

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDING OF THE  
PUBLIC HEARING – 2025 APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE  
FEBRUARY 25, 2025**

**1) Call to Order**

The Public Hearing of the City Council of the City of Blue Island was called to order by Mayor Bilotto at 6:45 p.m. on February 25, 2025.

**2) Roll Call**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present:	4	Fahrenwald, Carr, Montoya, Ruthenberg
Absent:	3	McGee, Roll, Johnson
Present Also:	5	Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk Nancy Rita, Treasurer Erin Blake, City Attorney Thomas Wogan, City Administrator Mark Patoska, Deputy City Administrator

**3) Presentation of Proposed Annual Appropriation Ordinance**

The Mayor stated that the public hearing in relation to the City's 2025 Appropriations Ordinance would proceed. As such, the Annual Appropriation Ordinance would be presented by the City Administrator. The Mayor noted that this Appropriation Ordinance reflects an increase in infrastructure expenditures, which differs from the previous year, but that the ordinance is otherwise fairly comparable to last year.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, reported that a budget differs significantly from an appropriation. The appropriation gives the City the ability to spend the indicated amounts, but the appropriation does not guarantee that those funds will be spent. Last year, the general fund was appropriated at \$22 million, but the City only spent \$19 million.

Due to the IEPA, there are two huge prospective projects faced by the City, the largest of which costs \$6 million for lead line repair and \$10 million in bonding revenue to repaint the inside and outside of the City's water tanks. The City is considering bonding through Fifth Third Bank and is in the process of reviewing the terms of the same. He noted that the City has not taken out any bonds in the last four years of this administration and the City is actually paying its final payment tonight on a bond that pre-existed this administration. The City is aggressively improving fleets, including a new fire engine, ambulance, and Public Works truck, which it is financing wherever possible. The most

noticeable change to the appropriation is due to the Fire Department's transition to ALS services. These services were expected to increase income; but, the City was the only Department to implement ALS mid-year and billing did not catch up as quickly as the City would have desired, resulting in missed ambulance revenue.

4) **Public Hearing**

No public comment during the Public Hearing.

5) **Motion for Adjournment**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Montoya to adjourn the public hearing meeting.**

Ayes:	4	Fahrenwald, Carr, Montoya, Ruthenberg
Nays:	0	
Absent:	3	McGee, Roll, Johnson
Abstention:	0	

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

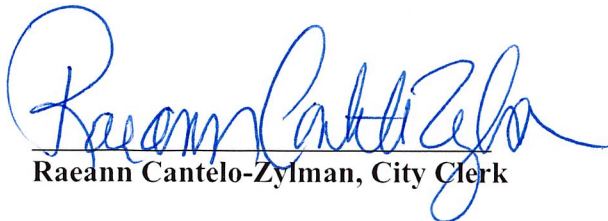
The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 pm.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled March 11, 2025, at 7 pm.



**Fred Bilotto, Mayor**

**APPROVED BY ME THIS  
11<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2025**



**Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk**