

**CITY OF OAKBROOK TERRACE  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AND  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2017**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Mayor called the September 12, 2017, Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 P.M.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Roll call indicated the following Aldermen were in attendance:

Present: Esposito, Greco, Przychodni, Thomas, Vlach, and Mayor Ragucci

Absent: Swartz

Also in attendance were City Clerk M. Shadley, Building and Zoning Administrator Dragan, Assistant to the Mayor and Administrator M. Sarallo, and City Attorney R. Ramello.

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Mayor led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IV. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None.

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS**

1. Regular Meeting Minutes Of August 22, 2017.

**Motion to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2017 Regular City Council and Committee of the Whole as presented was made by Alderman Greco and seconded by Alderman Esposito.**

**Alderman Ayes: Esposito, Greco, Przychodni, Thomas, and Vlach**

**Alderman Nays: None**

**Motion passed.**

**VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Peter Herz, a local resident and builder, offered his sincere apologies to the Council for the inconveniences caused due to the slow nature of his project. Herz indicated he had unforeseen financial problems with the project. Herz asked the Council to cancel the 13 tickets issued by the City. Herz asked the Council for consideration because he is a hardworking contractor.

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Maria Evan, Herz's sister, addressed the Council and said in the past she has helped her brother financially with his business, but that her family has endured other hardships this year so she cannot provide assistance.

Mayor Ragucci said typically the Council does not respond during the public comment portion, but asked the Council to waive this so that they could respond to Herz's concerns. Alderman Esposito, Alderman Greco, Alderman Przychodni, and Alderman Thomas agreed to respond to Herz's concerns and Alderman Vlach opposed it.

Alderman Esposito said about a year ago, the City held a Town Hall meeting regarding residential property maintenance and as a result of resident concerns the City is taking a hard stance on the maintenance of rental and owner occupied dwellings. Alderman Esposito said Herz has constructed four (4) homes within the City so he should be aware of the building and zoning requirements, yet he continues to violate City ordinances. Alderman Esposito said residents do not want to see run-down homes and garbage piling up on City streets. Alderman Esposito said the City cannot make exceptions. Alderman Esposito said if a hardship is truly at play, then it is up to the Council on how to respond. Herz commented that the home on Marshall is the last property he will be building and he will only pursue small projects in the future. Alderman Esposito indicated that Herz needs to be more considerate of neighbors and the community.

Alderman Greco said he needs to understand what the tickets issued to Herz were for and that he was not prepared to make a decision without more information. Alderman Thomas and Alderman Przychodni agreed with Alderman Greco that they are not prepared to make decision on this matter. Alderman Vlach said he would take tonight's comments into consideration.

Mayor Ragucci said he has seen all the correspondence from Herz to the City. Mayor Ragucci said the City has tried to work with Herz. Mayor Ragucci asked Herz to vet his renters more through both a criminal and financial background check before signing a lease. Herz noted he never intended to rent his properties but with the housing market crash he had no choice. Mayor Ragucci said the Council will take this into consideration before the October 2017 court date. Mayor Ragucci suggested Herz prove that his business is good for the community.

**VII. ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Payment of City Bills: September 12, 2017 In The Amount Of \$263,835.43.

**Motion to approve all the items contained on the Consent Agenda for September 12, 2017 as presented was made by Alderman Przychodni and**

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seconded by Alderman Esposito.

**Alderman Ayes: Esposito, Greco, Przychodni, Thomas, and Vlach  
Alderman Nays: None**

**Motion passed.**

**VIII. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

None.

**IX. RECESS TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**Motion to recess to the Committee of the Whole portion of this meeting was made by Alderman Vlach and seconded by Alderman Thomas.**

**Alderman Ayes: Esposito, Greco, Przychodni, Thomas, and Vlach  
Alderman Nays: None**

**Motion passed.**

**X. MAYOR RAGUCCI**

Mayor Ragucci indicated he received a request from resident Kerry Ryan Morgan regarding a possible memorial for long-time resident and employee Lori Dvorak. Esposito supported this memorial and said Dvorak influenced a lot of lives in her Youth Commission days. Alderman Esposito also suggested that former Youth Coordinator Alice Schellhorn be recognized with a memorial as well. Mayor Ragucci said he will speak with Dvorak family regarding this and report back to the Council.

