

**CITY OF OAKBROOK TERRACE  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AND  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2022**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Esposito called the October 25, 2022, 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 City Council members were in attendance:

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

Also in attendance were Interim City Administrator A. Raffel 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 October 11, 2022

**Motion to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2022, Regular City Council was made by Alderman Vlach and seconded by Alderman Beckwith.**

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

**Motion passed.**

**VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Resident Ms. Lisa Pesce wanted to give an update since she has been working with the Morton Arboretum. Ms. Pesce wanted to ask for a formal slot at the next town hall meeting that will be providing residents with an update and next steps. Ms. Pesce stated she had been speaking to some of the folks on Dr. Norwich's team. She said she has been communicating with Zack Wirtz about municipalities and trees. He has been helpful and provided a bunch of information. Ms. Pesce asked if he could attend the meeting, but he could not. She said that he offered her a package of information that she would be able to present. Ms. Pesce stated she would love to present on behalf of the Morton Arboretum, with some surveys based on aerials that have been completed regarding tree canopies over the last ten years. She will present information on the value of trees as well. Ms. Pesce stated that she wanted to request the time at the town hall formally. She also said that others have many points they would like to release, but those will naturally come out at the town hall.

**VII. ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Payment of City Bills: October 25, 2022, In the Amount Of \$508,075.93
2. Treasurer's Report - September 2022
3. Personnel & Payroll Report – September 2022

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4. Ordinance No. 22-31: 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 (Winnies Café, Inc., d/b/a Winnies Cafe)
5. Ordinance No. 22-32: An Ordinance To 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 (Butterfield’s Oak Brook, LLC., d/b/a Butterfield’s Pancake House And Restaurant)

**Motion to approve all the items contained on the Consent Agenda as presented for October 25, 2022, was made by Alderman Rada and seconded by Alderman Beckwith. Roll call was taken.**

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

**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 Barbari and seconded by Alderwoman Fitzgerald. An acclamation vote was taken.**

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

**Motion passed.**

**X. MAYOR ESPOSITO**

Mayor Esposito wanted to thank Administration Staff, Public Works, Council, and all those attending Pumpkins in the Park last Saturday. Mayor Esposito stated that we had a great turnout, with approximately 122 registered children. Mayor Esposito said we had fantastic weather for the very uncharacteristic day, considering the last two Pumpkins in the Park have been pretty chilly, so a great event. Mayor Esposito stated it was a pleasure to meet and greet the residents and the kids and to see that everybody was out there having fun, so a big thank you.

Mayor Esposito commented that Veteran’s Day would be Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am with a change of location. Mayor Esposito explained that the event would be held at the Villa Park VFW at 39 E. St. Charles Road. Mayor Esposito said we would join the ceremony with the Village of Villa Park and the VFW Post 2801 to honor veterans this year. Mayor Esposito said a flyer has gone out to the residents today and asks for residents to register so we can get a head count. Mayor Esposito stated that the event would be similar to the years past, but with a different location to honor all the veterans from the City of Oakbrook Terrace. Mayor Esposito said his goal is to make it bigger and better every year. Mayor Esposito noted the Village of Villa Park and the VFW Post 2801 are excited about the ceremony. Mayor Esposito stated that the ceremony would

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have more participation, videos, and guest speakers. Mayor Esposito said City Administrator is working on setting everything up and working with the VFW Post 2801.

Mayor Esposito stated that the next Town Hall meeting is scheduled for Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 am in the City Council Chamber. Mayor Esposito explained that the meeting would start in the City Council Chambers, not at Dorothy Drennon Park. Mayor Esposito stated he was concerned about the weather that day. He explained that we would start at the City Council Chambers for the presentation from Jedd Anderson and other guests, followed by the walkthrough with our residents. Mayor Esposito stated the presentations should be about an hour long, conclude, then reconvene at Dorothy Drennon Park to complete the walkthrough. Mayor Esposito said an arborist would attend with a landscape architect and our City Engineer. Mayor Esposito stated that not all of the buckthorn might be removed throughout the creek line, but by the time we have the Town Hall meeting, it should be all removed. Mayor Esposito feels that depending on the weather after the Town Hall meeting, Semper Fi might work until Thanksgiving, but the weather may halt the project until spring. Mayor Esposito explained that the winter would provide an opportunity to create a visual of a mitigation plan for replanted trees and bushes. Mayor Esposito stated he has had many conversations with residents and the overall feeling of the project is split. Mayor Esposito noted that the goal is to develop a mitigation plan so the residents will enjoy the final product. He stated again that the Town Hall meeting is on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, and the mailing should arrive before the date, knowing there were concerns from the last Town Hall meeting.

