

**CITY OF OAKBROOK TERRACE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AND
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY JULY 27, 2021**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Esposito called the July 27, 2021, Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council to order at 7:04P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the following Council members were in attendance:

Present: Barbari, Fitzgerald, Greco, Rada, Vlach, and Mayor Esposito

Absent: Beckwith

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

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Esposito 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 July 13, 2021

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2021, Regular City Council and Committee of the Whole as presented was made by Alderman Rada and seconded by Alderman Vlach.

Ayes: Barbari, Fitzgerald, Greco, Rada, and Vlach

Nays: None

Motion passed.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

VII. ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA

1. Payment of City Bills: July 27, 2021, In The Amount Of \$287,760.91.
2. Treasurer's Report June 2021.

**CITY OF OAKBROOK TERRACE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AND
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY JULY 27, 2021**

3. Personnel & Payroll Report June 2021.
4. Ordinance No. 21-23: An Ordinance Decreasing The Number Of Class “A” Liquor Licenses By One (1), Pursuant To The Provisions Of Title XI (Business Regulations); Chapter 111 (Food And Beverages); Subchapter *Alcoholic Liquor Control*, Section 111.012 (Number Of Licenses In Each License Classification), Of The Code Of Ordinances Of The City Of Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois, As Amended (Chipotle Mexican Grill 18W050 22nd Street).

Motion to approve all the items contained on the Consent Agenda as presented for July 27, 2021, was made by Alderman Greco and seconded by Alderman Barbari.

**Ayes: Barbari, Fitzgerald, Greco, Rada, 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 Rada and seconded by Alderwoman Fitzgerald.

**Ayes: Barbari, Fitzgerald, Greco, Rada, and Vlach
Nays: None**

Motion passed.

X. MAYOR ESPOSITO

Mayor Esposito invited everyone to attend the Police Department’s National Night Out on Tuesday, August 3, 2021 beginning at 6PM in the City Hall parking lot. The Historical Society will be hosting an ice cream social on this night as well.

XI. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CONSIDERATIONS

1. Presentation By The City’s Hotel Convention & Visitor’s Bureau.

Don Hill, of the Hilton properties and Chair of the Hotel Commission stated the City’s hotels are doing much better than they were doing 12 months ago. Hill reported the following 2021 metrics for the City’s hotels.

**CITY OF OAKBROOK TERRACE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AND
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY JULY 27, 2021**

June 2021 vs. June 2020 Comparison

	June 2021	June 2020	% Change
Occupancy %	56.7%	28.1%	101.3%

January - June YTD Comparison

	2020	2021	% Change
Occupancy %	35.2%	40.8%	15.9%
Average Daily Rate \$	\$ 90.43	\$ 83.02	-8.2%
Revenue Per Available Room \$	\$ 31.85	\$ 33.88	6.4%

Hill noted people are traveling again, which is exciting. The hotels do not seem to be having problems booking weekend stays. Many of the City’s hotels are now booking for youth sporting events and family reunions. Weekday travel for business professionals is also picking up. Some of the Oakbrook Tower tenants are now using the City’s hotels for their employees traveling to Oakbrook Terrace. Hill noted just as weekday travel is picking up, the hotels are experiencing difficulty employing staff members. Hill estimated 40% to 50% of the City’s hotel rooms are shut down because staff is not available to clean the hotel rooms. Hill noted other area hotels are experiencing the same problem. Hill discussed the 2022 conventions coming to McCormick Place and the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center.

Mayor Esposito said he appreciated Hill’s report and expressed his concerns for the hotel industry as well. Alderwoman Fitzgerald asked what workforce strategies the hotel industry is looking at to employ people. Hill noted there will most likely be some wage changes as well as some changes to hotel services. These changes including modifications to the daily cleaning schedule and hotel restaurant hours. Hill noted the primary concern is to hold on to current staff and fill open positions. Alderman Greco asked if the City could allocate tourism funds to help the hotels hire staff. City Attorney Ramello noted hotel taxes are earmarked for the promotion of tourism. City Attorney Ramello further noted a job fair would be a tourism expense. Hill said the best way to proceed with staffing issues, would be for the hotels to pool their resources and offer employment incentives. Alderman Greco suggested placing hotel related job openings on the City’s website under the Tourism tab. Alderman Greco asked if he could review the Hotel Commission minutes. Hill said he will share the minutes with the City Council.

Beth Marchetti, Executive Director of the DuPage County Visitors Bureau (DCVB), stated with the American Rescue Plan program there is some tourism funding that a community may allocate to the hotels. Marchetti said on a county level she asked for \$15 million for the hotel industry. Marchetti noted the County has asked what the municipalities are contributing towards this. Marchetti provided a brief overview of the DuPage County Visitors Bureau. Marchetti discussed how the pandemic has impacted the hotel industry. Marchetti discussed the upcoming DCVB initiatives. Marchetti said there is now a pool in

**CITY OF OAKBROOK TERRACE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AND
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY JULY 27, 2021**

Westmont that can accommodate high school swim meets, which should spur hotel stays in Oakbrook Terrace. In calendar year 2019, \$1.6 million in taxes were generated by Oakbrook Terrace hotels and of this the DCVB received \$65,000. The hotel taxes include the 6% State of Illinois tax and the 6% City tax. Prior to the pandemic, Oakbrook Terrace was third overall for hotel taxes in DuPage County. Marchetti noted Alderman Rada will be serving on the DCVB Board. Mayor Esposito thanked Marchetti for a great presentation. Mayor Esposito said it is going to take a lot more time to rebuild and get people back into hotels. Mayor Esposito said in reading about the hotel industry the two (2) biggest marketing components is to put more money into more digital advertising and target more regional travel than national. Mayor Esposito said it is going to be critical on how the City allocates tourism dollars going forward to attract more people to the City's hotels. Alderman Greco asked the Hotel Commission to include advertising on the City's billboard on the next agenda.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Aldermanwoman Fitzgerald and Alderman Rada thanked staff for their attention on the recently annexed property south of the Berkshire subdivision. Alderman Rada said the Berkshire subdivision really feels part of Oakbrook Terrace. Alderman Greco said he was looking forward to National Night Out.

XIII. CITY ATTORNEY RAMELLO

None.

XIV. CITY CLERK SHADLEY

None.

XV. CITY ADMINISTRATOR MARRERO

City Administrator Marrero said all the Council members received the FY 2022 budget book tonight. City Administrator Marrero also said the Council needs to select a date and time for updated photos for the City's website. The Council concurred to hold the photo session prior to a City Council meeting. City Administrator Marrero will email some possible dates to the City Council.

XVI. RECONVENE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Motion to reconvene the City Council meeting was made by Alderman Rada and seconded by Aldermanwoman Fitzgerald.

Ayes: Barbari, Fitzgerald, Greco, Rada, and Vlach

Nays: None

**CITY OF OAKBROOK TERRACE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AND
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY JULY 27, 2021**

Motion passed.

XVII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Barbari and seconded by Alderman Vlach at 8:30PM.

Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted,

Aileen Haslett, Recording Secretary