

EXECUTIVE SESSION – LITIGATION SECTION 2(C)(11) & PURCHASE OR LEASE OF REAL ESTATE SECTION 2(C)(5) OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT

It was moved by Alderwoman Sullivan and seconded by Alderman Schauer to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of Litigation Section 2(C)(11) & Purchase or Lease of Real Estate Section 2(C)(5) of the Open Meetings Act at 7:00 P.M., with no action to be taken.

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Gustafson, Kenny, Leganski, Schauer, Stompanato, Sullivan

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

It was moved by Alderman Kenny and seconded by Alderman Schauer to adjourn Executive Session.

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Gustafson, Kenny, Leganski, Schauer, Stompanato, Sullivan

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

Executive Session adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

of the City Council of the

CITY OF DARIEN

MARCH 18, 2024

7:52 P.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Darien was called to order at 7:52 P.M. by Mayor Marchese.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Marchese led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL** — The Roll Call of Aldermen by Clerk Ragona was as follows:

Present:	Thomas J. Belczak	Ted V. Schauer
	Eric K. Gustafson	Ralph Stompanato
	Joseph A. Kenny	Mary Coyle Sullivan
	Gerry Leganski	

Absent: None

Also in Attendance: Joseph Marchese, Mayor
JoAnne E. Ragona, City Clerk
Michael J. Coren, City Treasurer
Bryon Vana, City Administrator
Gregory Thomas, Police Chief
Daniel Gombac, Director of Municipal Services

4. **DECLARATION OF A QUORUM** – There being seven aldermen present, Mayor Marchese declared a quorum.

5. **QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – GENERAL**

There were none.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – March 4, 2024

It was moved by Alderman Gustafson and seconded by Alderman Stompanato to approve the minutes of the City Council Meeting of March 4, 2024.

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Gustafson, Kenny, Leganski, Stompanato, Sullivan

Abstain: Schauer

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

7. **RECEIVING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

There were none.

8. **MAYORS REPORT**

April Padalik, Darien Chamber of Commerce, introduced Dr. Austin Lacke and Dr. Grace Castro, dentists with Kingery Dental Health & Wellness, located at 6700 Kingery Highway, who shared their backgrounds and commented on their family practice. Ms. Padalik announced Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Thursday, March 21, 2024 from 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.

A. CHOOSE DUPAGE PRESENTATION

Mayor Marchese introduced Greg Bedalov, President & CEO Choose DuPage. Mr. Bedalov explained Choose DuPage is the collective voice of business in DuPage County from an economic development perspective and is a public private partnership. His presentation demonstrated the benefits of using Municipal Analytics Program (MAP) to enhance economic development opportunities. Presentation highlights included: About Choose DuPage; Choose DuPage Goals; About the Greater Chicagoland Economic Partnership (GCEP); More Collaboration Means More Data; Current Services & Benefits for Municipalities; GCEP Research Capabilities; Convey Economic Impact; Better Understand Trade Areas; Gain Consumer Insights; Identify Market Potential; Reach Prospective Businesses; Gain Workforce Insights; Get Details on Venture Capital and Private Equity Funding; and the Municipal Analytics Program.

Mr. Bedalov stated he is asking municipalities for a commitment to participate in MAP for a fee of \$5,000 per municipality; he reviewed reports included in the fee. Mr. Bedalov addressed Council questions. Council discussion ensued.

Mayor Marchese stated there is a need for Darien participation. Administrator Vana noted that money is available in the 2024-25 budget. Mayor Marchese conducted a straw poll; all were in favor of the investment.

Director Gombac asked Mr. Bedalov to define economic development; he responded, “I believe that economic development is using all the tools available to you to promote your defined geography as a premier global business location.”

Mayor Marchese...

...stated GovHR has been contracted to facilitate the development of a Strategic Plan. He said interviews will be conducted with City Elected Officials and Department heads. Community Leaders will meet on April 16. City Council will have a strategic plan retreat on June 8.

