

**CITY OF OAKBROOK TERRACE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AND
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Mayor Esposito called the February 11, 2020, Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council to order at 7:02P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the following Council members were in attendance:

Present: Barbari, Greco, Przychodni, Rada, Vlach and Acting Mayor Esposito

Absent: None

Also, in attendance were City Clerk M. Shadley, City Administrator A. Marrero, Assistant to the Mayor and Administrator M. Sarallo, Building and Zoning Administrator M. Dragan, and City Attorney R. Ramello.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Acting 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 January 28, 2020
2. Special Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2020

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 28 2020 Regular City Council and Committee of the Whole and the January 22, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes as presented was made by Alderman Barbari and seconded by Alderman Vlach.

Ayes: Barbari, Esposito, Greco, Przychodni, Rada, and Vlach

Nays: None

Motion passed.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Resident Steve Caslin addressed the Council about the new playground at Stella May Swartz School. Caslin said it would be wise investment for the City to contribute towards the playground because it serves as the center for the subdivision and is a haven for the kids. The Police Department always pays special attention to the park, ensuring children safety. Caslin

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noted the school is always accommodating for community events and he hopes that the Council considers contributing towards the new playground. Resident Bruce Almeroth echoed Caslin's comments and noted his grandchildren enjoy the park.

Acting Mayor Esposito said he appreciated their input and thanked them for speaking on this matter.

VII. ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA

1. Payment Of City Bills: February 11, 2020 In The Amount Of \$ 112,324.56

Motion to approve all the items contained on the Consent Agenda as presented for February 11, 2020 was made by Alderman Rada and seconded by Alderman Przychodni.

**Ayes: Barbari, Esposito, Greco, Przychodni, Rada, and Vlach
Nays: None**

Motion passed.

VIII. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

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 Barbari and seconded by Alderman Vlach.

**Ayes: Barbari, Esposito, Greco, Przychodni, Rada, and Vlach
Nays: None**

Motion passed.

X. ACTING MAYOR ESPOSITO

1. FY 21 Budget Meetings At 6:00 PM On Wednesday March 4th, 2020 And Wednesday March 11th, 2020.
2. Reminder: City Hall Is Closed Monday, February 17th In Observance Of President's Day.

XI. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CONSIDERATIONS

1. Continued Discussions-Stella May Swartz Playground.

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Dr. Jake Chung, Superintendent of the Salt Creek School District 48, addressed the Council and discussed the playground replacement at Stella May Swartz School. Sarah Smith, Stella May Swartz School Principal, stated the playground is about 24 years old and is right at the cusp of needing to be replaced. Smith noted a committee of parents, residents, and administrators have been meeting to discuss new playground options that will last another 20-25 years. Smith noted students have taken an active role in selecting the playground as well. Chung stated the Board of Education selected NuToys to install the playground for the start of the 20/21 school year. The base playground will cost \$158,000 and the District 48 Board of Education approved this purchase. The Family Teacher Commission (FTC) pledged \$20,000 towards expanding the base playground design. Chung asked if the Council would consider a \$20,000 contribution towards expanding the initial playground design. Smith said the students are excited about the new playground that will serve as a destination for residents. Alderman Greco thanked Chung and Smith for their valuable presentation. Alderman Greco said he would like to see the City contribute toward the project and he favors a \$40,000 contribution. Alderman Vlach said 73% of his property tax bill goes to local schools. Alderman Vlach added the City has three (3) parks for children and he does not favor a City contribution towards the playground.

Alderman Rada inquired about the estimated life of the new playground. Chung replied approximately 25 years. Alderman Rada asked if any other partners will be contributing towards the project. Chung replied the Family Teacher Commission is donating \$20,000 and a local vendor expressed interest in contributing as well. Alderman Rada said he favors a donation because good schools keep home values up. Alderman Rada asked Chung and Smith to discuss why recess time is important. Smith said recess enables students to improve social, emotional, and problem solving skills. Also the visually impaired students will benefit from the many new features on the new playground. Acting Mayor Esposito noted the presentation was excellent and he agreed with all of Steve Caslin's comments at the beginning of the meeting. Acting Mayor Esposito said he supports a donation towards the playground and it is a matter of determining the donation amount.

City Administrator Marrero noted staff is currently working on the budget and coming across some budget constraints that should be considered. City Administrator Marrero said a \$5,000 to \$7,000 donation might be a good number. Alderman Greco suggested committing to a donation amount now and then further discussing an additional donation during the upcoming budget meetings. City Attorney Ramello said the donation would require an intergovernmental agreement with the school district that would need to be approved by the City Council. City Attorney Ramello suggested gaining a consensus on the donation amount. Chung thanked the Council for their support and he looks forward to their continued shared partnership.

