

City of Oakbrook Terrace

*City Hall
17W275 Butterfield Road
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
www.oakbrookterrace.net*



City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 24, 2023
7:00 PM

City Council Board Room

Oakbrook Terrace City Council

Mayor Paul Esposito

City Clerk Michael Shadley

Ward 1

Alderman Charlie Barbari

Alderman Joseph Beckwith

Ward 2

Alderman Frank Vlach

Alderman Dennis Greco

Ward 3

Alderman Bob Rada

Alderwoman Mary Fitzgerald

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Esposito called the October 24, 2023, 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 in attendance:

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

Absent: None

Also in attendance: City Administrator J. Ritz, Assistant to the City Administrator A. Raffel, Public Services Director C. Ward, 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 10, 2023

Motion to approve the October 10, 2023, Regular City Council and Committee of the Whole, as presented, 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.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Dave Meimers from Bloomingdale addressed City Council regarding nepotism within the City and stated that he was unjustly terminated on August 4, 2023 for printing an article about the harmful effects of nepotism in the workplace. Mr. Meimers gave his account of times and incidents where he felt nepotism affected him and other staff members and hopes corrective action will be taken by the City Council.

VII. ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA

1. Payment of City Bills: October 24, 2023, In the Amount Of \$268,774.21
2. Treasurer’s Report: September 2023
3. Personnel & Payroll: September 2023
4. Ordinance No. 23-30 – An Ordinance Granting A Special Use To Allow A Restaurant With A Drive-Through Window And Granting Variations From The Requirements Of The Zoning Ordinance For The Property Commonly Known As 17W727 Roosevelt Road In The City Of Oakbrook Terrace.

5. Resolution No. 23-13: A Resolution Approving and Authorizing The Payment Of Estimate Of Payment Number One For The Spring Road Tributary Supplemental Landscaping Project By The City Of Oakbrook Terrace.

Motion to approve the Action Items/Consent Agenda of October 24, 2023, Regular City Council and Committee of the Whole, was made by Alderwoman Fitzgerald and seconded by Alderman Beckwith. Roll call was taken:

**Ayes: Barbari, Beckwith, Fitzgerald, Greco, Rada, and Vlach
Nays: None
Absent: 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 Alderman Vlach. An acclamation vote was taken:

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

Motion passed.

X. MAYOR ESPOSITO

1. Mayor Esposito thanked the residents, city staff, the police department, public services, the City Council, and Amy Raffel for hosting a well-attended Pumpkin in the Park event.
2. Mayor Esposito congratulated the Oakbrook Terrace Lions Club for hosting their 33rd Annual Pasta Dinner on Saturday, October 21st. Mayor Esposito stated the evening was filled with great food, raffle prizes, and many good people. He gave special thanks to Bob Shanahan and Bruce Almeroth for once again doing a great job of putting together the annual pasta dinner.
3. Mayor Esposito provided an update on the Storm Sewer project stating that all the new piping and driveways were replaced. Asphalt will be laid over the next week, followed by sod, with the hopes of a completion date before Thanksgiving.
4. Mayor Esposito informed the City Council that the Veterans Day commemoration will held on November 11th starting at 11:00 am, at the Villa Park VFW Post 2801, 39 E. St. Charles Road. He stated that the City of Oakbrook Terrace has collaborated with Villa Park and VFW Post 2801 for this tribute to our veterans.

XI. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CONSIDERATIONS

1. Spring Road Tributary Restoration Project Pay Request #8 and #9 (Invoice 2023-1075) (CBBEL Project 180522):

Mayor Esposito asked the City Council to review the interdepartmental memo from Public Services Director Ward regarding the pay requests #8 and #9 to Semper Fi. Mayor Esposito provided a breakdown of the cost associated with the invoices and information on the annual maintenance and monitoring fee.

Alderman Rada inquired if the project was within budget. Alderman Barbari asked for and received clarification regarding the maintenance fees.

2. Spring Road Tributary Supplemental Landscaping Project Pay Request #2 (Invoice 23-0816000003) (CBBEL Project 180522):

Mayor Esposito asked City Council to review the interdepartmental memo from Public Services Director Ward regarding pay request #2 to Atrium Landscaping. Public Services Director Ward stated that the City will hold a retainage fee in the event something goes wrong or needs to be replaced. He noted the plants have been installed, are thriving, and carry a one (1) year warranty.

3. Purchase of one (1) Doosan G70WCU-3A-T4F 61kw Diesel Tow Behind Generator:

Mayor Esposito asked City Council to review the interdepartmental memo regarding the purchase of one diesel tow-behind generator. Mayor Esposito stated the purchase of the generator was passed during the March budget meetings. Mayor Esposito said the generator was ordered through a Co-Op, recently delivered, and will be ready for special events or city projects.

Alderman Rada asked City Attorney Ramello to clarify if a purchase more than \$20,000 is approved in the budget and if it needs the City Council's approval. City Attorney Ramello stated that the City Council should approve a resolution before the purchase of an items over \$20,000.

4. Draft Ordinance Amending The Provisions Of Chapter 36 Entitled "Personnel Policies" Of Tittle III Entitled "Administration" Of The Code Of Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois:

Mayor Esposito asked the City Council to review the memo prepared by City Attorney Ramello regarding the Paid Leave for all Workers Act. Mayor Esposito stated the Illinois General Assembly passed the act on March 13, 2023, and was signed by Governor Pritzker requiring employers to provide hourly and salary employees with one-(1) hour of paid leave for every forty-(40) hours worked. He also stated that employees will not need to provide a reason for their requested leave. Mayor Esposito said this act will go into effect on January 1, 2024.

