

CITY OF COUNTRYSIDE

*803 Joliet Road
Countryside, IL 60525
www.countryside-il.org*



Meeting Minutes **Regular Meeting of the City Council**

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

7:30 PM

City Hall

City Council Members

Mayor, Sean R. McDermott

City Clerk, Elizabeth Kmet

Treasurer, Courtney Bolt

**Aldermen Thomas Mikolyzk, Scott Musillami, John Finn
John Von Drasek, Mark Benson and Tom Frohlich**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** –The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor McDermott, who led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call: City Clerk Kmet called the Roll of those physically present as follows:
Present: Mayor McDermott, Alderman Finn, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Musillami, Alderman Von Drasek, Alderman Benson, City Clerk Kmet, Treasurer Bolt
Also Present: City Administrator Gail Paul, Police Chief Klimek, City Attorney Peck, Asst. City Administrator Schutter, City Engineer Hernandez, Deputy Clerk Cordova, Recording Secretary Prokop
Absent: Alderman Tom Mikolyzk

2. OMNIBUS AGENDA

- a. Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes of February 26, 2025.
- b. Statement of Bills submitted for payment through March 12, 2025 in the amount of \$297,835.46.

Motion was made by Alderman Von Drasek, seconded by Alderman Musillami that this matter be APPROVED as presented; motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Musillami, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson, Alderman Von Drasek

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 Alderman Mikolyzk

3. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC - none

4. MAYOR'S REPORT – no report

5. CITY CLERK'S REPORT - no report

6. TREASURER'S REPORT – no report

FYI – Congratulations to Chairman Finn and Liz Cordova for their work on the St. Patrick's Day Parade; a great turnout – good job.

7. COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND, IF SO DETERMINED ACTION UPON:

a. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Alderman Von Drasek – no report

b. FINANCE COMMITTEE – Alderman Finn

FYI – Special thanks to Liz and the Mayor for their work on the parade and to all City Staff, especially Public Works and the Police Department; everyone did a great job – couldn't do it without all of you; look forward to next year.

c. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE – Alderman Mikolyzk – no report

d. INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE - Alderman Benson

FYI – It was a fun day with the parade – thanks to City Staff.

e. PLAN COMMISSION/ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - City Attorney Peck – no report

f. SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE – Alderman Musillami – no report

g. SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE - Alderman Musillami

1. Consideration of No Mow Till Mother's Day Program.

Motion was made by Alderman Finn , seconded by Alderman Frohlich that this matter be APPROVED as presented; motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Musillami, Alderman Finn,
Alderman Benson, Alderman Von Drasek
Nay: 0
Absent: 1 Alderman Mikolyzk

h. FLAGG CREEK ADVISORY BOARD – Alderman Frohlich – no report

8. LEGAL REPORT – City Attorney Peck – no report

9. CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – Ms. Gail Paul

a. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of the Update of the Cook County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan was created for 125 municipalities; each one has their own section. The City of Countryside’s Section was updated by Staff in 2024. The update was approved by Cook County; FEMA has requested a Resolution authorizing the plan.

Motion was made by Alderman Musillami , seconded by Alderman Von Drasek that this matter be APPROVED as presented; motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Musillami, Alderman Finn,
Alderman Benson, Alderman Von Drasek
Nay: 0
Absent: 1 Alderman Mikolyzk

City Clerk Kmet declared that this will be known as RESOLUTION 25-04-R.

b. Consideration of a Resolution to apply for CDBG funds for the Brainard Avenue Widening and Resurfacing Project (south of Joliet Road.) These projects are usually sent to the Infrastructure Committee for consideration using the 5-year plan to select one of the streets. The Census Tracts have changed; some streets that are on the new census tract do not qualify for CDBG funds. Engineer Fitzgerald and Administrator Paul have discussed this matter. The State will be doing the intersection here and will also do the multiuse path down Joliet Road; parking will be eliminated. It was thought best to widen Brainard Avenue south of Joliet Road which would allow for parking on both sides. Mayor McDermott stated that this matter was discussed with the owners of Rafferty’s since they will be losing their parking along Joliet Road. The total cost is \$500K; the City will request \$250K in CDBG funds. There is no start date for reconstruction; nine parcels of R-O-W must be purchased; until that is completed, there will be no job letting. The project was originally scheduled for the June letting but it may be delayed.

Motion was made by Alderman Von Drasek , seconded by Alderman Benson that this matter be APPROVED as presented; motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Musillami, Alderman Finn,
Alderman Benson, Alderman Von Drasek
Nay: 0
Absent: 1 Alderman Mikolyzk

City Clerk Kmet declared that this will be known as RESOLUTION 25-05-R.

10. STAFF REPORTS

a. Chief of Police

1. Chief Klimek sought consideration and Action to enter into an Agreement with Mariah Cox to provide Social Work Services to the Countryside Police Department and City of

Countryside. The Police deal with many issues daily, such as mental health , domestic conflicts, homelessness, substance abuse and other situations that may require a specialized response and follow-up. The City recognizes the need for integrated social services within policing – in situations where traditional law enforcement alone may not provide the most effective response. The primary goal with this initiative is to connect individuals to appropriate services when traditional law enforcement methods might not be the most effective way to provide people with long-term assistance for social and non-criminal issues. This program would also offer mental health support and check-ins for officers, City Staff and community members without police referral. Mayor McDermott had conversations with previous Police Chief Ford about this matter; he appreciates Chief Klimek bringing the matter forward.

Motion was made by Alderman Finn, seconded by Alderman Musillami that this matter be APPROVED as presented; motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Musillami, Alderman Finn,
Alderman Benson, Alderman Von Drasek

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 Alderman Mikolyzk

b. City Engineer Hernandez – no report

11. BUSINESS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL FOR DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND, IF SO DETERMINED, ACTION UPON: none

12. MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Mayor McDermott sought a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss litigation and pending litigation under Section 2(c)(11) of the Open Meetings Act.

Motion was made by Alderman Benson , seconded by Alderman Finn that this MEETING be RECESSED; motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Musillami, Alderman Finn,
Alderman Benson, Alderman Von Drasek

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 Alderman Mikolyzk

Mayor McDermott declared the meeting recessed at 7:40 P.M.

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13. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The City Council returned to open Session with the same members present at 7:54 p.m.

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss --

A motion was made by Alderman Musillami seconded by Alderman Finn that this meeting be ADJOURNED; motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Musillami, Alderman Finn,
Alderman Benson, Alderman Von Drasek

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 Alderman Mikolyzk

Mayor McDermott declared the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/fp

ELIZABETH KMET, CITY CLERK

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John ~~808~~ Joliet Road

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