...displayed a community informational postcard that will be mailed to residents.

9. **CITY CLERK’S REPORT**

Clerk Ragona announced City offices will be closed on March 29 in observance of Good Friday.

10. **CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

There was no report.

11. **DEPARTMENT HEAD INFORMATION/QUESTIONS**

A. POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2023

Chief Thomas responded to Council questions regarding emergency text notifications and system testing. He noted Twitter will be kept as social media platform.

B. MUNICIPAL SERVICES – NO REPORT

Director Gombac addressed questions from...

...Alderwoman Sullivan regarding the curve correction project on North Frontage Road.

...Alderman Gustafson regarding start of curb repair.

12. **TREASURER’S REPORT**

A. WARRANT NUMBER 23-24-22

It was moved by Alderman Belczak and seconded by Alderman Leganski to approve payment of Warrant Number 23-24-22 in the amount of \$1,427,276.52 from the

enumerated funds, and \$314,042.24 from payroll funds for the period ending 03/07/24 for a total to be approved of \$1,741,318.76.

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Gustafson, Kenny, Leganski, Schauer, Stompanato, Sullivan

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

Treasurer Coren noted delay in February Monthly Report.

13. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Administrative/Finance Committee – Chairwoman Sullivan announced the next meeting of the Administrative/Finance Committee will be held on April 1, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. She commented that a Public Hearing for the proposed 2024-2025 Budget will be held on April 1, 2024.

Liaison Sullivan acknowledged and thanked the Citizen of the Year (COY) Committee on a phenomenal event honoring COY Valerie Kazich and Darien honorees from various civic/service organizations. She recognized Bonnie Kucera, COY Chairwoman, as newest Heart of Darien recipient. Liaison Sullivan thanked Lily Vana on a well-received food drive collection; Our Lady of Mount Food Pantry is indebted for all the generous food and monetary donations.

Mayor Marchese complemented COY Committee on doing a great job; he noted high attendance.

Municipal Services Committee – Chairman Belczak announced the next Municipal Services Committee meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.

Police Committee – Chairman Kenny announced the next Police Committee meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. in the Police Department Training Room.

14. **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS – AGENDA RELATED**

There were none.

15. **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business.

16. **CONSENT AGENDA**

There was no Consent Agenda.

17. **NEW BUSINESS**

CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL FROM STANDARD EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW 2023 MODEL, VACTOR 2100I FAN SEWER CLEANER FLEET TRUCK FOR HYDRO EXCAVATIONS OF BUFFALO BOXES, MAIN LINE VALVES, FIRE HYDRANT AND UTILITY POT HOLING, STORM SEWER BASIN CLEANING AND STORM SEWER MAIN LINE JETTING IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$548,000.00

It was moved by Alderman Belczak and seconded by Alderman Schauer to approve the motion as presented.

Director Gombac addressed Council questions. Discussion ensued regarding ability to lend equipment for either private and/or other municipality use.

RESOLUTION NO. R-23-24 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL FROM STANDARD EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW 2023 MODEL, VACTOR 2100I FAN SEWER CLEANER FLEET TRUCK FOR HYDRO EXCAVATIONS OF BUFFALO BOXES, MAIN LINE VALVES, FIRE HYDRANT AND UTILITY POT HOLING, STORM SEWER BASIN CLEANING AND STORM SEWER MAIN LINE JETTING IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$548,000.00

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Gustafson, Kenny, Leganski, Schauer, Stompanato, Sullivan

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

18. **QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – GENERAL**

There were none.

19. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the City Council, it was moved by Alderman Schauer and seconded by Alderman Stompanato to adjourn the City Council meeting.

VIA VOICE VOTE – MOTION DULY CARRIED

The City Council meeting adjourned at 9:06 P.M.

Mayor

City Clerk

All supporting documentation and report originals of these minutes are on file in the Office of the City Clerk under File Number 03-18-24. Minutes of 03-18-24 CCM.