

A WORK SESSION WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M. BY MAYOR MARCHESE FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING ITEMS ON THE FEBRUARY 18, 2025 AGENDA WITH THE CITY COUNCIL. THE WORK SESSION ADJOURNED AT 7:17 P.M.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

of the City Council of the

CITY OF DARIEN

FEBRUARY 18, 2025

7:30 P.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Darien was called to order at 7:30 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 |
| | Gerry Leganski | Mary Coyle Sullivan |

Absent: Joseph A. Kenny

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 six aldermen present, Mayor Marchese declared a quorum.

Mayor Marchese commented on the numerous emails received by Council and staff regarding performance of Michael Graves at Q Bar scheduled in March. Many took a strong stand against Mr. Graves because of his political views and past affiliations. The City does not condone or promote views expressed by Mr. Graves. Mayor Marchese read an email response from Mr. Taft, Q Bar owner.

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

There were none.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – February 3, 2025

It was moved by Alderman Leganski and seconded by Alderman Schauer to approve the minutes of the City Council Meeting of February 3, 2025.

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

Abstain: Sullivan

Nays: None

Absent: Kenny

Results: Ayes 6, Nays 0, Absent 1

MOTION DULY CARRIED

7. **RECEIVING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

There were none.

8. **MAYORS REPORT**

**A. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING JOHN GALAN AS THE 2025 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR IN
THE CITY OF DARIEN, ILLINOIS**

Mayor Marchese read the resolution into record.

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

RESOLUTION NO. R-14-25

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JOHN GALAN AS THE 2025 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR IN THE CITY OF DARIEN, ILLINOIS

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Gustafson, Kenny, Leganski, Schauer, Stompanato, Sullivan, Marchese, Ragona, Coren, Murphey, Vana

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 12, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

There was resounding applause and standing ovation from City Council and audience. Mayor Marchese presented John Galan with the Citizen of the Year Resolution and plaque.

John Galan spoke; he was stunned and humbled by the recognition. He thanked those who nominated him, COY Committee, and his family. He appreciated the City of Darien continuing the COY tradition because it makes Darien unique in recognizing citizens and making Darien “A Nice Place to Live.”

Mayor Marchese recognized Darien Honorees: Brian Arquilla, Darien Youth Club; John Bruner, Darien Business Alliance; Bill Christenson, Darien Lions Club; Randy May, Rotary Club of Darien; Yvonne Mlynarczyk, Darien Garden Club; and Jean Szwaya, Darien Woman’s Club.

Liaison Sullivan announced the dinner/dance will be held at Alpine Banquets on February 28, 2025; the cost is \$52 per person and the deadline is February 20. She thanked the COY Committee for their hard work. She encouraged all to attend this festive evening.

9. **CITY CLERK’S REPORT**

There was no report.

10. **CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

There was no report.

11. **DEPARTMENT HEAD INFORMATION/QUESTIONS****A. POLICE DEPARTMENT – NO REPORT****B. MUNICIPAL SERVICES – NO REPORT**12. **TREASURER’S REPORT****A. WARRANT NUMBER 24-25-20**

It was moved by Alderman Schauer and seconded by Alderman Stompanato to approve payment of Warrant Number 24-25-20 in the amount of \$687,534.54 from the enumerated funds, and \$335,633.23 from payroll funds for the period ending 02/06/25 for a total to be approved of \$1,023,167.77.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Kenny

Results: Ayes 6, Nays 0, Absent 1

MOTION DULY CARRIED

B. MONTHLY REPORT – JANUARY 2025

Treasurer Coren reviewed year-to-date sources of revenue, expenditures, and fund balances through the month of January 2025.

| | |
|--|---|
| <u>General Fund:</u> | Revenue \$15,760,535; Expenditures \$13,378,504; Current Balance \$7,362,255 |
| <u>Water & Water Depreciation Funds:</u> | Revenue \$5,392,539; Expenditures \$6,297,284 Current Balance \$2,821,218 |
| <u>Motor Fuel Tax Fund:</u> | Revenue \$784,114; Expenditures \$1,972,954; Current Balance \$498,167 |
| <u>Capital Improvement Fund:</u> | Revenue \$635,127; Expenditures \$756,686; Current Balance \$18,899,895 |

13. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Administrative/Finance Committee – Chairwoman Sullivan announced the Administrative/Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. She stated the Committee-of-the-Whole 2025-2026 Budget Workshop Meetings are scheduled for February 19 & February 26, at 6:00 P.M., March 3 after the City Council Meeting and, if needed, Wednesday, March 5 at 6:00 P.M. Chairwoman Sullivan noted Budget Workshop Meetings are open to the public and will be televised.

Municipal Services Committee – Chairman Belczak announced the Municipal Services Committee meeting scheduled for February 24, 2024 has been rescheduled to March 3, 2025 at 6:15 P.M.

Police Committee – Alderman Stompanato announced the Police Committee meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2025 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**

It was moved by Alderman Belczak and seconded by Alderman Schauer to approve by Omnibus Vote the following items on the Consent Agenda:

A. RESOLUTION NO. R-15-25 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF (5) PANASONIC TOUGHBOOK COMPUTERS FROM CDS OFFICE TECHNOLOGIES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,055 USING FEDERAL EQUITABLE SHARING FUNDS

B. ORDINANCE NO. O-07-25 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OR DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

C. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF \$6050 TO CONDUCT THE CITY OF DARIEN'S 24TH ANNUAL DARIEN DASH, A 10K/5K RUN/1 MILE WALK, ON MAY 18, 2025

**D. ORDINANCE NO. O-08-25 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4,
BUILDING REGULATIONS, DARIEN
BUILDING CODE, OF THE DARIEN CITY
CODE**

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

Nays: None

Absent: Kenny

Results: Ayes 6, Nays 0, Absent 1

MOTION DULY CARRIED

17. **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business.

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

Steve Shanks, Darien resident, inquired about Darien Business Alliance, establishment of advisory group, identity of business leaders, Economic Development Committee, Open Meetings Act, and participation by Mr. Taft, Q Bar. Mayor Marchese and Administrator Vana responded.

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 8:02 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 02-18-25.
Minutes of 02-18-25 CCM.