

CITY OF COUNTRYSIDE

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



Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting of the City Council

Wednesday, September 14, 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. The Mayor introduced Laine Reilly, a first grader at Pleasant Dale School, who served today as Mayor of the City and is doing an outstanding job. She 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 Finn, Alderman Musillami, Alderman Von Drasek, Alderman Benson, City Clerk Kmet, City Treasurer Bolt
Also Present: City Administrator Paul, Police Chief Ford, City Attorney Peck, Fin. Dir. Schutter, Asst. City Administrator Peterson, Engineer Fitzgerald, Recording Sec. Prokop

B. OMNIBUS AGENDA

1. Approval of the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of August 10, 2022.
2. Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes of August 10, 2022.
3. The Statement of Bills submitted for payment through September 14, 2022: \$1,202,748.96.
 I move to approve the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of August 10, 2022, the City Council Meeting of August 10, 2022, and the Statement of Bills through September 14, 2022, in the amount of \$1,202,748.96.

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

Aye: 6 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Von Drasek, Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson
Nay: 0

C. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

- a. Carson Brauer, thanked the Mayor and the City Council for the restoration of the baseball field at Countryside City Park. He plays baseball for the Highlands Hurricanes Little League and will now enjoy a perfect field in which to play for his entire youth career. His dad, Jason Brauer, 5625 S. Edgewood, also thanked the entire City of Countryside; he is a resident, local coach and teacher at LTHS; he is happy to have moved to this community. The Mayor thanked Ald. Benson and Ald. Musillami from the Infrastructure Committee for making the improvements possible.

D. MAYOR'S REPORT

- a. Mayor McDermott stated that individuals from Venezuela seeking asylum are staying at the Holiday Inn. These individuals are legally in the U.S. He asked the Governor's Office and Secretary Grace Hou to join us this evening to summarize the events. She stated that her family has lived in this area for many years; she and her husband both attended LTHS; her family members are now teachers at LTHS and live in Countryside. The community is very welcoming; the school district has enrolled new students. The first two buses arrived August 31; she appreciates the support from the community. They are working with the City to respond to needs and insure that necessities are provided. No notice or very little notice was received prior to buses arriving at our doorstep. There has been no official communications from Texas; they expect another bus within hours. Over 500 asylum seekers have arrived in the past 14 days. Other cities are receiving these buses – New York City has 8K and Washington, D.C. has 10K arrivals since April. The Governor is engaging all federal agencies to make sure resources are available for these families. Resettlement organizations have been working with refugees since the 1980s. We hope

this effort can become a partnership with the federal government and other states. These individuals are applying for jobs and seeking other places to live. The hotels utilized had availability at this time; besides Holiday Inn other hotels are in Burr Ridge, Elk Grove Village, and Hilton O'Hare. Secretary Hou thanked Countryside for being so welcoming. Ken Novak asked how long will they remain in Countryside? Plans for seeking apartments are ongoing, some may remain here while others go where potential jobs are located. We have no control over how many buses are sent to Chicago. The Mayor stated that the City has no control over who comes to the hotels. Ald. Von Drasek asked about their health status. There is a health screening upon arrival; the Chicago DPH also does an initial screening. Basic health needs and beyond are being addressed. Ald. Frohlich asked if speaking English is a requirement for entry. No, they are predominantly Spanish-speaking; language is not a requirement; they are anxious to learn English. The Mayor heard comments that these individuals are seeking jobs and want to be productive members of society. He knows that businesses in our City are looking for workers. The Mayor thanked Secretary Hou for joining us this evening.

b. Committee of the Whole – Mayor McDermott

The Mayor sought consideration of an Ordinance Granting a Text Amendment to Section 1-5B-2 of Chapter 5 of the Countryside City Code to Redistrict the Wards of the City of Countryside and Adopting an Official Ward Map of the City of Countryside following the 2020 Decennial Census.

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: 6 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Von Drasek,
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson

Nay: 0

City Clerk Kmet declared that this will be known as ORDINANCE 22-35-O.

c. Consideration of a Block Party Request from Ald. Tom Mikolyzk at 7361 Prescott Lane from Noon to 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 17, 2022.

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

Aye: 6 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Von Drasek,
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson

Nay: 0

d. Consideration of a Block Party Request from Shawn Kaminski at 6106 Jovic Court from 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 24, 2022.

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: 6 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Von Drasek,
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson

Nay: 0

e. Consideration of a Background Check/Fingerprinting Waiver Request from the Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana for their Door to Door Cookie Sales in 2022 and 2023.

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: 6 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Von Drasek,
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson

Nay: 0

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 COMMITTEE

a. Alderman Von Drasek stated that an Economic Development Committee meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 28, at 6:15 p.m. prior to the regular City Council Meeting.

2. FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. Alderman Finn sought consideration to purchase a WatchGuard Firebox M690 Firewall with Total Security Package from CDW under their Governmental Purchasing Program in the amount of \$11,168.93.

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: 6 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Von Drasek,
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson

Nay: 0

b. Alderman Finn sought consideration for the City to enter into a First Amendment to the Existing Water Tower and Ground Lease Agreement with Chicago SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless.

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: 6 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Von Drasek,
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson

Nay: 0

c. Alderman Finn stated that he is proud of the City's welcoming atmosphere; that's what "community" is all about.

3. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE - NO REPORT

4. INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

a. Alderman Benson sought consideration of Awarding a Contract in the amount of \$29,800 to Sportsfields, Inc. of Alsip, IL for the Restoration of the Baseball Field at City Park. It was long overdue and it's a good thing for the community and all the players.

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: 6 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Von Drasek,
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson

Nay: 0

5. PLAN COMMISSION/ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - NO REPORT

6. SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

a. FYI – Alderman Musillami stated that the Bluegrass Festival was a great addition for our City. He has received positive feedback and it was very well attended. He is looking forward to repeating the event next year. Also, the Back to School Event at Ideal School went well – thanks to all the City workers who took part; it was well attended by the kids and they were very receptive for all that was done. The event did get cancelled due to the rain, but the City looks forward to expanding that event in the future. The Mayor thanked the police officers and PW employees and everyone; you all did an outstanding job and we will do it again next year.

7. SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE - NO REPORT

8. FLAGG CREEK ADVISORY BOARD – NO REPORT

Mayor McDermott played a round of golf and noted that the course is in outstanding condition – hats off to the new manager and the greens keeper for keeping it in excellent shape. Compliments on the condition of the playing surfaces – well done.

H. LEGAL REPORT – NO REPORT

I. CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

1. City Administrator Ms. Paul sought consideration of an Emergency Purchase Order with Vian Construction for Water Main Break Repairs in the amount of \$15,280.25. The water main breaks were in the alley behind 5656 LaGrange Road; emergency repairs were required.

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

Aye: 6 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Von Drasek,
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson

Nay: 0

2. Consideration to waive the formal bid requirements and purchase a 2020 Fusion Plug-In Hybrid Vehicle from Westfield Ford in the amount of \$35,800. Some duties from the Community Development Department have been brought back in-house; there are now three inspectors doing daily inspections but the City only had one vehicle, which caused problems. We are requesting the purchase of a slightly used vehicle with 11,000 miles, environmentally friendly hybrid plug-in vehicle getting 103 mpg; only two dealerships had available vehicles. Westfield had the lowest priced vehicle. The Mayor stated this is at the request of the Sustainability Committee to move toward electric vehicles. There is a separate charging station in back for City vehicles.

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

Aye: 6 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Von Drasek,
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson

Nay: 0

J. STAFF REPORTS

1. Police Chief Ford

a. Chief Ford sought consideration and approval to apply for Non-Matching Grants to fund the purchase of Traffic Crash Reconstruction Technology. Countryside is a member of the Suburban Major Accident Response Team for the last six years. In-house we have one State Certified Accident Reconstructionist and another about to begin his third class. We are seeking non-matching grants to purchase new hardware and software at a cost of \$60,000; the unit will be kept here and the other one is stored in Homewood, IL. This will help expedite reconstruction of major accidents as they occur.

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: 6 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Von Drasek,
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson

Nay: 0

2. City Engineer Fitzgerald

a. Mr. Fitzgerald sought consideration Engineer's Pay Estimate #5 and final in the amount of \$38,571 to Lindahl Brothers, Inc. of Bensenville, IL for the 2021 Street Rehabilitation Program.

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: 6 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Von Drasek,
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Finn, Alderman Benson

Nay: 0

b. FYI -- Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the permeable paver parking lot at City Park is up for bid. Bids will be opened on Monday, September 26 at 2:00 p.m. Hopefully the contract will be awarded on September 28 at the next City Council Meeting; construction will begin this Fall.

K. BUSINESS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL FOR DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND, IF DETERMINED, ACTION UPON:

a. Mayor McDermott asked the audience to stand for a Moment of Silence at this time in memory of the 14-year-old boy who was killed while crossing 55th Street on his bicycle two weeks ago - Julian Medina. It is a tragic situation. He was a resident of the City. We will keep his family in our thoughts and prayers.

L. 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: 6 Alderman Musillami, Alderman Frohlich, Alderman Benson,
Alderman Mikolyzk, Alderman Von Drasek, Alderman Finn

Nay: 0

Mayor McDermott declared the meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

APPROVED

Respectfully Submitted,

/fp

ELIZABETH KMET, CITY CLERK