



MARCH 7, 2023  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
CITY OF PALOS HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 p.m. the Mayor called the City Council to order.

2. INVOCATION

The Mayor led the invocation

3. ROLL CALL

Indicated the following were present:

Mayor Robert Straz  
Clerk Thomas Kantas  
Treasurer James Daemicke  
Attorney Tom Brown

Alderman Robert Basso  
Alderman Jack Clifford  
Alderman Donald Bylut  
Alderman Jerry McGovern  
Alderman Michael McGrogan  
Alderman Brent Lewandowski  
Alderman Jeffrey Key

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- The City Clerk administered the oath to Officer Lindsey Vanderlaan.
- The City Clerk administered the oath to Chief of Police William Czajkowski

The Mayor and members of the City Council congratulated Chief of Police Czajkowski addressed the Council and members in attendance at the meeting.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Minutes: City Council Meeting – February 21, 2023.

Alderman Lewandowski moved to approve the minutes seconded by Alderman Bylut. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

- b. Approval of Payroll and Voucher List for the period ending March 3, 2023.

Alderman Clifford moved to approve the payroll and voucher list seconded by Alderman Bylut. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote

6. OPENING OF SEALED BIDS

The City Clerk conducted the bid opening for the 2023 Roadway Surfacing Program

M&J Construction	\$844,896.31 Bond included
D Construction	\$888,446.64 Bond included
Lindhal Brothers	\$818,714.26 Bond included
Gallagher Construction	\$1,056,626.06 Bond included

Alderman Clifford moved to refer the bids for consideration to the Road and Construction committee seconded by Alderman Lewandowski. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

7. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor: The Mayor thanked former Police Chief Larry Yott for his 50 years of distinguished service to the City and congratulated incoming Police Chief Czajkowski and also commented Chief Czajkowski for his decades of dedicated service to the City. The Mayor also praised the Police Department for their overall fine work and service to the City.

City Clerk: No Report

Treasurer: No Report

City Attorney: No Report

8. COMMUNICATIONS

Alderman Clifford congratulated Chief Czajkowski and commended police officers for their work and sacrifice. Alderman McGovern echoed the praise for Chief Czajkowski.

9. CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

None

10. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. Finance: Chairperson Alderman McGrogan - No Report
- b. Public Safety: Chairperson Alderman Basso - Reminded residents to read the City newsletter and particularly the safety tips in the newsletter.
- c. Municipal Grounds and Property: Chairperson Alderman Begley - No Report
- d. Planning and Zoning: Chairperson Alderman McGovern - No Report
- e. Recreation: Chairperson Alderman Key - No Report
- f. Roads and Construction: Chairperson Alderman Clifford - The committee will review the recently opened bids.

g. License, Permits & Franchises: Chairperson Alderman Lewandowski - No Report

h. Water and Sewer: Chairperson Alderman Bylut -

- Alderman Bylut moved to approve Alternative Energy Solutions to make necessary repairs on the Oak Hills Lift Station generator in the amount of \$13,174.35 seconded by Alderman Key.

On roll call the motion to approve the repairs was:

Alderman Basso	Yes
Alderman Bylut	Yes
Alderman Clifford	Yes
Alderman Key	Yes
Alderman Lewandowski	Yes
Alderman McGovern	Yes
Alderman McGrogan	Yes

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion was approved.

- Alderman Bylut moved to approve payment to Airy's, Inc. for the installation of a 12" easy valve in the amount of \$16,157.70 seconded by Alderman McGrogan.

On roll call the motion to approve the repairs was:

Alderman Basso	Yes
Alderman Bylut	Yes
Alderman Clifford	Yes
Alderman Key	Yes
Alderman Lewandowski	Yes
Alderman McGovern	Yes
Alderman McGrogan	Yes

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion was approved

- Alderman Bylut moved to advertise to bid the 2023 West College Drive Water Main Lining seconded by Alderman Key. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

- Alderman Bylut moved to approve painting of approximately 202 hydrants by Giant Maintenance & Restoration not to exceed an amount of \$20,000.00 seconded by Alderman Clifford. Alderman Basso asked if this would conclude the hydrant painting work. Alderman Bylut explained that there are additional hydrants that need to be completed and are approximately in year 3 of a 6 year project which is spread out over time.