The Council determined to place a \$7,000 donation towards the playground on the next agenda as a separate item.

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2. Renewal Of Health/Dental/Vision/Life Insurance.

Assistant to the Mayor and Administrator Sarallo noted the City received a great insurance renewal with premiums for health, dental, life, and vision all remaining the same. The renewal initially came in at 7% higher, but the City's broker, Assurance, negotiated with the insurance providers for the rates to stay the same as the current year. Assurance did obtain quotes from the market, but these carriers offered different plans that were not competitive. Employees contribute about \$92,000 towards the cost of premiums.

The Council concurred to work with the current providers for the health insurance renewal.

3. Annexation -1S153 Buttercup Lane.

Building and Zoning Administrator Dragan stated she recently met with representatives from the Christ Covenant Church in Villa Park. The church is the owner of the unincorporated property located at 1S153 Buttercup Lane. The Church is seeking to annex the subject property into the City of Oakbrook Terrace. The total area to be annexed including lot and adjacent street totals 19,323 square feet. If the City Council is agreeable, then City Attorney Ramello should be directed to prepare an annexation ordinance for the next meeting.

Representatives Kenneth Cheung and Bob Goldsborough from Christ Covenant Church addressed the Council and explained the subject property serves as a parsonage where the pastor currently resides. Goldsborough said the Church would like the property to become part of the community which is why they are seeking annexation. Alderman Rada said it appears the intent of the Church is to eventually sell the property and he asked if there is a time frame for this. Cheung replied the timeframe is roughly five (5) to seven (7) years. Goldsborough said most churches have moved away from parsonages.

Alderman Vlach said he does not support annexing this property into the City because there are no advantages due to its tax-exempt status. Goldsborough said the Church's view is that it would benefit the City by filling-out the Westlands. Alderman Rada said with all due respect if the City does not look into growth, the City will stagnate. Alderman Rada added if the City does not incorporate this property other towns may. Alderman Rada said this could be a way to try and incorporate more homes in this subdivision. Alderman Barbari said other homeowners may wish to annex after hearing that this property annexed into the City. Alderman Greco said he is always ready to welcome another person to the community. Acting Mayor Esposito said he welcomes this property into the community.

The Council concurred to place this on the next agenda a separate item.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

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Alderman Greco asked why bill payments are included on the consent agenda if it cannot be discussed. Alderman Greco suggested including the bill payments as part of the Committee of the Whole considerations and then move it up to vote on it later in the meeting. City Attorney Ramello said if the bill payments are on the consent agenda you just need to remove the item; so it can be discussed. Alderman Greco inquired about the 11 new computers. City Administrator Marrero replied Windows 7 is no longer being supported and there is an interface issue with new DuPage County Court system. Accordingly, it was decided to purchase new computers to upgrade to Windows 10. Some of the City's existing computers can be upgraded to Windows 10. Alderman Greco also asked about the emblem purchase on the bills payable. City Administrator Marrero said the City Hall's exterior now has two (2) new emblem signs to dress up the building a little bit. Alderman Barbari asked about the Gonzini and Chada bills. Building and Zoning Administrator Dragan said Gonzini is a part-time contractor who does building, electrical, and rental home inspections. City Administrator Marrero said Chada is a part-time contractor that does plumbing inspections. Alderman Vlach said with the home at 1S153 Buttercup not paying any property taxes, it should not be considered for annexation. Alderman Rada said he was happy to see purchases being made from the local Home Depot.

XIII. CITY ATTORNEY RAMELLO

None.

XIV. CITY CLERK SHADLEY

None.

XV. CITY ADMINISTRATOR A. MARRERO

None.

XVI. RECONVENE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Motion to reconvene the City Council meeting was made by Alderman Rada and seconded by Alderman Vlach.

Ayes: Barbari, Esposito, Greco, Przychodni, Rada, and Vlach

Nays: None

Motion passed.

XVII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

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XVIII. RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion To Recess To Executive Session Pursuant To Section 2 (c) (11) Of The Open Meetings Act To Discuss Pending Litigation was made by Alderman Rada and seconded by Alderman Przychodni.

Ayes: Barbari, Esposito, Greco, Przychodni, Rada, and Vlach

Nays: None

Motion passed.

XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Closed Session Pursuant To Section 2 (c) (11) Of The Open Meetings Act To Discuss Pending Litigation.

See separate minutes.

XX. RECONVENE THE REGULAR MEETING

Motion to reconvene the City Council meeting was made by Alderman Barbari and seconded by Alderman Rada.

Ayes: Barbari, Esposito, Greco, Przychodni, Rada, and Vlach

Nays: None

Motion passed.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Przychodni and seconded by Alderman Greco at 8:35PM.

Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted,

Aileen Haslett, Recording Secretary