

**CITY OF OAKBROOK TERRACE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AND
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2016**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the March 22, 2016, 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: Greco, Przychodni, Swartz, Thomas, Vlach, and Mayor Ragucci

Absent: Esposito

Also in attendance were City Clerk M. Shadley, City Administrator A. Marrero, 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 March 8, 2016.
2. Budget Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2016

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2016, Regular City Council and Committee of the Whole and the March 9, 2016 Budget Meeting Minutes as presented was made by Alderman Przychodni and seconded by Alderman Thomas.

Ayes: Greco, Przychodni, Swartz, Thomas, and Vlach

Nays: None

Motion passed.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Resident Steve Schneider stated garbage is spilling over on to his property from a new home under construction at 588 Halsey. Schneider suggested construction vehicles should only be allowed to park on one side of the street in residential areas to improve traffic flow. Ragucci said he will send the City's code enforcement officer to

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the location. Schneider stated he was not in agreement with the new rental license fee of \$250 and noted that he maintains the exterior appearance of his rental homes. Schneider recommended for next year landlords in compliance pay a reduced rental license as an incentive program. Ragucci replied the City will consider reducing the fee back to \$150 for compliant landlords for next year. Ragucci added another town hall meeting will be held in May regarding the residential rental inspection program.

Resident Michael Pavlak said the residential rental inspection program has not done what it first desired to do based upon how his real estate devalued over the past six (6) or seven (7) years. Pavlak said it upsets him as to how far the City's property value can fall in such a short time. Pavlak indicated his property has lost about \$400,000 in value over the last seven (7) years. Ragucci said a developer is not going to buy a house for \$245,000, when the house is worth \$175,000 and construct a new house. Ragucci said developers are not going to come to Oakbrook Terrace because of the value that people are asking for their homes.

Ragucci indicated there will be strict enforcement of the City's property maintenance codes, but the Council can only do so much and he hopes residents comply. Ragucci said we will have to wait a couple of years and see if the economy changes.

VII. ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA

1. Payment of City Bills: March 22, 2016 In The Amount Of \$119,810.96.
2. Treasurer's Report February 2016.
3. Personnel Report February 2016.

Motion to approve all the items contained on the Consent Agenda for March 22, 2016 as presented was made by Alderman Thomas and seconded by Alderman Greco.

**Ayes: Greco, Przychodni, Swartz, Thomas, and Vlach
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 Swartz.

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Ayes: Greco, Przychodni, Swartz, Thomas, and Vlach
Nays: None

Motion passed.

X. MAYOR RAGUCCI

Ragucci indicated the Easter Spring Event and Kite Fly will take place on Saturday, March 26th at noon. Ragucci recommended the appointment of Douglas Jackson to the Planning and Zoning Commission to fill Norene Myszkowski spot. The Council concurred to place this appointment on the next consent agenda.

XI. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CONSIDERATIONS

1. Presentation By The City Of Oakbrook Terrace's Historical Society

Bob Shanahan of the Oakbrook Terrace Historical Society provided a snapshot of what the Historical Society has done over the past year. Shanahan said the Society is working with new assisted living facility, Terra Vista, to provide some historical photos for the building. Shanahan noted the Society is also working with the Police Department in gathering photos of past Police Chiefs and has worked with several other community groups. Shanahan recognized Mary Ahrens as the longest living resident of Oakbrook Terrace. Shanahan said Ahrens moved to Oakbrook Terrace in 1951 and will be 90 years old this year.

Shanahan noted the Fik House experienced several major repairs including: removal of the basement's drywall due to a prior flood and the replacement of the sewer and vent pipes. Shanahan also noted the Society is restoring the bathroom to the original 1950's condition. Shanahan thanked the Council for their continued support. Shanahan requested the same budget as last year for operations.

Vlach asked when the building will be open to the public on a regular basis. Shanahan replied the Fik House is always available for tours by appointment and the Society does not currently have the funds or volunteers to establish a set operating schedule. Greco noted all monies received by the Historical Society are used wisely. Greco said he would vote to keep the City's contribution toward the Society going.

