

CITY OF COUNTRYSIDE

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



Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting of the City Council

Wednesday, March 9, 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 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 Mikolyzk, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Benson, Alderman Musillami, Alderman Von Drasek, City Clerk Kmet, City Treasurer Bolt
Absent: Alderman Finn
Also Present: City Administrator Paul, Police Chief Ford, City Attorney Peck, Finance Director Schutter, Recording Sec. Prokop

B. OMNIBUS AGENDA

1. Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2022.
2. The Statement of Bills submitted for payment through March 9, 2022: \$496,342.71
I move to approve the minutes of the City Council Meeting of February 23, 2022, and the Statement of Bills through March 9, 2022, in the amount of \$496,342.71.

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

C. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC - NONE

D. MAYOR'S REPORT

1. Consideration of a Raffle License Application and Fee Waiver Request submitted by St. John of the Cross Parish School for their event that is being held at Local 150/Countryside Banquets on March 31, 2022.

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

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

2. Mayor McDermott thanked the entire City Staff for all their assistance during the St. Patrick's Day Parade – it was a huge success. We had great weather; Mother Nature must be Irish. Special Thanks to our Public Works and our Police Department for doing an outstanding job keeping us safe. It was a big event with large crowds. Thanks to Sharon Peterson for all her hard work; Chairman Finn is out tonight, but we thank him. We raised close to \$9,000 for each of our two local charities. It was a Great Event – we look forward to next year!

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 – NO REPORT**

2. **FINANCE COMMITTEE – NO REPORT**
3. **HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE - NO REPORT**
4. **INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**
 - a. Alderman Benson sought consideration of purchasing a Trackless MT7 Sidewalk Tractor in the amount of \$189,098.05 from E J Equipment of Addison, IL.
A motion was made by Alderman Musillami, seconded by Alderman Frohlich that this matter be APPROVED as presented; motion carried by the following vote:
Aye: 5 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Benson, Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Von Drasek
Nay: 0
Absent: 1 Alderman Finn
 - b. Consideration of a Resolution for Improvement by the Municipality under the Illinois Highway Code in the amount of \$405,000.00 for the MFT Funding for the Street Rehabilitation.
A 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 Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Benson, Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Von Drasek
Nay: 0
Absent: 1 Alderman Finn
Clerk Kmet declared that this will be known as RESOLUTION 22-02-R.
 - c. Consideration of a Resolution for Improvement by Municipality under the Illinois Highway Code in the amount of \$255,000.00 for RBI Funding for the 2022 Street Rehabilitation.
A motion was made by Alderman Mikolyzk, seconded by Alderman Frohlich that this matter be APPROVED as presented; motion carried by the following vote:
Aye: 5 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Benson, Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Von Drasek
Nay: 0
Absent: 1 Alderman Finn
Clerk Kmet declared that this will be known as RESOLUTION 22-03-R.
5. **PLAN COMMISSION/ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – NO REPORT**
6. **SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE – NO REPORT**
7. **SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE – NO REPORT**
8. **FLAGG CREEK ADVISORY BOARD**
 - a. Alderman Frohlich sought consideration to Approve/Ratify the License Agreement between the City of Countryside and Billy Rosinia.
A motion was made by Alderman Von Drasek, seconded by Alderman Mikolyzk that this matter be APPROVED as presented; motion carried by the following vote:
Aye: 5 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Benson, Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Von Drasek
Nay: 0
Absent: 1 Alderman Finn

- b. Consideration to Approve an Invoice from Rags Electric in the amount of \$11,744.52.
A motion was made by Alderman Benson, seconded by Alderman Musillami that this matter be APPROVED as presented; motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 Alderman Finn

H. LEGAL REPORT – NO REPORT

I. CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

1. City Administrator Ms. Paul presented the 2021 Annual Report of City Operations. This is the Tenth Report completed. Some Highlights are: The Finance Committee recommended no property taxes again for 2022. This is the eighth year in a row.

The Sustainability Committee completed the Sustainability Plan setting out the initiatives going forward.

The Finance Committee recommended restructuring and selling refunding bonds to refund the 2014 Bonds, which gained about \$2Million in economic value for the City.

The Economic Development Committee reviewed a proposal for the old City Hall property and directed Staff to negotiate a Redevelopment Agreement – underway.

A Compensation Study was completed for all non-union employees to insure adequate compensation and competitive salary range, but yet not overpaying. The Revised Plan was put into place.

The Infrastructure Committee recommended the 2021 Street Resurfacing Program including Edgewood Ave., Blackstone Ave., Park Ave., Pleasant Dale Court, Pleasant Dale Drive, and Madison Ave.

The City began the 20” Transmission Line on East Ave. for Water Distribution.

Flagg Creek once again hit a record high with the number of golf rounds with a 12% increase over last year; revenues grew by 20% and personnel costs dropped by 5%; very good performance at Flagg Creek. Those are some of the highlights. The entire Report is available online under the Administrative Department. Mayor McDermott congratulated Ms. Paul on doing an excellent job and thanked her for her hard work; it is appreciated by all.

J. STAFF REPORTS

1. Police Chief Ford

Police Chief Ford presented the 2021 Annual Report of Police Operations. He is proud of our City Officers and their ability to adapt to change while maintaining standards of excellence.

During 2021 Officers made over 200 arrests for crimes ranging from armed robbery, kidnaping, traffic offenses and handled over 13,000 incidents. Our Agency recorded six use of force incidents to effect an arrest with no complaints. The Department received numerous letters of Appreciation due to their actions; these letters came from citizens, businesses and other local departments. Our Officers are committed to the Countryside mission of serving the community by keeping strong relations based on mutual trust and respect.

In 2021 many Officers completed, 2,412 hours of training compared to 1,275 in 2020. That year was seriously affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Training in de-escalation and crisis intervention is paramount; this plays a major role in how officers deal with mental health situations. These incidents have shown great potential for escalating into serious use of force incidents with tragic outcomes, as we see on the news daily.

In July 2021 the City began tracking cases involving mental health situations. During that time period officers were involved in 14 incidents last year. Our officers' ability to safely resolve these incidents and get the person in crisis the help they needed is the result of this training.

The Annual Report will highlight many accomplishments during the course of the year. This Report will be available on the City webpage within the next week. A great deal of work goes into the preparation of this Report; many thanks to our Administrative Assistant, Charity Mitchell for doing her in a professional manner.

Thanks also to Mayor McDermott and the City Council for their continued support in making sure Officers are equipped and safe as they carry out their functions in serving the residents and guests of the City of Countryside. Mayor McDermott thanked Chief Ford for doing an excellent job with the Officers. We have the best Police Department in the State of Illinois. We are very fortunate in having an extremely professional Police Department; our members are solid individuals. He thanked the Chief for all his hard work; it is truly appreciated by City Staff and residents alike.

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

L. MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Mayor McDermott sought a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the purchase of Real Estate under Section 2(c) (5) of the Open Meetings Act.

A motion was made by Alderman Benson, seconded by Alderman Frohlich that this meeting be RECESSED; motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 Alderman Finn

Mayor McDermott declared the meeting recessed at 7:45 p.m.

* * * *

M. RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

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

N. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Alderman Mikolyzk, seconded by Alderman Von Drasek that this meeting be ADJOURNED; motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 Alderman Finn

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

APPROVED:

Respectfully Submitted,

/fp

ELIZABETH KMET, CITY CLERK