

Regular Meeting Minutes
City of Leland Grove
Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Meeting Call to Order: Mayor Bangert called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Roll Call was taken by Clerk Gray with those present (P), excused (E) or absent (A) as indicated:

- Mary Jo Bangert, Mayor (P)
- Brian Miller, Treasurer (P)
- Aimee Gray, City Clerk (P)
- Diana Hetherington, Alderperson Ward 1 (P)
- John Slayton, Alderperson Ward 2 (P)
- Greg Gaz, Alderperson Ward 2 (P)
- Lance Cull, Alderperson Ward 3 (P)
- Todd Lafrenz, Alderperson Ward 3 (P)

A quorum was present.

Also present:

- Dan Ryan, Chief of Police
- Tyler Lainer, City Administrator
- Jim Bray

Minutes Approval: Alderperson Hetherington moved, seconded by Alderperson Cull to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on May 21, 2024 . Motion carried unanimously.

Alderperson Hetherington moved, seconded by Alderperson Cull to approve the appointment of resident, Jim Bray, as Alderperson for Ward 1. Motion carried unanimously.

Following the approval of the Council, Alderperson Bray was sworn in.

Treasurer's Report: City Treasurer Miller reported he reviewed the monthly financial statements and expenses.

- Alderperson Hetherington moved, seconded by Alderperson Slayton, to approve P-6-686, Unpaid Warrants General Fund in the amount of \$23,988.71. The motion carried unanimously.

- Alderperson Cull moved, seconded by Alderperson Hetherington, to approve P-6-687, Unpaid Warrants MFT, in the amount of \$980.84. The motion carried unanimously.
- Alderperson Hetherington moved, seconded by Alderperson Cull, to approve P-6-688, Paid Warrants General fund in the amount of \$83,942.14. The motion carried unanimously.

The current financial statement as of June 25, 2024 shows \$1,480,872.31 as a total fund balance.

City Administrator's Report: Administrator Lanier reported the Roads Department has been gathering limbs from the recent storm. The team is also building a rail on Bridge Terrace.

Legal Updates and Actions: Attorney Cross reported the Public Access Counselor in the Office of the Illinois Attorney General reviewed the circumstances of a Feb. 8, 2024, meeting attended by the Mayor and two Council members and issued a non-binding opinion that the “gathering without providing advance notice and without following other requirements” of the Open Meetings Act (OMA) was a violation of the OMA. Attorney Cross said the violation was unintentional. To remedy the violation and close the matter before the Attorney General’s Office, minutes of the Feb. 8 meeting will be compiled and made available to the public.

Mayor's Comments: Mayor Bangert shared a thank you note written by the Balmer family. The Balmers wished to thank the City, especially the Roads Department, for their prompt and efficient assistance in removing a City tree from their property after being damaged in a storm.

Mayor Bangert reported she spoke with Molly Bearns who is the Executive Director of the Springfield and Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission. Mayor Bangert shared a copy of the most recent City of Leland Grove Comprehensive Plan dated 2013. As the plan is in effect for 20 years, Mayor Bangert asked Council Members to review the plan and make suggestions on what should be updated by the next Council meeting.

Department Reports:

- Public Ways and Property: Alderperson Lafrenz asked for drainage areas to be monitored and maintained by the Roads Department. He also brought attention to a drainage area at the corner of Cherry and Bates.

Alderperson Lafrenz will work with Administrator Lanier to draft guidelines for

how residents in how they might go about creating and submitting a proposal to fill in the ditch which is in the City right of way

- Human Resources: No report.
- Health and Sanitation: Alderperson Hetherington reported the Tree Board met. During the meeting, the committee developed an outline of items they would like to include on the website. The team is interested in sharing the Big Tree Registry and the current inventory of trees in Leland Grove.
- Building Permits and Zoning: Three new permits have been issued since the May Council meeting.
- Police Department: Chief Ryan reported the City website is as up to date as he has information for.

Chief Ryan reported fundraisers the Department has been involved in.

Chief Ryan reported the Department is utilizing the “Hire Back” program through July 8.

- Finance and Revenue: No report.
- Communication: Alderperson Gaz reported the Leland Link will be printed and shared within the next week.

Alderperson Gaz reported he will have a sign-up table at the annual Banana Split Party to educate community members about the Constant Contact program. The program is a way to disseminate information to residents quickly and efficiently in case of an emergency.

Old Business: No report.

New Business: Mayor Bangert shared a printed map of the City of Leland Grove for Council Members to be able to clearly see the wards and roadways.

Public Comments: Resident Brian Groff asked for clarification on when fireworks would be displayed on the 4th of July.

Resident Groff also asked about the outcome of the assessment of road work. The City is waiting for the engineer’s final report of the road repair needs.

Adjournment: Alderperson Hetherington moved, seconded by Alderperson Cull, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

The next Regular Meeting of the Leland Grove City Council will be held at the Instructional Resource Center at 2000 Chatham Road on Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise communicated.

Posted: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____