Greco asked if the City could provide snow removal and landscaping services because the maintenance costs are high for the Society. Ramello said the City could provide these services. Ragucci said he would speak with Ward about this. Shanahan asked if the water bill could be deferred a year or two because they are not using water at the Fik House. Marrero said even if the water is shut-off; customers are required to pay the minimum. Ragucci said he supports the

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Historical Society because it is the last of the City's past. Ragucci said supporting the Society is important and the right thing to do. Ragucci suggested the Society address the Council each year with a report on their activities. Swartz commended Shanahan's presentation and said he supported the Historical Society.

2. July 4th Catering Vendor

Sarallo referenced the catering proposals included in the agenda packet. Sarallo said Uncle Bub's has catered the July 4th event for the past 12 years and noted there are two (2) options up for consideration. Sarallo explained both options have the same food items including: pulled pork, hot dogs, corn, and newly added broasted chicken and broccoli salad.

Sarallo explained the big difference between the two (2) options is the addition of ice cream. Sarallo said the first option includes serving ice cream cups which totals \$16,182 for all catering. Sarallo stated the second option includes an ice cream truck with various ice cream novelties totaling \$17,802 for all catering.

Greco suggested for next year maybe the Lions Club could serve fresh corn. Discussion ensued regarding both options and the Council concurred to go with the first option of serving ice cream cups for a total catering price of \$16,182. The Council concurred to place the catering contract on the next consent agenda.

3. Review Of The DuPage Convention Visitor's Bureau (DCVB) Budget

Marrero referenced the DCVB documents included in the agenda packet. Marrero said the first document represents the DCVB budget, while the second document reflects what the City receives for the annual membership dues of \$59,000 paid to the DCVB. Marrero summarized some of the items received for the membership including: the printed and electronic guide to Oakbrook Terrace, feature segments for the City in DCVB publications, business opportunities for the City and hotels, and DCVB leads resulting in hotel bookings for the City.

Marrero went on to discuss the DCVB budget and noted \$40,000 is paid to Triple AAA for advertising, while 22% of the budget is website related marketing materials. Marrero said the budget also includes \$10,000 for advertising on the new billboard on Route 83. Ragucci suggested the \$10,000 for the billboard could be removed because the City can advertise for free on the billboard. Marrero said the DCVB has not advertised on the billboard yet. Marrero said the Oak Brook shopping packages line item of \$5,000 is being eliminated as well. Marrero added the Oak Brook Mall does not give out shopping packages any more.

Greco clarified that the DCVB budget represents additional monies that we pay the DCVB on top of the membership dues. Greco stated most municipalities just

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pay the membership fees. Greco said if the \$10,000 line item for the billboard is gone that is \$10,000 less than the City is paying the DCVB.

The Council concurred to request the DCVB attend an upcoming meeting to discuss their budget request in detail. Swartz stated there is a number of items such as the Zoo shopping package the City needs to look into regarding the DCVB budget. Przychodni indicated it should be easy to cut this budget back to \$85,000. Ragucci noted of the surrounding communities the City gives the most money to the DCVB.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Greco asked if construction fencing was required by the City. Greco said this fencing will stop garbage from blowing around. Schneider said there is fencing around the construction site discussed earlier, but garbage is still blowing over. Swartz commended Ward who recently reviewed the Berkshire streets and offered some recommendations on how to repair the cracks.

Ragucci said he understands Mike Pavlak's concern and a town hall meeting will be held in May. Ragucci said the City will place letters regarding the meeting in resident mailboxes and advertise it on the new electronic sign. Ragucci said people have to take responsibility for their own houses.

XIII. CITY ATTORNEY RAMELLO

None.

XIV. CITY CLERK SHADLEY

None.

XV. CITY ADMINISTRATOR MARRERO

None.

XVI. RECONVENE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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

Ayes: Greco, Przychodni, Swartz, Thomas, and Vlach

Nays: None

Motion passed.

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XVII. NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Thomas and seconded by Alderman Swartz at 8PM.

Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted,

Aileen Haslett
Recording Secretary