and are in line for approximately 4,300 calls in 2024. The Advanced Life Support (ALS) update began in June 2023, and as a result, they received new stretchers, CPR equipment, seven gold starters, and numerous letters of recommendation. There are three battalion chiefs, 31 fire fighters, and 2 lieutenants; however, they are currently 5 fire fighters short. The Department also has three engines, one truck, three ambulances, three chief buggies, and one fire prevention vehicle.

In addition, the Fire Department must also comply with the FDA regulations for annual physicals, ladder and hose testing, continuing education and training, and the required training standards vary according to the title of each firefighter. The Department is looking to build a training facility, with monies from the TIF district and \$25,000 the Department was able to raise through fundraising.

Some goals for the next year include increasing EOP through FEMA for a basic natural disaster plan, SOPs beginning in 2018, renegotiating the CBA by the end of 2025, updating the firehouse's function, updating the dispatch system, which is outdated throughout the division, and purchasing cameras for each firefighter, which will cost approximately \$14,000; however, they have applied for grants. Fire prevention officials are getting caught up on their annual inspections. The Fire Department has also attended a number of city activities, including school, church, and memorials.

The Mayor requested an update on the distinction between Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS). Chief David Haywood noted that they have life-saving equipment, 60 medications, 10 narcotics, commitment at all levels, and Grounding Medical Transport (GMT) training for all difficult situations. ALS can save lives because they can begin providing life-saving measures to patients immediately, whereas BLS only allows the department to transfer patients in dire situations to the hospital.

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

No comment.

**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.**

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

Ayes: 4 Fahrenwald, McGee, Carr, Montoya  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 1 Roll, Johnson  
Abstention: 0

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

**Motion by Alderman Montoya, second by Alderman Fahrenwald to Reconvene.**

Ayes: 4 Fahrenwald, McGee, Carr, Montoya  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 1 Roll, Johnson  
Abstention: 0

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

The Mayor stated City Council discussed possible imminent litigation.

**15) Motion for Adjournment**

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

Ayes: 4 Fahrenwald, McGee, Carr, Montoya  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 1 Roll, Johnson  
Abstention: 0

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

The meeting was adjourned 7:42 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled for November 26, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.



Fred Bilotto, Mayor

**APPROVED BY ME THIS  
26<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024**



Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk