

**CITY OF OAKBROOK TERRACE  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AND  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Esposito called the December 13, 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, Greco, Rada, Vlach, and Mayor Esposito

Absent: None

Also in attendance were City Administrator J. Ritz, Community Development Director M. Headley, Finance Director M. Hoffman, 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 November 22, 2022

**Motion to approve the regular City Council minutes of November 22, 2022, was made by Alderwoman Fitzgerald and seconded by Alderman Beckwith.**

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

**Motion passed.**

**VI. MOTION TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE**

Mayor Esposito explained that at the last City Council meeting, an ordinance was presented to the City Council that amended the code of Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois, regarding the exterior surfaces and protective treatments. At that time, there was a majority vote to table the Ordinance To Approve And Propose The Ordinance Amending the Code of Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois, regarding exterior surface treatments to return this item. Mayor Esposito asked for a motion to take the ordinance from the table and open it for discussion.

**Motion to Take From The Table was made by Alderman Greco and seconded by Alderman Barbari.**

**Ayes: Barbari, Greco, Vlach**

**Nays: Beckwith, Fitzgerald, Rada**

**Absent: None**

**Mayor Esposito voted Nay. Motion failed.**

**VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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None

**VIII. ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Payment of City Bills: December 13, 2022, in the amount of \$124,947.36

**Motion to approve all the items contained on the Consent Agenda as presented for December 13, 2022, was made by Alderman Rada and seconded by Alderman Beckwith. Roll call was taken.**

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

**Motion passed.**

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

None

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

**Motion to recess to the Committee of the Whole portion of the meeting was made by Alderman Rada and seconded by Alderman Greco. An acclamation vote was taken:**

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

**Motion passed.**

**XI. MAYOR ESPOSITO**

Mayor Esposito thanked the residents who attended the annual Christmas Party and tree-lighting ceremony. Mayor Esposito said it was a pleasure to see the child running around the gym and getting back to old traditions. He also thanked Staff, Public Works, and the Police Department for their assistance. Mayor Esposito also thanked Stella May Swartz school for letting the City use their gymnasium for this event.

Mayor Esposito reminded everyone that City Hall would be closed on Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> in observance of Christmas Eve, Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> in observance of Christmas Day, and Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> in observance of New Year's Day.

Mayor Esposito explained that Staff was working hard to fill 3,000 luminary bags for distribution for Christmas Eve. He stated that this event has been a tradition in the City and would like to make sure we continue this event. Mayor Esposito said the luminaries would be beautiful once they were distributed, placed on lawns, and lit.

Mayor Esposito took a moment to welcome Mr. Jim Ritz as our new City Administrator. He stated that Mr. Ritz would do a great job and would be an excellent addition to the team.

Mayor Esposito wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He thanked the City Council and all departments for their support and efforts in making Oakbrook Terrace a better place to live in DuPage County.

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**XII. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CONSIDERATIONS**

1. Renewal of Property & Casualty Insurance for 2023.

Mayor Esposito explained that the first item on the Committee of the Whole is the renewal of Property and Casualty Insurance for 2023. Mayor Esposito asked the City Council to review the Interdepartmental Memo prepared by the Assistant Administrator.

Mayor Esposito stated that the City would continue covering Property and Casualty with Travelers. The City had minimal claims keeping premiums down to a minimum. Mayor Esposito said that Bobby Dufkis from Assurance was in attendance to summarize and answer any questions the Council may have.

Mr. Bobby Dufkis stated that the City is insured with Travelers for their Property and Casualty and Illinois Public Risk Funding (IPRF) for the Workers' Compensation. He explained expiring premium for last year was \$401,988, but this year's premium had decreased and will cost \$395,864. This decrease is due to the Cyber Liability Policy for this year. Mr. Dufkis stated that the City would receive a grant this year of \$11,129 to purchase any safety-related items.

Mr. Dufkis explained that the Workers' Compensation claims a few years ago created roughly a 239% loss ratio which was not good. At that time, Assurance worked with the City and administration to establish safety protocols, and IPRF assisted as well. As noted, there has been a \$3000 decrease in the premium.

Mr. Dufkis expressed his gratitude for working with Travelers and the IPRF and stated they had been great partners for them and the City of Oakbrook Terrace. He also explained that in 2022, they went to the market to receive the best terms, conditions, and pricing, and both Travelers and IPRF maintained to provide listed terms.

Mayor Esposito asked the City Council to review Ordinance Number 22-40 and look on page 5 at the table that compares the pricing that Mr. Dufkis is presenting. He explained the comparison with Workers' Compensation from the expiring to the renewal premium. Mayor Esposito also highlighted General Liability, Employee Benefits, Security Premiums, and the final savings total.

Alderman Barbari asked if the City had any claims against the insurance this year and what happened to the other claims. Mayor Esposito explained that the City did not have any significant claims, and prior claims on the City's insurance fell off. Alderwoman Fitzgerald asked for clarification regarding the grant that is offered to the City of Oakbrook Terrace and who offers the grant. Mr. Dufkis answered her question, informing her that the Illinois Public Risk Fund carries the grant and provides our Workers' Compensation. Mayor Esposito asked how the City receives the grant. Mr. Dufkis explained that the City receives a list of items that can be purchased and then submits the receipts of the purchased items to IPRF. Alderman Beckwith asked for clarification on the reduction of claim cost but wondered if more claims would be coming in the future. Mr. Dufkis explained that the City had one year that a substantial claim increased the price for a while but has then fallen off. No further questions were asked.

Mayor Esposito stated that City Council concurs that the renewal of Property and Casualty for 2023 will be voted on during the reconvened meeting.

2. Renewal of Workers' Compensation Insurance for 2023

Mayor Esposito explained that this item is part two of the insurance renewal, and this portion is regarding the Workers' Compensation for 2023. He asked the City Council to review the Ordinance in their packet

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and explained that our premium had decreased slightly from last year. Mayor Esposito stated it is important to strive for training programs in Public Works and the Police Department to minimize accidents that could increase the rates.

Mayor Esposito stated that City Council concurs that the renewal of Workers' Compensation for 2023 will be voted on during the reconvened meeting.

3. Review of Various Property Tax Abatement Ordinances

Mayor Esposito asked the City Council to review the ordinances placed in their packet that is presented annually to pay off debt service bonds. He stated that if we add all the bonds up, we have a little over \$6 million to date. Mayor Esposito explained that the City abates all the property taxes that would be extended to pay annual debt services.

Finance Director Matt Hoffman stated that this is an annual approval and is a standard process we complete around this time of year. He noted that the City passes abatement ordinances, so it does not affect property taxes as we use other forms or revenue sources to pay for projects. Finance Director Hoffman explained that the other item for consideration is the property tax levy for new construction, which would not raise anyone's property taxes. He explained that some might see a decrease, and if there is an increase, it will be around \$0.50.

Mayor Esposito stated that three of the bond ordinances are outstanding, and we abate the taxes annually. He asked Finance Director Hoffman if they were coming due callable. Finance Director Hoffman stated yes that two of the three are callable. He further noted that one relates to the business district, and the other was used for sewer upgrades.

Alderman Rada asked for clarification on the bonds. Finance Director Hoffman explained that we have a 2012B bond that is associated with the business district, which is around \$2.5 million, and a 2013 Series, which is approximately \$2.6 million. Alderman Rada did ask about paying off the bonds if we have a healthy fund balance. Finance Director Hoffman stated we could, but with economic uncertainty, it would not be wise at this time. Council asked about the bonds' percentages and our accounts' percentages. Mayor Esposito directed Finance Director Hoffman to draft a summary that would provide more information on the bonds, the rates when they are callable, and if we paid them off early, what the interest would be.

Mayor Esposito stated that City Council concurs that the Tax Abatement Ordinances will be voted on during the reconvened meeting.

4. Review of the Proposed Tax Levy Ordinance

Mayor Esposito asked City Council to review the Interdepartmental Memo and Proposed Tax Levy Ordinance that can be found in their agenda. He explained that the proposed levy is roughly \$1,071,181, as discussed at the November 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Mayor Esposito asked Finance Director Hoffman to give a synopsis of the proposed ordinance.

Finance Director Hoffman stated that the proposed ordinance adds new construction to the property tax levy that would alleviate the burden on current residents if increased property taxes exist.

Mayor Esposito stated that City Council concurs that the Proposed Tax Levy Ordinance will be voted on during the reconvened meeting.

5. October Monthly Budget Summary Report

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Mayor Esposito stated that Finance Director Hoffman had prepared a budget summary report to help the City of Oakbrook Terrace strive for transparency and better reporting measures.

Finance Director Hoffman explained that in the agenda packet is a memo and three reports; the monthly analysis of major revenue sources, the budget summary from the detail, and the budget detail for the month of October. Finance Director Hoffman gave a brief overview of each of the reports and a side-by-side comparison of last year's numbers. He stated that this would provide us with a better understanding of how we are performing and if there are any big swings in the budget or other trends.

Alderman Barbari asked how the City of Oakbrook Terrace is doing financially. Finance Director Hoffman stated we are doing better than last year with the assistance of additional revenue coming in. Alderwoman Fitzgerald asked for a timeline on bringing in two part-time positions, IT and Media Specialist, on board. Finance Director Hoffman explained that he and City Administrator Ritz have met and are putting together job descriptions and salary ranges so we can advertise shortly. Alderwoman Fitzgerald asked about Invoice 1494 regarding Oakbrook Lakes Subdivision for \$7,000 and what is Oakbrook Lakes Subdivision. Finance Director Hoffman and Mayor Esposito explained that it is an invoice from Webber and Associates regarding the land planning and development for the unincorporated area, which is referred to as Oakbrook Lakes.

6. Draft Ordinance Amending The Code of Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois, Regarding Exterior Surface Protective Treatments

Tabled.

**XIII. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Alderwoman Fitzgerald stated that the Luminaria project seemed more complex and offered additional help in the future. Alderwoman Fitzgerald also discussed that Oakbrook would no longer provide water to the residents in Berkshire and that Aqua would be supplying the water. She stated that it might cost the residents more after carefully reviewing the information provided. Alderwoman Fitzgerald further explained that the only solution to better the infrastructure of Berkshire is when the Krilich property is developed and Berkshire can connect. She is hoping that could be a goal for the strategic development plan.

Alderman Barbari welcomed City Administrator Ritz to the team and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Alderman Greco offered assistance to staff as additional support in any capacity. Alderman Greco wants to keep traditions like Luminaries and feels better communication and planning would help. Alderman Greco welcomed City Administrator Ritz to the team and is looking forward to working with him. Alderman Greco wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Alderman Beckwith wished everyone a Happy Holidays and welcomed City Administrator Ritz to the team. Alderman Beckwith commented on the finance reports and appreciated the communication and transparency.

Alderman Vlach wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Alderman Rada welcomed City Administrator Ritz to the team and is looking forward to working with the new staff to move forward. Alderman Rada discussed the completion of signage in Berkshire and the electric speed sign causing drivers to slow down in the neighborhood. Alderman Rada commented on how beautiful Christmas Eve looked with the luminaries along the roads. Alderman Rada wished everyone a good Holiday season.

**XIV. CITY ATTORNEY RAMELLO**

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City Attorney Ramello welcomed City Administration Ritz to the City of Oakbrook Terrace and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**XV. CITY CLERK SHADLEY**

City Clerk Shadley welcomed City Administrator Ritz.

**XVI. CITY ADMINISTRATOR RITZ**

City Administrator Ritz stated it is an honor to be in the position of City Administrator and looks forward to working with a great team. City Administrator Ritz wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**XVII. RECONVENE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

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

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

**Motion passed.**

**XVIII. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**XIX. RECONVENE THE REGULAR MEETING**

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

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

**Motion passed.**

**XX. NEW BUSINESS**

1. ORD 22-36: An Ordinance For The Levying, Assessment And Collection Of Taxes In The Amount Of \$1,071,181 For The Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2022 And Ending April 30, 2023 For The City Of Oakbrook Terrace, DuPage County, Illinois

**Motion to approve ORD 22-36: An Ordinance For Levying, Assessment And Collection Of Taxes In The Amount Of \$1,071,181 For Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2022, And Ending April 30, 2023 For The City Of Oakbrook Terrace, DuPage County, Illinois, was made by Alderman Barbari and seconded by Alderman Greco. Roll call was taken.**

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

**Nays: None**

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**Absent: None**

**Motion passed.**

2. ORD 22-37: An Ordinance Abating The Tax Heretofore Levied For The Year 2022 To Pay Debt Service On \$1,900,000 Of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021, Of The City Of Oakbrook Terrace

**Motion to amend and approve ORD 22-37: An Ordinance Abating The Tax Heretofore Levied For The Year 2022 To Pay Debt Service On \$1,100,000 Of General Obligation Refunding Bond Series 2021, Of The City Of Oakbrook Terrace was made by Alderman Barbari and seconded by Alderman Greco. Roll call was taken.**

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

**Motion passed.**

3. ORD 22-38: An Ordinance Abating The Tax Heretofore Levied For The Year 2022 To Pay Debt Service On The \$3,695,000 Of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2013 Of The City Of Oakbrook Terrace

**Motion to amend and approve ORD 22-38: An Ordinance Abating The Tax Heretofore Levied For The Year 2022 To Pay Debt Service On The \$3,695,000 Of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2013 Of The City Of Oakbrook Terrace was made by Alderman Greco and seconded by Alderwoman Fitzgerald. Roll call was taken.**

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

**Motion passed.**

4. ORD 22-39: An Ordinance Abating The Tax Heretofore Levied For The Year 2022 To Pay Debt Service On \$1,100,000 Of General Obligation Taxable Business District Bonds, Series 2012B, Of The City Of Oakbrook Terrace

**Motion to amend and approve ORD 22-39: An Ordinance Abating The Tax Heretofore Levied For The Year 2022 To Pay Debt Service On \$1,100,000 Of General Obligation Taxable Business District Bonds, Series 2012B, Of The City Of Oakbrook Terrace was made by Alderman Beckwith and seconded by Alderman Barbari. Roll call was taken.**

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

**Motion passed.**

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5. ORD 22-40: An Ordinance To Renew The Agreement For Risk Management And Insurance Brokerage Services And To Accept The Proposal For Property And Casualty Insurance For The City Of Oakbrook Terrace

**Motion to amend and approve ORD 22-40: An Ordinance To Renew The Agreement For Risk Management And Insurance Brokerage Services And To Accept The Proposal For Property And Casualty Insurance For The City Of Oakbrook Terrace was made by Alderman Vlach and seconded by Alderman Beckwith. Roll call was taken.**

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

**Motion passed.**

6. ORD 22-41: An Ordinance To Renew The Agreement For Risk Management And Insurance Brokerage Services And To Accept The Proposal For Workers' Compensation And Employers' Liability Insurance For The City Of Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois

7. **Motion to amend and approve ORD 22-41: An Ordinance To Renew The Agreement For Risk Management And Insurance Brokerage Services And To Accept The Proposal For Workers' Compensation And Employers' Liability Insurance For The City Of Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois was made by Alderman Rada and seconded by Alderman Beckwith. Roll call was taken.**

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

**Nays: None**

**Absent: None**

**Motion passed.**

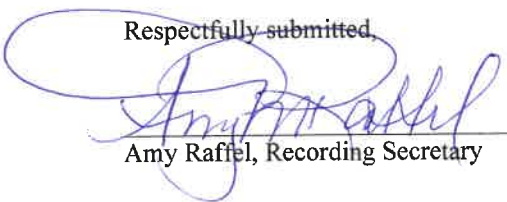
**ADJOURN**

**Motion to adjourn was made by Alderwoman Fitzgerald and seconded by Alderman Greco at 7:58 pm.**


**Acclamation vote made with all Ayes.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Raffel, Recording Secretary

Attested:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Shadley  
City Clerk

