

City of Oakbrook Terrace

City Hall
17W275 Butterfield Road
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
www.oakbrookterrace.net



City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 12, 2024
7:00 PM

City Council Board Room

Oakbrook Terrace City Council

Mayor Paul Esposito

City Clerk Michael Shadley

Ward 1

Alderman Charlie Barbari

Alderman Joseph Beckwith

Ward 2

Alderman Frank Vlach

Alderman Dennis Greco

Ward 3

Alderman Bob Rada

Alderwoman Mary Fitzgerald

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Esposito called the November 12, 2024, Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the following City Council members in attendance:

Present: Barbari, Beckwith, Fitzgerald, Rada, Vlach, and Mayor Esposito
Absent: Greco

Also in attendance: City Administrator J. Ritz, Assistant to the City Administrator A. Raffel, Finance Director T. Walker, Community Development Director M. Headley, HR Payroll Specialist J. Wade, and City Attorney R. Ramello.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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 October 22, 2024:

Motion to approve the October 22, 2024, minutes of the Regular City Council and Committee of the Whole, as presented, was made by Alderman Beckwith and seconded by Alderwoman Fitzgerald. Roll call vote was taken:

Ayes: Barbari, Beckwith, Fitzgerald, Rada, and Vlach

Nays: None

Absent: Greco

Motion passed.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

VII. ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA

1. Payment Of City Bills: November 12, 2024, In The Amount Of \$741,244.05.
2. Treasurer’s Report: October 2024.

- 3. Personnel & Payroll Report: October 2024.
- 4. Ordinance No. 24-38: An Ordinance Amending The Provisions Of Title XI (Business Regulations); Chapter 124 (Video Gaming); Subchapter 124.22 (Number Of Licenses) Of The Code Of Oakbrook Terrace To Increase The Maximum Number Of Video Gaming Location Licenses And The Maximum Number Of Video Gaming Terminal Licenses (Terrace Cantina, Inc., D/B/A Terrace Cantina, 17w615 Butterfield Road).
- 5. Ordinance No. 24-39: An Ordinance Amending The Provisions Of Section 30.35 Entitled "Council To Act As A Body" Of Chapter 30 Entitled "General Provisions" Of Title III Entitled "Administration" Of The Code Of Ordinances Of The City Of Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois.
- 6. Ordinance No. 24-40: An Ordinance Granting Variations From The Requirements Of The Zoning Code For The Property Commonly Known As 17W160 16th Street In The City Of Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois.

Motion to approve the Action Items/Consent Agenda of the November 12, 2024, Regular City Council and Committee of the Whole was made by Alderman Rada and seconded by Alderman Beckwith. Roll call vote was taken:

**Ayes: Barbari, Beckwith, Fitzgerald, Rada, and Vlach
 Nays: None
 Absent: Greco**

Motion passed.

VIII. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

None

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 Beckwith. An acclamation vote was taken:

**Ayes: Barbari, Beckwith, Fitzgerald, Rada, and Vlach
 Nays: None
 Absent: Greco**

Motion passed.

X. MAYOR ESPOSITO

1. Mayor Esposito stated he enjoyed seeing everyone trick or treating on Halloween throughout the community, and clarified the use of speed bumps for special events and traffic safety.
2. Mayor Esposito stated the blinkersigns on MacArthur Drive and Karban Road are fully installed.
3. Mayor Esposito thanked our Veterans, Law Enforcement, and Firefighters, and further thanked everyone who attended the Veterans Day Event at the Villa Park VFW.
4. Mayor Esposito informed everyone that there was a possibility that Ascension of Our Lord Catholic Church may be closing or have alternative plans to consolidate. He also provided a handout provided by the church detailing some of the plans as stated.
5. Mayor Esposito stated the Lions Club has started selling their holiday Christmas trees.
6. Mayor Esposito welcomed HR Payroll Specialist JoEllen Wade to the City of Oakbrook Terrace.

XI. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1. Renewal Of Workers' Compensation Insurance For 2025:

Mayor Esposito requested that the City Council review the interdepartmental memo prepared by Assistant to the City Administrator Raffel regarding workers' compensation insurance. Assistant Raffel informed the Council that for the year 2025, the insurance costs would decrease due to a lack of open claims against the city. Assurance Representative Bobby Dufkis addressed the City Council to discuss coverage options and pricing for workers' compensation insurance.

Alderman Rada clarified that the decreased workers' compensation is due to the reduced claims.

The City Council concurs to vote on this matter at the subsequent meeting.

2. Renewal Of Property & Casualty Insurance For 2025:

Mayor Esposito requested that the City Council review an interdepartmental memo prepared by Assistant to the City Administrator Raffel. Raffel informed the City Council about the increased rates resulting from higher property values, increased fleet costs, and changes in the overall insurance market. Assurance Representative Bobby Dufkis also addressed the City Council discussing the reasons behind the rate increases, the efforts to find better rates in the market, and the decision to continue coverage with the current insurance carriers.

Alderman Beckwith requested clarification on several insurance riders, noting that they are not being rated. He also inquired whether the city needs to file a claim if the damages are below the increased deductible and asked about monitoring cyber security software.

The City Council concurs to vote on this matter at the subsequent council meeting.

3. **Letter of Recommendation - 1S576 Midwest Road:**

Mayor Esposito requested that the City Council review the interdepartmental memo prepared by Community Development Director Headley regarding the proposed renovation of the Wendy's located at 1S576 Midwest Road. He noted that the Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing concerning several variations related to setbacks and signage. Community Development Director Headley explained the different setbacks, emphasizing that Planning and Zoning raised various questions and ultimately approved the request with a vote of 6 to 1. Ronald Hart, Senior Development Project Manager at Hamra Enterprises, addressed the City Council about the proposed building, drive-thru, and landscaping plans.

