

# CITY OF COUNTRYSIDE

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



## **Meeting Minutes**

### **Regular Meeting of the City Council**

Wednesday, February 23, 2022

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**

- A. CALL TO ORDER** –The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Ms. Maeve Watson, Parade Princess. Alderman Finn 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 Benson, Alderman Musillami, Alderman Von Drasek, City Clerk Kmet, City Treasurer Bolt  
**Absent:** Alderman Frohlich  
**Also Present:** City Administrator Paul, Police Chief Ford, Asst. City Administrator Peterson, City Attorney Peck, Finance Director Schutter, City Engineer Fitzgerald, Rec. Sec. Prokop

**B. OMNIBUS AGENDA**

1. Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2022.
2. The Statement of Bills submitted for payment through February 23, 2022: \$364,988.36. I move to approve the minutes of the City Council Meeting of February 9, 2022, and the Statement of Bills through February 23, 2022, in the amount of \$364,988.36.

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

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

**C. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

1. Ed Krzeminski, 6929 South Lorraine Drive.

Mayor McDermott: You have the floor.

Mr. Krzeminski: Thank you, very much, Mayor. Don't want to run too long – but, City Council is supposed to be looking into the future where the government runs as it is. If it wasn't for our – for our forward thinking Council years ago, I wouldn't be in Countryside at all. Ward 2 was annexed years ago back in the '70s. When they went in they also put in oversized water line because they figured that eventually Fisher Body would be turned over and they would have sufficient water. The reason I'm asking this is that the Mayor – did you ever get contacted by Edgewood Valley Country Club to be annexed into Countryside?

Mayor McDermott: We were not – not to my recollection. Gail? No.

Ms. Paul: No. We were not.

Mr. Krzeminski: You were not. Hmm, because that was reported that by – Edgewood Valley Country Club that they contacted all the communities around us. When I was Mayor I had a meeting with Edgewood Valley to let them know that if we would be – I would entertain, as far as annexing, because we do supply water to them. Now Edgewood Valley is going to be up for a vote to be annexed by Burr Ridge. I'm surprised, and I'll find out why we weren't contacted. Thank you. That's all I have to say.

Mayor McDermott: Thank you. Have a good night.

**D. MAYOR'S REPORT**

1. Coffee with the Mayor will be held this Saturday, February 26; all residents are invited to attend. There will be a presentation regarding the Update to the City's Comprehensive Plan.

2. Mayor McDermott sought presentation of the 2022 Countryside St. Patrick's Day Parade Queen and her Court, plus Recognition of Parade VIPs. The Mayor recognized Tom Boyle, Grand Marshal of the Parade. He served as Vice Chairman of Countryside Bank, retiring in 2019 after 37 years of serving this community. He was instrumental in assisting Irish contractors and businessmen by approving starter loans from the bank. Thank you, Tom Boyle, for all your service. He also served on the Board of Directors of Chicago Gaelic Park for 25 years; he and his wife are long-time community residents; his volunteer work and commitment to the community are outstanding. Mr. Boyle was presented with a sash, a shamrock and other gifts from the City. The Money raised goes to different charities each year. This year the money will be donated to two local charities, Beds Plus and Interface Community Partners.

The presenting sponsor is JACK PHELAN again. Alderman John Finn is the Parade Chairman; he has done an outstanding job getting the Parade ready, working with ACA Sharon Peterson. Ald. Finn stated that the Parade is a fund-raising event serving the local community.

POT O'GOLD SPONSORS -- Countryside Mitsubishi – Countryside Nissan – ESPN Chicago White Sox Radio Network – Friend of Sean McDermott - George Keporos – Local #150 International Union of Operating Engineers – Merging Technologies – Novotny Engineering – Township of Lyons

EMERALD SPONSORS – Bluder's Tree Service – Buona – Casa de Monte Christo – Chariot Automotive & Towing – Countryside Leadership Party a/k/a United Party for Progress – Flag Creek Golf Course – Groot Industries – Highline Automotive – Holiday Inn Countryside – Infinity Communications - Local #134 IBEW – Napleton Countryside Mazda – Park District of LaGrange – Rafferty's Irish Pub – Rep. Mike Zelewski -- Time Out Sports Bar – Tressler LLP – Vulcan Materials – Westfield Ford --

SHAMROCK SPONSORS – Blue Sky Home Care – Designer Event Chicago – First Student -- HEAT Engineering Co. – Illinois Harley-Davidson -- Nick Kantas for Judge – NIMEC – Sinnott Tree Services --

Alderman Finn asked Faith Benson, last year's Queen, to assist in crowning the incoming **Queen, Catherine (Catie) Ramicone** – an LT Senior on the National Honor Society and Student Council. She volunteers at the Brookfield Zoo through the King Conservation Science Scholars. She was presented with her sash and Crown, a shamrock and several gifts.

**Queen's Court** -- Colleen Ramicone, a Nazareth Academy Sophomore who volunteers at Misericordia, and helps plant trees through the Environmental Club at school. She is a member of the Smile Club and works with elderly residents at Bethlehem Woods. She was presented with her sash, a shamrock and several gifts.

**Queen's Court** – Maureen Kane, an LT Senior who volunteers at the St. Cletus Giving Tree in addition to volunteering at their food pantry.

**Queen's Court** – Olivia Perez, an LT Senior who volunteers at the First Congregational Church of Western Springs where she also teaches Sunday School.

