

# **City of Oakbrook Terrace**

*City Hall  
17W275 Butterfield Rd.  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181  
[www.oakbrookterrace.net](http://www.oakbrookterrace.net)*



## **Special City Council Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, March 18, 2026 5:30 PM**

**Council Chambers - City Hall - 17W261 Butterfield Road**



## SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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**Mayor Paul Esposito**  
**City Clerk Michael Shadley**  
**City Council Members:**

**Ward 1:** Alderman Charlie Barbari and Alderman Eric Biskup  
**Ward 2:** Alderman Michael Sarallo and Alderman Dennis Greco  
**Ward 3:** Alderman Bob Rada and Geza Petro

### I. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Esposito called March 18, 2026, Committee of the Whole Special Meeting of the City Council to order at 5:30 PM.

### II. **ROLL CALL**

Roll call indicated the following City Council members in attendance:  
Present: Barbari, Biskup, Greco, Petro, Rada, Sarallo and Mayor Esposito  
Absent: none

In attendance: City Administrator: T. Walker.

### III. **BUDGET DISCUSSION: PROPOSED FY 26-27**

City Administrator Tanya Walker provided an overview of the budget process, noting that adoption requires a two-thirds vote of the corporate authorities in office. As the appointed Budget Officer, she reviews the proposed budget with all department heads during its development. She noted that this is a "regular" budget rather than an appropriation budget allowing for some flexibility. A budget hearing is scheduled for April 28, with notice posted 10 days in advance to provide the public with a 10-day review period prior to its adoption. The budget hearing notice will be posted in the Daily Herald.

**All Funds Expenditure Summary:**

T. Walker estimates a 2.5M surplus for FY25-26. FY26-27 estimating 1M surplus. The Mayor added that City expenses are 14.5M, which is the budget for FY26-27.

**Full Time Equivalent:**

The roles of HR Manager and Operations Specialist were added this year. Ms. Walker's time is equally spent between her responsibilities as City Administrator and Financial Director.

**General Fund:**

Reflects an increase from prior meeting in video gaming made per the Mayor's request.

Consume, a cannabis dispensary, would like to downsize their space and add a restaurant. Both businesses would operate independently, with separate entrances.

Hawthorne has filed for Chapter 11, bankruptcy potentially placing Driftwood Restaurant at risk.

Budget for grant revenues are increasing. Conservatively, there is \$100,000 in grant money.

It is a requirement that the City have 40% in a reserve fund. Per Walker, we are well above that at 121%.

There was a significant increase at 538% in IT due to underbudgeting in previous years.

Miscellaneous Revenue are refunds for items such as car insurance.

The Mayor highlighted two key areas that could help boost the city's finances. First, attorney fees have been unusually high over the past two years. Second, police department overtime, which is expected to decline with the new transition to a 12-hour shift.

Community Development shows a 14% increase. M. Headley requested an additional \$1,100 to cover the purchase of new software. Training costs have also risen due to a new state law requiring all inspectors to be certified by the co-council in the specific areas they inspect.

Public Works has an increase of 17% due to salaries moved from the MFT fund, OT- due to salt and snow plowing, and replacement of A/C parts at City Hall. Additionally, there was an increase in traffic signal maintenance due to a state mandate.

Tourism has an increase of 1.5%.

Bob Shanahan provided an overview of the OBT Historical Society and its activities. The organization receives \$6,000 from the city to support its operations and has requested an increase to \$7,500. The budget will be adjusted to reflect this request. The Mayor also asked about potential strategies for the Historical Society to secure independent funding.

The Police Commission shows an increase of 67% to get them fully staffed. Chief Cavello mentioned the cost of background checks has increased from \$400 to \$1,800 noting that moving forward, they will do this in-house.

The Finance Department reflects a decrease of just below 9% due to salaries being split between finance and executive administration along with a decrease in worker's compensation.

The Water Fund shows an increase of 3%. There was a discussion about slightly increasing the cost of water to residents. It was noted to move the Antenna Income to the Water Fund.

The Motor Fuel Tax Fund will rebuild the MFT fund after its depletion in building the salt barn.

The Capital Fund includes annual agreements from the police and public works departments. An unplanned \$200,000 emergency capital expense will be added. It was requested to remove the Monument Sign from the budget and to exclude the Versa Truck, valued at \$200,000 since it was received during this fiscal year.

The Mayor proposed several additions to the budget.

1. Obtain a quote to upgrade the technology in the Council Room by installing a video wall to replace the current projector. The existing projector could potentially be repurposed for a new initiative, such as hosting "Movies in the Park" once a month from June through August.
2. Enhance the city's Facebook video content to promote local businesses, public works, the police department, and public safety. Options could include hiring an outside videographer and potentially collaborating with DCVB.

T. Walker concluded the meeting with the five-year Capital Plan reflecting the Capital Revenue, conservatively increasing by 3%, similarly Investment Income increasing by 3%.

#### **IV. City Council Comments**

The City Council thanked T. Walker for the presentation and commended her for clearly breaking down the budget in an easy-to-understand manner.

T. Walker will make the necessary revisions and post the budget by April 18, 2026.

#### **V. ADJOURN**


Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Sarallo and seconded by Alderman Rada at 8:24 PM.

Acclamation vote was made with all Ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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**Margie Tannehill, Recording Secretary**

Attested:

  
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**Michael Shadley, City Clerk**

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