Mayor Esposito acknowledged the passing of long-time resident Joan Kagebein. Mrs. Kagebein was a resident of Oakbrook Terrace for 58 years and passed away on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Esposito stated that Joan and Carl Kagebein have been great supporters of our city and have lived here for a long time. Mayor Esposito said he had attended school with their kids. Mayor Esposito stated that Mrs. Kagebein was a perfect lady and will be greatly missed; thoughts and prayers go out to the Kagebein family.

Mayor Esposito acknowledged the passing of longtime resident Gerald Di Nella on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mayor Esposito explained that Mr. Di Nella had been a resident of Oakbrook Terrace for 48 years. Mayor Esposito stated that thoughts and prayers go out to the Di Nella family.

**XI. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CONSIDERATIONS**

1. Presentation By The City's Hotel Convention And Visitor's Bureau Commission

Mayor Esposito stated that the City Hotel Convention and Visitor's Bureau Commission will have a presentation tonight but does not see Vincent Ziga. Mayor Esposito said this item would be added to the next City Council meeting agenda.

2. Discussion of Final Water Tower Renderings

Mayor Esposito stated that this is the final water tower rendering discussion and asked Council to review the draft image from Mauge. Mayor Esposito said he has worked with Public Services Director Ward, going back and forth on the design of the water tower. Mayor Esposito asked for the rendering to model Elmhurst's tower on Route 83 and St. Charles Road. Mayor Esposito stated he is unsure about the color scheme. Mauge is using green and beige, but Mayor Esposito was hoping the strip on the bottom would come up more, but he is looking for direction from the Council. Alderman Rada stated he was confused when he only saw one rendering, but the agenda indicated plural. Mayor Esposito noted that we had several renderings over two months, but thinks this is the last one based on previous suggestions. Alderman Rada explained that the font should be scaled back a bit. Mayor Esposito stated that the specs on paper make the lettering and logo look disproportionate, but once on the tower, everything will be of actual size. Mayor Esposito said tonight's intentions are to give Public Services Director Ward further direction for a final drawing. Alderman Vlach stated he would like to see the rendering on the tower to be simple, just Oakbrook Terrace. Alderman Beckwith said he looked over his notes from the last meeting and believed we asked for a second line on the top, the beige color. Mayor Esposito stated he is not sure about

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the color scheme and knows that Elmhurst's tower is green and the green does pop, making it a little more attractive. Alderman Beckwith stated he looked at the website; the rendering seems pretty similar to the scheme on the website. Alderman Barbari said he likes the rendering, but misses the leaves. Mayor Esposito explained that some of the final renderings did have the leaves on as examples, but the consensus was that most did not like them on our water tower. Alderwoman Fitzgerald wanted clarification regarding the color of the top line since she was not present at that meeting. Mayor Esposito explained that he sent a picture of Elmhurst's water tower to Public Services Director Ward, describing the color scheme and the thickness of the stripes. Mayor Esposito stated he feels we should use the City's colors, model it a little differently, and then scale the logo as Alderman Rada suggested. Mayor Esposito indicated that staff will go back to Public Services Director Ward one more time, knowing the water tower is not scheduled to be painted until next year, so it's okay if we go back and forth to get this right.

3. Draft Resolution Approving and Authorizing an Agreement Between the City Of Oakbrook Terrace and Pyrotecnico Fireworks, Inc., for Fireworks Displays for the City's 2023-2025 Fourth Of July Celebrations

Mayor Esposito asked City Council to review the agreement between the City of Oakbrook Terrace and Pyrotecnico Fireworks, Inc., a multiyear proposal. Mayor Esposito explained that the City had used Melrose Pyrotechnics for the annual fireworks display, and Pyrotecnico had acquired them. Mayor Esposito stated they are proposing a multi-year contract quoting \$30,400 for 2023 and 2024 and \$31,920 for 2025. He explained that previous years were \$26,450 for the display. Mayor Esposito explained that the fireworks come from China in containers, everything is becoming more expensive, and he feels we will not find anything less. He stated that the City has been very pleased with the work of Melrose Pyrotechnics, and they have been with us for a long period. Mayor Esposito noted that we always hear good reviews regarding our firework display and music from many individuals. Alderwoman Fitzgerald asked if the price was negotiable. Mayor Esposito said that Interim City Administrator Raffel has been discussing fees with the company. They sent a quote over that was more than the original price, and she went back to them asking to decrease the initial quote. Alderwoman Fitzgerald asked Alderman Beckwith if the pricing was comparable to what he said. Alderman Beckwith stated he feels it is a fair cost since the cost of shipping containers used is \$2,000 to \$4,000 to ship from China, and now the price ranges from \$10,000 to \$20,000 with some up to \$40,000. Alderman Beckwith thinks the average cost of fireworks has gone up 50% to 100%, so the 15% increase we are seeing is pretty low. Alderwoman Fitzgerald gave thanks and stated it was a fantastic firework display. Mayor Esposito said it is hard to compare the prices from other cities because the fee depends on the display's length. Mayor Esposito explained that the length of our production is anywhere from 20-25 minutes, and if the show is any longer, the price does increase. Alderman Beckwith stated that switching companies can be challenging since you do not know if it is a bad idea until after the fact. Mayor Esposito noted that there are not many companies, but the one asking to get his foot in the door is on the expensive side. Alderman Barbari stated that we need more donations to help with the cost. Mayor Esposito noted that some businesses had been very generous and sponsored the event for many years. Alderman Beckwith indicated that staff should follow up with a phone call after the sponsorship packet goes out, hoping the personal touch would help. Alderman Vlach stated everything goes up 3% or 4%, so he is ok with the agreement. Alderman Rada expressed his concern about the company buyout and wanted to know if it would be the same people setting up and the same display. Mayor Esposito emphasized that the people we have worked with in the past are the same people we are working with now.

Council concurs and will be placed on the following consent agenda.

4. Draft Ordinance Approving And Authorizing The Execution Of A Debt Collection Services Agreement By And Between A.R.M. & Associates, Inc. And The City Of Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois

Mayor Esposito asked the City Council to review the draft ordinance between A.R.M. & Associates, Inc., and the City of Oakbrook Terrace. Mayor Esposito explained that the City used Sonnenschein Financial for all red-light collections in the past. Due to the new state regulations and insurance requirements,

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Sonnenschein Financial has elected not to carry or maintain the conditions, forcing the City to find an alternative collection agency. City Attorney Ramello stated that the Secretary of State's office, which supplies us with the names and license plate numbers of the owners who violated the red light camera, is imposing new requirements on our collection agency. City Attorney Ramello stated that this prompted us to ask Sonnenschein to comply. Still, they declined, which has resulted in us finding a new collection agency firm that complies with the Secretary of State's requirements. Mayor Esposito asked for questions from the Council. Alderman Beckwith commented on the limited number of companies that can complete the collections in Illinois, and this is one of two, and he is a fan of A.R.M. & Associates. Alderman Beckwith stated they had done very well in other communities, and one of their most significant accounts is the Archdioceses. Alderman Beckwith feels they will do well on behalf of the City. Alderman Barbari asked how far back in collections we should go, three years? Mayor Esposito asked City Attorney Ramello what happened to the money in collections that does not carry over to A.R.M. & Associates. City Attorney Ramello stated that any debt that has not been collected is subject to the statute of limitations, which would be at least five years, and could be sent to A.R.M. & Associates. Mayor Esposito explained that in prior meetings, going back to the camera's inception until 2019, there were roughly four million in collections. Mayor Esposito also stated that the City passed an amnesty program through Sonnenschein Financial to go back and collect the years 2018 and 2019. He explained that they did a 50% amnesty on all of the fines out there. Mayor Esposito reported he could only collect \$15,000 on \$2,000,000.00. Mayor Esposito stated it might be hard to collect past penalties from the start, or we may start from when the cameras were turned back on. Alderman Beckwith explained that there would be a cost associated with transferring the different debts from the old company to the new company. Alderman Beckwith stated they may have already figured everything out, but there may still be an additional cost. Mayor Esposito said that if Sonnenschein could not collect from 2018 and 2019, they would not be able to collect from 2017. Mayor Esposito stated it will be an uphill battle and feels it may not be worth it. City Attorney Ramello noted that once the fine is entered, they have 35 days to appeal to the Circuit Court; once the 35 days expire, they do not have any appeal. Mayor Esposito asked for any further questions or comments, but none were provided.