City Attorney Ramello explained the issues involved with the act and how to circumvent and protect City services during emergency situations. City Attorney Ramello recommended that the City exempt itself from the act before January 1st. Alderwoman Fitzgerald asked if this act is in addition to what city employees are now receiving, which City Attorney Ramello replied "it does not." Alderman Rada asked for clarification that if we pass this ordinance, does our personnel policy supersede the state, and the City Attorney explained that we can exempt ourselves under a section of the act. Alderman Beckwith stated he attended training for the Paid Leave Act and during the question and answer session, it was noted that some communities could not exempt themselves and that administrative rules would come out by the end of March. He also stated the Illinois Municipal League (IML) is trying to assist with getting municipalities exempt from the act.

5. Draft Resolution Authorizing And Approving An Agreement Between The City Of Oakbrook Terrace And The DuPage Convention And Visitor's Bureau For Professional Services To Promote Tourism And Provide Marketing And Administrative Services Related Thereto For The City For Fiscal Year 23-24:

Mayor Esposito asked City Council to review the draft resolution regarding professional services to promote tourism and provide marketing and administrative services with the City for fiscal year 23-24. Mayor Esposito stated that DCVB programs benefit our hotels and the City of Oakbrook Terrace. He noted that this partnership has been established for an extended period and that the hotels use the funds wisely to promote themselves and the City.

- 6. Discussion of Ordinance No. 01-48: An Ordinance Amending Title III (“Administration”), Chapter 30 (“General Provisions”) Of The Oakbrook Terrace Code Of Ordinances, As Amended To Establish Standards For The Ethical Conduct Of Business By Elected And Appointed Officers And Employees Of The City Of Oakbrook Terrace, Section 30.29:

City Attorney Ramello stated that it was discovered that the ordinance Mayor Esposito referenced had been placed on reserve, which possibly meant being repealed. He said after conducting some research, no evidence was found to show the ordinance as repealed. City Attorney Ramello recommended that City Council take action to clean up this matter by either repealing, amending, or leaving the ordinance as is.

Alderman Rada asked if ratifying the section needs a motion or an ordinance, and the City Attorney advised that the best course of action is through an ordinance. Alderman Beckwith wanted to clarify that this is the only section that is in question. Alderwoman Fitzgerald expressed that it is time for us to move forward, place all the chaos behind us, and bring the team together. The City Council concurred that the ordinance should remain as is.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Alderwoman Fitzgerald thanked Assistant to the City Administrator Raffel and her family for a wonderful Pumpkins in the Park event. Alderwoman Fitzgerald thanked the Lions Club for their 33rd Annual Pasta Dinner, and stated it was such a great event. Alderwoman Fitzgerald stated that she was keenly disappointed that Berkshire’s request for support with snow removal was removed from the agenda.

Alderman Barbari thanked Assistant to the City Administrator Raffel for a job well done, along with Public Services Director Ward and his staff for their great work at the event.

Alderman Greco thanked Assistant to the City Administrator Raffel for creating the games for the event and said that Special Events is your strong suit. Alderman Greco also thanked the Lions Club for a fantastic event and was pleased to see some of that some of the local businesses helped out.

Alderman Beckwith echoed the same sentiments as his other peers. Alderman Beckwith was pleased to see such an excellent turnout for both events. He also thanked the Public Works Department for their excellent job with all the clean-up taking place this year along with the excellent communications.

Alderman Vlach brought attention to the City Council about the issue of truck parking in the residents' grass during the projects.

Alderman Rada gave a bravo to Assistant to the City Administrator Raffel for Pumpkins in the Park and the Oakbrook Terrace Lions Club for the Spaghetti Dinner. Alderman Rada also spoke about the Tourism Grant that will help develop and assist with tourism in the state of Illinois. Alderman Rada stated Ward 3 will be hosting a Towne Hall meeting at the Versailles complex, and in order not to be in violation of the Open Meetings Act (OMA), only two-(2) elected officials are slated to be in attendance. Alderman Rada asked that everyone respectfully understand that not all elected officials will be able to attend as not to be in violation of the OMA. Alderman Rada stated he would provide a full report of the meeting at a later date.

XIII. CITY ATTORNEY RAMELLO

None

DEPUTY CLERK RAFFEL

None

XIV. CITY ADMINISTRATOR RITZ

City Administrator Ritz praised Assistant to the City Administrator Raffel and Public Services for the excellent work at the Pumpkins in the Park event. He also praised the Lions Club for a job well done with their annual event. He advised that the final Body Cam grant paperwork was signed and submitted to the Bureau of Justice Assistance and stated that we have other grant applications submitted which we are hoping to be considered for future funding awards. City Administrator Ritz then advised that the Northern Illinois University Strategic Comp Plan will meet with the Planning and Zoning Commission on December 5th and the Steering Committee on December 11th or 12th. He also stated flyers were just sent out for their final survey today, which everyone will be receiving over the next few days. City Administrator Ritz noted that the month of October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and wanted to honor all of those who have been impacted by this deadly disease.

XV. RECONVENE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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

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

Motion passed.

XVI. OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Barbari and seconded by Alderman Rada at 7:54 p.m.

Acclamation vote made with all Ayes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Raffel, Recording Secretary

Attested:



Michael Shadley
City Clerk