

City of Darien
Minutes of the Administrative/Finance Committee
March 3, 2025

Chairwoman/Alderwoman Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Committee members Leganski and Schauer (Schauer left at 6:20 to attend Municipal Services Committee meeting) were present. Also in attendance was Administrator Bryon Vana, Treasurer Coren and Mayor Marchese.

A Resolution approving Intergovernmental Agreements between the Darien Park District and the City of Darien for the use of Westwood Park for Darien Fest, Summer Concert Series, NNO, and Oktoberfest in 2025

Staff advised in 2024, the City conducted the Darien Fest, summer concerts, National Night out, and fall fest at Westwood Park. Staff reviewed the agreements to hold these events at Westwood Park in 2025 and advised the agreements are in substantially the same form as 2024. The committee unanimously recommended approval of the agreements

A Motion to approve an Ordinance abating certain taxes previously levied by Ordinance no. O-24-24.

Staff advised that the City Council approved the 2024 tax levy in the amount of \$2,971,285. When the council approved the levy, they said they would review this amount in conjunction with the FYE 26 budget review to determine final amount of the levy. If the council wants to maintain the \$2,971,285 tax levy request, no further action is needed. If the council wants to reduce that amount, they would need to pass a tax levy abatement ordinance and file that with DuPage County. Staff presented a draft abatement ordinance of \$459,325, which would keep this year's property tax request the same as last year's tax extension of \$2,511,961. The Committee recommended approval of the abatement ordinance 2-1 with Sullivan and Schauer voting yes and Leganski voting no.

Grocery Sales Tax - discussion

Staff advised beginning January 1, 2026, Illinois will repeal the 1% sales and use grocery tax, which will have an impact on local governments. The financial impact will vary for each municipality depending on the amount of sales revenue they currently receive. In order to recoup all of the lost revenue the law also allows municipalities to implement a 1% local grocery tax effective on January 1, 2026. The city also has an option to raise our Home-Rule (HR) sales tax in order to recoup the lost revenue. Staff has reviewed the potential impact to Darien and we estimate a reduction in our sales tax revenue by approximately \$660,000.

Staff recommended approving an increase in our HR sales tax in order to collected additional revenue from the Walmart sales tax agreement. Staff advised this issue would be presented to the Admin/Finance Committee and City Council in the near future for formal approval.

Minutes – December 16, 2024 - The committee unanimously approved the minutes.

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Approved:

Mary Sullivan, Chairwoman _____

Ted Schauer, Member _____

Gerry Leganski, Member _____