

**City of Darien**  
**Minutes of the Administrative/Finance Committee**  
**May 5, 2025**

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Alderwoman Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Committee members Leganski and Schauer were present. Also in attendance was Administrator Bryon Vana, Treasurer Coren and Mayor Marchese. NIMEC consultant Adam Hoover also attended.

**Motion authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with MC Squared Energy Services, LLC. (MC2) to provide full-requirements electricity supply and related services for the City's Electric Aggregation Program**

Staff advised in 2012, Darien residents approved a referendum authorizing the City to operate an opt-out electric aggregation program for resident and small business ratepayers. In 2023, NIMEC solicited proposals for lower rates but could not find a rate lower than ComEd. However, NIMEC had obtained a proposal from MC2 that matched the ComEd rate but also included a civic contribution payment of \$10,000 to the city. On May 20, 2024, the City entered into an agreement extension (R-43-24) and covered electric bills from September of 2024 to September of 2025. MC<sup>2</sup> has offered a contract extension for 2 years under the same terms as the current contract but increased the civic payment to \$20,000. The committee agreed not to require renewable agency since it would lower the civic payment to the city. The committee unanimously recommended approval of the 2-year contract extension with MC2.

**Motion to accept a proposal from MuniWeb to redesign and upgrade the City's website in an amount not to exceed \$12,750**

Staff advised that the redesign and upgrade were necessary since the current content management system, muniCMS, has become more difficult to support and less secure as time passes. MuniCMS2.0 is available and recommended to upgrade and convert from muniCMS. The committee unanimously recommended approval to accept the proposal from MuniWeb.

**Approval of an Ordinance amending Section 3-4-1 and 3-4-2 of the Darien City Code to increase the home rule municipal retailers' occupation tax and home rule municipal service occupation tax from 1% to 1.25%.**

Staff advised beginning January 1, 2026, Illinois would repeal the 1% sales and use grocery tax. This will have an impact on local governments that currently receive sales tax revenue on grocery sales. 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 recommends the option of

approving an increase in our HR sales tax because it is advantageous to our economic incentive agreement with Walmart that was approved on April 2, 2012. Based on an additional 0.25% increase to our HR sales tax we would generate an additional \$750,000. The committee unanimously recommended approval AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 3-4-1 AND 3-4-2 OF THE DARIEN CITY CODE TO INCREASE THE HOME RULE MUNICIPAL RETAILERS' OCCUPATION TAX AND HOME RULE MUNICIPAL SERVICE OCCUPATION TAX FROM 1% TO 1.25%.

**Minutes – April 7, 2025** - The committee unanimously approved the minutes.

**Other Business**

Staff advised they would be looking at revenue options for review. Staff also advise that as part of the strategic plan the committee will perform more of a deep dive review of monthly financial reports.

**Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Approved:

Mary Sullivan, Chairwoman \_\_\_\_\_

Ted Schauer, Member \_\_\_\_\_

Gerry Leganski, Member \_\_\_\_\_