**Princess** – Maeve Watson, attends Highlands Elementary School, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade; Maeve is a competitive Irish Dancer who has performed at local establishments, assisted living & retirement homes since she was 4 years old. She is from Brownie Troop 55871 LaGrange Highlands, and has participated in food drives, annual spring cleanup, gardening at church and Brookfield Zoo charity tree trim – for the past four years. A sash and gifts were presented to her. Photos were taken of the Queen and her Court, after which several photos were taken including the Grand Marshal and members of the City Council.

City Engineer Fitzgerald regaled the audience with his mandolin rendition of Irish music to accompany Maeve Watson in her performance of the Irish jig. Both were spectacular. Finally, an Irish Bagpiper, Kevin Dahill, completed the evening entertainment with a hearty rendition of an old Irish tune after which time he marched out of the Council Chambers, followed by the Queen and her retinue exiting past the audience. It was a wonderful exhibition; the audience was most appreciative.

**E. CITY CLERK’S REPORT - NO REPORT**

**F. TREASURER’S REPORT – NO REPORT**

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

**1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- a. Alderman Von Drasek stated that an EDC Meeting was held earlier this evening to consider reinstating the Amended Redevelopment Agreement (RDA) with Hoffmann New Horizons Corp. and Approve the Second Amendment to the RDA. Ms. Paul suggested that Attorney Peck address the two changes made during the EDC meeting. Mr. Peck stated that the two additions were: the substantial compliance date inserted into the Amendment making May 31, 2024 the substantial compliance date for completion; the second addition is to add a 48-hour written response to the City in the event of default Notice received from the City. With those two additions, the City moved forward with the Second Amendment to the RDA.

**A motion was made by Alderman Benson, seconded by Alderman Finn this matter be APPROVED as presented; motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye: 5** Alderman Musillami, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson, Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Von Drasek

**Nay: 0**

**Absent: 1** Alderman Frohlich

- b. Alderman Von Drasek stated that another development is coming along – the Old City Hall Property will be developed; many thanks to Gail Paul and her Staff for all their work in bringing these projects to fruition.

**2. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- a. **FYI** -- Alderman Finn stated that a Finance Committee Meeting will be held next Wednesday, March 2 at 6 o’clock p.m.

- b. The Mayor thanked Alderman Finn for all his work in putting together the St. Patrick’s Day Parade, March 5, 2022. We hope to have a good turnout.

**3. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE - NO REPORT****4. INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

- a. Alderman Benson sought consideration of a Resolution Supporting the Lorraine Drive, Rose Avenue and Rose Court Street Rehabilitation Project for a CDBG Grant.

**A 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 Musillami, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson,  
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Von Drasek

**Nay: 0**

**Absent: 1** Alderman Frohlich

**Clerk Kmet declared that this will be known as RESOLUTION 22-01-R.**

**5. PLAN COMMISSION/ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

- a. Attorney Peck sought consideration of an Ordinance Granting a Special Use Variation to permit an Automobile Service Use (Empire Auto) at 6501 Joliet Road. On February 15, 2022, Mr. Favian Calvillo appeared before the PC/ZBA seeking a Special Use to permit the operation of an automobile service use at 6501 Joliet Road. After hearing all testimony and evidence, it was their finding that all conditions had been met for the requested Special Use; there were no objections, written or oral, at the Hearing. The PC/ZBA recommended approval of the Special Use subject to 13 conditions, which are listed in the PC/ZBA recommendations.

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

**Aye: 5** Alderman Musillami, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson,  
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Von Drasek

**Nay: 0**

**Absent: 1** Alderman Frohlich

**City Clerk Kmet declared that this will be known as ORDINANCE 22-14-O.**

- b. Mr. Calvillo was present and the Mayor allowed him to speak regarding one of the above conditions – that the shop back door must remain closed at all times. He asked for permission to open the door during deliveries of heavy metal objects. Atty. Peck assured him that opening the door for trash removal, etc. is allowed.

**6. SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE**

- a. Alderman Musillami sought consideration of the 2022 Summer Concert Series Proposal from Designer Event Chicago of Highland Park, IL, in the amount of \$24,615.00.

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

**Aye: 5** Alderman Musillami, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson,  
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Von Drasek

**Nay: 0**

**Absent: 1** Alderman Frohlich

**7. SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE – NO REPORT**

**8. FLAGG CREEK ADVISORY BOARD**

- a. Alderman Finn stated there is a meeting next week, March 16, 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- b. 183 rounds were played in January.

**H. LEGAL REPORT – NO REPORT****I. CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

- 1. City Administrator Ms. Paul sought consideration of a Letter of Understanding between the City of Countryside and IDOT for the 55<sup>th</sup> Street Widening Project from I-294 to west of Plainfield Road. Is there a time frame on this project. City Engineer Fitzgerald stated they are targeting the letting in June 2022 – it got moved up from 2025 to 2022.

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

**Aye: 5** Alderman Musillami, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson,  
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Von Drasek

**Nay: 0**

**Absent: 1** Alderman Frohlich

**J. STAFF REPORTS**

- 1. **Police Chief Ford - NO REPORT**
- 2. **City Engineer Fitzgerald**

- a. Mr. Fitzgerald sought consideration of Engineer’s pay estimate #3 in the amount of \$100,766.49 to Unique Plumbing for the Joliet Road and East Avenue Water Main Project.

**A 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 Musillami, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson,  
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Von Drasek

**Nay: 0**

**Absent: 1** Alderman Frohlich

**K. BUSINESS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL FOR DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND, IF SO DETERMINED, ACTION UPON: - NONE****L. ADJOURNMENT**

**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 Musillami, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson,  
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Von Drasek

**Nay: 0**

**Absent: 1** Alderman Frohlich

**Mayor McDermott declared the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.**

APPROVED:

Respectfully Submitted,

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ELIZABETH KMET, CITY CLERK