Alderman Beckwith wanted to ensure that Planning and Zoning did not set any conditions on this request.

The City Council concurs to vote on this matter at the subsequent council meeting.

4. **Presentation Of The City Of Oakbrook Terrace 2024-2027 Strategic Plan By Northern Illinois University:**

Mayor Esposito briefly spoke about the strategic plan and introduced Melissa Henricksen, the Assistant Director of the Northern Illinois University Center for Governmental Studies. Assistant Director Henricksen presented a comprehensive overview of the strategic planning process, shared findings from the focus groups, and outlined the next steps for the executive team.

Alderwoman Fitzgerald inquired about how the City Council ensures that the plans and objectives outlined in the document are implemented.

Alderman Beckwith inquired whether there is a process to assess how the staff implements the strategic plan. He also asked if the cultural change aligns with the strategic, and comprehensive plan guidelines or represents a combination of both.

Alderman Rada expressed his concern with implementing the strategic plan and the role of the City Council.

This discussion was for informational purposes only; no action is required.

5. **Letter of Recommendation - Comprehensive Plan:**

Mayor Esposito asked the City Council to review the letter of recommendation prepared by Community Development Director Headley regarding the Planning and Zoning's public hearing pertaining to the Comprehensive Plan and the suggested changes.

Northern Illinois University representative Mim Evans talked about building the comprehensive plan, the process, and the plan's content. Ms. Evans explained that the plan has excellent value for the community due to their involvement and that the land use map will have great value for all projects within the boundaries of the city. Principal Planner Todd Vanadilok from Egret & Ox Planning, LLC presented the comprehensive plan's physical aspects that would guide any physical changes to the landscape of Oakbrook Terrace.

The City Council concurs to vote on this matter at the subsequent council meeting.

6. **2026 Budget Calendar:**

Mayor Esposito requested that the City Council review the proposed budget calendar prepared by Finance Director Walker. Finance Director Walker provided an overview of the calendar and suggested reducing the budget meetings from two down to one. The City Council agreed with this proposal.

The City Council concurs to vote on this matter at the subsequent council meeting.

7. **2024 Property Tax Levy:**

Mayor Esposito asked the City Council to review the interdepartmental memo prepared by Finance Director Walker regarding the proposed tax levy. Finance Director Walker informed City Council that the city's actuary, Foster and Foster, recommends a 3.4% increase over last year's property tax extension.

Alderman Beckwith explained that a mistake was made when an additional tax was placed on the property tax bill of the residents, and he wants to ensure that this does not happen again.

The City Council concurs to vote on this matter at the December 10, 2024 meeting.

8. **Draft Ordinance Amending The Provisions Of Chapter 52 Entitled “Water Supply System” Of Title V Entitled “Public Works” Of The Code Of Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois:**

Mayor Esposito requested that the City Council review the draft ordinance concerning amendments to the Oakbrook Terrace code related to the water supply system. Finance Director Walker pointed out an error from 2015 regarding the water rate increase and an incorrect ordinance. She explained that this is a cleanup ordinance.

The City Council concurs to vote on this matter at the subsequent council meeting.

9. **Discussion Of Traffic Patterns On MacArthur Drive:**

Mayor Esposito opened the discussion to the City Council. Alderwoman Fitzgerald highlighted a meeting with the Public Services Department regarding key performance measures to assess speed and traffic volume on MacArthur Drive before taking any further actions. She mentioned that the group has information from the police department that could serve as a baseline concerning this issue. Alderwoman Fitzgerald also emphasized that an additional study should be considered if changes have not been made according to the procedures that have already been implemented.

XII. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Alderman Rada talked about the DuPage Convention and Visitors Bureau (DCVB) and their concern about tourism funds for the future. He stated that DuPage County overall creates some of the most robust tourism revenue for the state. Alderman Rada asked if the police reports could have a little more content to it.

Alderman Beckwith thanked everyone for those who were involved in planning the Veterans Day event.

Alderman Barbari thanked Mayor Esposito and Assistant to the City Administrator Raffel for planning the Veterans Day Event.

Alderwoman Fitzgerald expressed gratitude to Assistant to the City Administrator Raffel for uniting the communities of Oakbrook Terrace, Villa Park, and the VFW to host a well-attended tribute to our veterans.

XIII. CITY ATTORNEY RAMELLO

None

XIV. CITY CLERK SHADLEY

None

XV. CITY ADMINISTRATOR RITZ

1. City Administrator Ritz provided the City Council with the current water report from Public Services.
2. City Administrator Ritz gave an overview of the monthly police reports.

XVI. RECONVENE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Motion to reconvene the City Council meeting was made by Alderman Beckwith and seconded by Alderwoman Fitzgerald. An acclamation vote was taken:

Ayes: Barbari, Beckwith, Fitzgerald, Rada, and Vlach

Nays: None

Absent: Greco

Motion passed.

XVII. OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Rada and seconded by Alderman Beckwith at 9:06 P.M.

Acclamation vote was made with all Ayes.

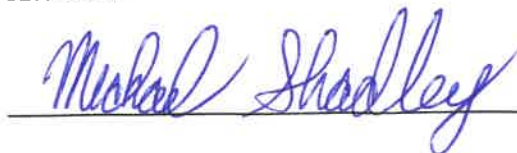
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Raffel, Recording Secretary

Attested:




Michael Shadley
City Clerk

Next Regular City Council meeting is November 26, 2024

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