

City of Oakbrook Terrace

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



Special City Council Meeting Minutes

Saturday, August 19, 2023
10:00 AM

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 August 19, 2023, Special Council Meeting to order at 10:00 a.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 City Administrator J. Ritz, Assistant to the City Administrator A. Raffel, and Director of Public Services C. Ward.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. PRESENTATION

1. Presentation by Christopher B. Burke Engineering Ltd representatives Jedd Anderson and Doug Gotham regarding the Oakbrook Terrace Supplemental Landscaping Plan

Mayor Esposito opened the meeting by providing an overview of the streambank project including what has been completed, a timeline of when the project started and where it is currently at along with a recap of other Town Hall meetings. Mayor Esposito expressed his gratitude for the input from the residents and for everyone's efforts and patience.

Christopher B. Burke Engineering Ltd representative Jedd Anderson presented a summary of the project and provided details of the next phase that will take place. Mr. Anderson informed everyone about the supplemental streambank planting, which is the next process that includes 78 trees, 875 shrubs, and one (1) acre of seedling. He provided a PowerPoint presentation detailing a visual picture for the residents to see with actual before and after pictures of the landscaping designs and showing what type of native plants would be planted. Mr. Anderson stated the project should be wrapped up by November 3, 2023. Christopher B. Burke Engineering Ltd representative Doug Gotham then provided specific features of the type of trees and shrubs to be planted and how they will thrive and look great in the designated areas.

Alderwoman Fitzgerald asked for clarification regarding the cost of maintaining the completed streambank project, and who would be responsible for the maintenance in the future. Mr. Anderson replied that the fees are usually around \$5,000 for a three (3) to five (5) year maintenance plan. He also stated that Semper Fi will continue to conserve the streambank landscaping by applying natural herbicides on the new buckthorn. After their contract is finished, the City must find another contractor to maintain the streambank to fulfill the requirements of the awarded grant funding.

Alderman Beckwith asked if the allocated budget provided for the replanting was adequate, which Mr. Anderson replied that the original bid came in at \$93,000, which is under what was budgeted for.

Alderman Rada asked if there was a warranty on the plants, which Mr. Anderson stated the new plantings are covered under a one (1) year warranty.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. and Mrs. George Treiguts of Eisenhower Road expressed their concerns regarding their property value due to the loss of the Siberian Elms.

Mr. Joel McIndoo of Leahy Road expressed concerns about the lack of privacy and the bare earth on the riverbanks.

Mr. Don Ventura from MacArthur asked Mr. Anderson how he felt the project was going, and Mr. Anderson replied that the project has moved along well. He said it would take a little bit of time for the vegetation to grow and fill the bare spots but will look great when the plants start growing in and filling out.

Mr. Bruce Almeroth of Buttercup Lane asked about the plants growing in the stream, to which Mr. Anderson replied that the growth is pond weeds which are native to the stream.

Mr. Jim Prusa of Stillwell expressed his concerns with the planting and continuous care of proposed River Birches in the plan and hopes the choice of plants will assist with drainage in the area. Mr. Prusa feels the City should have the final say on what is planted along the streambank.

Ms. Edie Pajak of Nimitz Road stated she has a buckthorn in her yard but wanted to clarify the question regarding the one (1) year warranty and if that is enough time for the plant to flourish.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Rada and seconded by Alderman Beckwith at 10:59 a.m.

Acclamation vote made with all Ayes.


Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Raffel, Recording Secretary

Attested:



Michael Shadley
City Clerk

