

City of Oakbrook Terrace

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



City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 12, 2024
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

City Clerk Shadley called the March 12, 2024, 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,
Absent: Mayor Esposito

Also in attendance: City Administrator J. Ritz, Assistant to the City Administrator A. Raffel, Interim Finance Director S. Griffin, and City Attorney R. Ramello.

Motion to appoint Alderman Greco as President Pro Tempore for the March 12, 2024, City Council and Committee of the Whole was made by Alderman Beckwith and seconded by Alderman Barbari. Roll call vote was taken:

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

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Pro-Tempore Greco 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 February 27, 2024.

Motion to approve the February 27, 2024, minutes of the Regular City Council and Committee of the Whole, as presented, was made by Alderwoman Fitzgerald and seconded by Alderman Rada. Roll call vote was taken.

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

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Resident Bruce Almeroth informed City Council that Drury Lane has indefinitely canceled their Oakbrook Terrace Lions Club event “Someone Special.” He stated that if he receives any updates on the event, he will inform the City Council.

VII. ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA

1. Payment of City Bills: March 12, 2024, in the Amount Of \$689,269.51.
2. ORD 24-10: An Ordinance Correcting A Scrivener’s Error, Abating Certain Tax Levies And Approving And Authorizing The Execution Of A Certificate Of Reduction Of Taxes,

Heretofore Levied For The Payment Of Bonds For The General Obligation Bonds, Series 2012B Of The City Of Oakbrook Terrace.

Motion to approve the Action Items/Consent Agenda of March 12, 2024, Regular City Council and Committee of the Whole was made by Alderman Beckwith and seconded by Alderman Rada. Roll call vote was taken:

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

Motioned 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 Beckwith and seconded by Alderman Barbari. An acclamation vote was taken:

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

Motion passed.

X. PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE GRECO

1. President Pro Tempore Greco reminded City Council about the resident Easter Event being held on March 23rd at Stella Mae Swartz School from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
2. President Pro Tempore Greco reminded the City Council that the first FY24-25 Budget Meeting will be on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, in Council Chambers starting at 6:00 p.m.

XI. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CONSIDERATIONS

1. Draft Ordinance Amending The Provisions Of Title XI (Business Regulations); Chapter 124 (Video Gaming); Subchapter 124.22 (Number Of Licenses) Of The Code Of Oakbrook Terrace To Increase The Maximum Number Of Video Gaming Location Licenses And The Maximum Number Of Video Gaming Terminal Licenses (7-Eleven):

President Pro-Tempore Greco asked the City Council to review the draft ordinance increasing the gaming licenses by one (1) to 7-Eleven. He stated that the Class "E" Liquor License was obtained in July 2022, and they have received all necessary permits.

Owner Rehan Hashmi spoke to the City Council about adding video gaming to his establishment. He explained his process of applying for the gaming license, the gaming area, hours of operation, and the pour license. Mr. Hashmi stated that he is not adding the gaming to create a more significant profit but to supplement income due to increased costs with his business.

Alderman Rada asked for clarification on the frosting of the class that would keep patrons from viewing inside, and Mr. Hashmi stated that some areas of the glass will be clear so the

attendants can see in. Alderman Beckwith asked for clarification on the delay in coming before City Council for the gaming license and for further clarification on the pour hours. Alderman Barbari asked if the pour hours and gaming license times could be adjusted. Alderwoman Fitzgerald agreed with the comments of Alderman Beckwith about the application delays while stating that area is already saturated with gaming establishments which causes concern. Alderman Greco indicated that he has always had concerns about additional gaming licenses within the city.

Motion to table the draft Ordinance Amending The Provisions Of Title XI (Business Regulations); Chapter 124 (Video Gaming); Subchapter 124.22 (Number Of Licenses) Of The Code Of Oakbrook Terrace To Increase The Maximum Number Of Video Gaming Location Licenses And The Maximum Number Of Video Gaming Terminal Licenses (7-Eleven) was made by Alderman Beckwith and seconded by Alderwoman Fitzgerald. **Roll call vote was taken:**

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

Motion passed.

2. **Draft Ordinance Decreasing The Number Of Class “E” 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 (Staybridge Suites):**

President Pro-Tempore Greco asked City Council to review the draft agenda, which would decrease the Class “E” Liquor Licenses by one (1). He explained that Staybridge Suites was sold to new ownership and had to relinquish its license.

Alderman Beckwith asked if the new owners planned to obtain a Class “E” Liquor License, and Alderman Rada inquired if they were keeping it as a Staybridge.

Moved to Consent Agenda.

3. **Consideration Of Passing A Resolution In Support For A Community Free Of Racism, Hatred, And Bigotry In All Forms:**

President Pro-Tempore Greco said this resolution was asked to be placed on the Committee of the Whole for consideration to be passed by the City Council.

Alderman Rada provided further information regarding the proposed resolution. He described an incident that spurred Glen Ellyn into passing the resolution. Alderman Rada was not sure if the resolution would do anything but wanted to make the statement that the City of Oakbrook Terrace would not tolerate any acts of racism, hatred, and bigotry.

No comments from the City Council.

Moved to Consent Agenda.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Alderman Fitzgerald gave an update on the Public Notice received from Aqua Water regarding increased water per usage and surcharge rates. She said the increase would raise her water bill by \$30. Alderman Fitzgerald stated that the City of Elmhurst is looking to invest in its water infrastructure and is putting together a capital improvement infrastructure for about \$17.8 million. She said she participated in a Zoom call with Northern Illinois University regarding updates on the Strategic and Comprehensive Plan and was very pleased with the updated information that she received.

Alderman Beckwith discussed Governor Pritzker’s proposal of removing the 1% grocery tax, and how this will impact local municipalities with revenue losses, and how this is another unfunded mandate. He also discussed if the City of Oakbrook Terrace would be interested in hosting a community blood drive.

Alderman Rada discussed the grocery tax increase and how Villa Park is now scrambling to become a home rule community because of this. He described his frustration with Aqua Water services and how our State Representative is working hard to assist everyone with this water issue. He also informed the City Council that hotels are almost at pre-COVID occupancy numbers and that events being hosted in surrounding communities have increased occupancy in our Oakbrook Terrace hotels.

XIII. CITY ATTORNEY RAMELLO

None

XIV. CITY CLERK SHADLEY

None

XV. CITY ADMINISTRATOR RITZ

City Administrator Ritz informed everyone about the resident-only Easter Event being held on March 23rd at Stella Mae Swartz school and some of the events taking place for the kids. City Administrator Ritz discussed how repealing the 1% grocery tax will affect the City of Oakbrook Terrace and local municipalities, and that he sent a copy of a letter in opposition of elimination of this tax to the City Council. He then provided updates to the City Council about the PulsePoint program, and that the final storm sewer project payment was sent out and we will be receiving the final grant payment award for the project. He also recognized the excellent job by the Oakbrook Terrace Police Department Investigations Unit for their work with several other agencies in solving one of our burglary investigations.

XVI. RECONVENE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Motion to reconvene the City Council 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: None
Abstain: Greco

Motion passed.

XVII. OLD BUSINESS

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Beckwith and seconded by Alderman Rada at 7:56 p.m.

Acclamation vote was made with all Ayes.

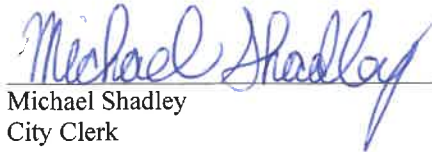
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Raffel, Recording Secretary

Attested:



Michael Shadley
City Clerk



Next Regular City Council meeting is March 26, 2024

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