On roll call the motion to approve the painting was:

Alderman Basso	Yes
Alderman Bylut	Yes
Alderman Clifford	Yes

Alderman Key	Yes
Alderman Lewandowski	Yes
Alderman McGovern	Yes
Alderman McGrogan	Yes

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion was approved

- Alderman Bylut moved to approve payment for professional services with RJN Group for the 2022 Sewer Rehab Design and Construction, the 2022 On-Call Sewer Services, and for the GIS Services rendering through January 27, 2023, in the amount of \$7,962.50 seconded by Alderman Clifford.

On roll call the motion to approve the services was:

Alderman Basso	Yes
Alderman Bylut	Yes
Alderman Clifford	Yes
Alderman Key	Yes
Alderman Lewandowski	Yes
Alderman McGovern	Yes
Alderman McGrogan	Yes

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion was approved

- Alderman Bylut moved to engage in an engineering agreement with RJN Group for the 2023 Professional Engineering/GIS On-Call Services not to exceed an amount of \$25,000.00 seconded by Alderman Key.

On roll call the motion to approve the agreement was:

Alderman Basso	Yes
Alderman Bylut	Yes
Alderman Clifford	Yes
Alderman Key	Yes
Alderman Lewandowski	Yes
Alderman McGovern	Yes
Alderman McGrogan	Yes

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion was approved

- Alderman Bylut moved to engage in an engineering agreement with RJN Group for the 2023 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Design and Construction Supervision not to exceed an amount of \$75,000.00 seconded by Alderman Key.

On roll call the motion to approve the agreement was:

Alderman Basso	Yes
Alderman Bylut	Yes
Alderman Clifford	Yes
Alderman Key	Yes
Alderman Lewandowski	Yes
Alderman McGovern	Yes

Alderman McGrogan            Yes

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion was approved

- Alderman Bylut moved to approve an amendment in the engineering agreement with Strand Associates, Inc. for the On-Call Engineering Services by an additional \$20,000.00 for the year 2023 seconded by Alderman Key.

On roll call the motion to approve the agreement was:

Alderman Basso	Yes
Alderman Bylut	Yes
Alderman Clifford	Yes
Alderman Key	Yes
Alderman Lewandowski	Yes
Alderman McGovern	Yes
Alderman McGrogan	Yes

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion was approved

- Alderman Bylut moved to approve the engineering agreement proposal with Strand Associates, Inc. for the 131st Street Watermain Lining Design through the IEPA Low Interest Loan Program in the amount of \$86,800.00 seconded by Alderman Key.

On roll call the motion to approve the proposal was:

Alderman Basso	Yes
Alderman Bylut	Yes
Alderman Clifford	Yes
Alderman Key	Yes
Alderman Lewandowski	Yes
Alderman McGovern	Yes
Alderman McGrogan	Yes

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion was approved

- Alderman Bylut moved to increase the following utility rates: single family and commercial water rate increase 4%, single family flat sewer charge rate increase 50%, commercial / industrial minimum sewer charge increase 50% seconded by Alderman Key.

Alderman Bylut explained that there has been no rate increase of any kind in water bills since 2019. This proposal - while substantial - is necessary due to the work necessary to be completed in the future.

Alderman McGrogan stated that he would like additional time to consider the proposal including additional sources of funding and moved to refer the matter back to committee seconded by Alderman McGovern.

Alderman Bylut stated that the matter has been considered at the last two committee meetings. Alderman Bylut stated that financial figures including 2022 were used in the consideration of the proposal along with consultation from other members of the administration. There will be a lack of funding for these projects in 2027 which is why the

proposal is necessary and takes into the consideration the need for ample reserves which is necessary to fund these projects. Alternative funding proposals such as borrowing money to fund future project may be necessary but that having a fiscally sound fee structure and sufficient reserves in place could make potential borrowing more advantageous. The finance direction, public works director and City Administrator have all indicated that the measure is necessary.

Alderman McGrogan withdrew his motion to refer the matter to committee and instead moved to defer the vote to the next City Council meeting which was seconded by McGovern. The matter was deferred accordingly.

Alderman Lewandowski asked when the proposed rates would go into effect. Alderman Bylut indicated that they would go into effect after vote.

11. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Business/Economic Development: Chairperson Alderman Key - No Report

Cable TV: Chairperson Alderman McGovern - No Report

12. OLD BUSINESS

Alderman Basso congratulated Chief Czajkowski.

13. CITIZENS WISHING TO ASK QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS EVENING'S BUSINESS\*

None

14. NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Clifford stated that future sewer projects will be significant.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

16. RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

None

17. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:36 p.m. a motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Thomas Kantas, City Clerk