Council concurs and will be placed on the following consent agenda.

5. Approval of Payout #2 to Semper Fi Landscaping Inc. for the Spring Road Tributary Restoration Project

Mayor Esposito asked City Council to review the memo prepared by Public Services Director Ward regarding the second payout to Semper Fi in the amount of \$155,093.00 less 10%, retaining the total net payment of \$139,583.78. Alderman Beckwith asked City Attorney Ramello if he had reviewed the paperwork and if it looked fine. City Attorney Ramello stated it looked fine. He further explained that they submitted a final waiver of lien and certified payroll, so in regard to the documentation for the paperwork, all is in order.

Council concurs and will be placed on the following consent agenda.

**XII. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Alderwoman Fitzgerald apologized for missing the last two meetings and did not have any further comments. Alderman Barbari stated he was thankful for the beautiful day on Saturday, and it was an excellent pumpkin day. Alderman Beckwith thanked the City and Staff for the Pumpkins in the Park and felt Dorothy Drennon Park was a lovely backdrop, worked well, and looked good with the giant pumpkin on the hill. Alderman Beckwith also thanked Public Services and the Park District for clearing the grate and laying rocks around it, making it look nice. Alderman Rada stated that the Pumpkins in the Park was excellent and would like to keep the event at Dorothy Drennon Park. Alderman Rada informed everyone that Lakeside Bank's Todd Probasco is now on the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce, which is a positive thing for us. Alderman Rada also stated that the DuPage Convention and Visitor Bureau (DCVB) annual meeting would be held on October 26th, which

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is when Alderman Rada will be sworn in as Vice Chair. Alderman Rada stated that DCVB is doing great work and changing how they work with cities and towns with a multiyear contract.

**XIII. CITY ATTORNEY RAMELLO**

None

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**XIV. CITY CLERK SHADLEY**

None

**XV. INTERIM CITY ADMINISTRATOR RAFFEL**

Interim City Administrator Raffel felt Pumpkins in the Park was a success and thanked Jodie Esposito and Kay Whiting for all their planning and compiling of goodie bags for the kids. She also thanked Public Services employees Ben Priest and Nate Burgard for their hard work setting up the event, tearing down, and moving all the decorations to Kreml Park. Interim City Administrator Raffel thanked Council, who attended the event, and Alderman Barbari for assisting in the trailer and handing out donuts, coffee, and hot chocolate to attendees.

**XVI. RECONVENE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Motion to reconvene the City Council meeting was made by Alderman Barbari and seconded by Alderman Beckwith. An acclamation vote was taken.**

**Ayes: Barbari, Beckwith, Fitzgerald, Rada, and Vlach**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Greco**

**Motion passed.**

**XVII. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**XVIII. RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion to recess to the Executive Closed Session Pursuant To Section 2 (c) (1) Discussion Of The Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal Of Employees Of The Public Body was made by Alderman Vlach and seconded by Alderwoman Fitzgerald. An acclamation vote was taken.**

**Ayes: Barbari, Beckwith, Fitzgerald, Rada, and Vlach**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Greco**

**Motion passed.**

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**XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal Of Employees Of The Public Body.

**XX. RECONVENE THE REGULAR MEETING**

**Motion to reconvene the Regular Meeting was made by Alderman Beckwith and seconded by Alderman Barbari. An acclamation vote was taken.**

**Ayes: Barbari, Beckwith, Fitzgerald, Rada, and Vlach**

**Nays: None**

**Absent: Greco**

**Motion passed.**

**ADJOURN**

**Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Barbari and seconded by Alderman Rada at 9:01 pm.**

**Acclamation vote made with all Ayes.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Raffel, Recording Secretary

Attested:



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Michael Shadley  
City Clerk