Mayor Ragucci said Flood Brothers approached him about partnering for a Harvey and Irma hurricane donation. Mayor Ragucci noted that Flood Brothers will match the City's donation. Mayor Ragucci suggested a \$10,000 donation from the City's Traffic Enforcement Division. Alderman Greco said he would support the contribution, but wondered if there was any legality in donating the money to another municipality. Ramello replied the contribution could be made through an intergovernmental agreement. Mayor Ragucci said he would report back to the Council on this matter.

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**XI. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CONSIDERATIONS**

1. Proposed FY 2019 Budget Action Calendar.

Finance Consultant Haslett stated every year at this time the Council reviews the proposed budget calendar. Haslett noted the FY 2019 budget meetings are scheduled for next March and Mayor Ragucci asked the Council to contact him if these dates do not work. The Council concurred to place this on the next consent agenda.

2. Appointment of and Amendment to Police Chief's Employment Agreement.

Mayor Ragucci indicated the amended Police Chief's Employment Agreement includes only a date change to reflect the Mayor's term. The Council concurred to place this on the next consent agenda.

3. Appointment of and Amendment to City Administrator's Employment Agreement.

Mayor Ragucci indicated the amended City Administrator's Employment Agreement includes only a date change to reflect the Mayor's term. The Council concurred to place this on the next consent agenda.

4. Surveillance Camera Survey Results

Mayor Ragucci reported 170 residents responded to the surveillance camera survey with 87 favoring the installation of the cameras and 83 opposed to it. Mayor Ragucci said he supports what the residents want when it comes to the cameras. Alderman Esposito stated he initially supported the cameras, but now in reading the survey comments he is more on the fence. Alderman Greco stated he was shocked that the final tally was more a tie and believes cameras provide a false sense of security. Alderman Greco believes the money would be better spent on officer overtime to patrol the residential subdivision or a neighborhood watch program. Alderman Greco said the Police Department has stepped up efforts and the City needs to continue with this approach. Alderman Greco said he could not support the cameras.

Alderman Przychodni suggested each resident have the option to install their own security system and the City could rebate a portion of the cost. Alderman Przychodni felt this was a better option than installing cameras at the entrances to the subdivision. Alderman Vlach believes the cameras are a good idea for the neighborhood, but does not favor compensating residents for their own private

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security system. Alderman Vlach suggested the Police Department focus their efforts on the residential neighborhood.

Mayor Ragucci said the City should hold another Town Hall meeting on Tuesday, October 24, 2017 where the cameras could be discussed further. Mayor Ragucci said flyers regarding the Town Hall meeting would be distributed to residents. The Council concurred to hold a Town Hall meeting in October.

**XII. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

None.

**XIII. CITY ATTORNEY RAMELLO**

None.

**XIV. CITY CLERK SHADLEY**

None.

**XV. ASSISTANT TO THE MAYOR & ADMINISTRATOR SARALLO**

Assistant to the Mayor and Administrator Sarallo stated the monitors would be installed in the Police Department's entryway for the court dates associated with the traffic enforcement cameras.

**XVI. RECONVENE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Motion to reconvene the City Council meeting was made by Alderman Greco and seconded by Alderman Esposito.**

**Alderman Ayes: Esposito, Greco, Przychodni, Thomas, and Vlach**

**Alderman Nays: None**

**Motion passed.**

**XVII. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**ADJOURN**

**Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Thomas and seconded by Alderman Vlach at 7:55PM.**

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**Motion carried unanimously.**

Submitted,

Aileen Haslett  
Recording Secretary