

City of Deer Park  
City Council Meeting  
Municipal Building  
January 22, 2024

Mayor Donnellon opened the meeting at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation.

Clerk of Council read the roll. Mayor Donnellon, Tom Camp, Kathy Downs, Mark Feldhaus, Natasha Kohorst, Chris Westmark. All present except for Neil Kelly. Motion made by Mayor Donnellon to excuse Neil Kelly Chris Westmark. seconded, motion carried by unanimous vote.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Kathy Downs motioned to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2024, Council Meeting. Mayor Donnellon seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### **Public Comment**

Chris White, 4248 Duneden asked council to consider having Public Comments/questions also later in the meetings in case other comments arise from what is discussed during meeting.

Kerry Baker, 4169 Webster asked the same question and suggested questions or comments later in the meeting as well.

Megan Angstead 3805 St. Johns Terrace asked the same question as the above citizens.

Jeremiah Easton 3904 Matson wanted to thank the Deer Park Service Department for the great job of snow removal for last week.

Mayor Donnellon thanked them for their comments.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

#### **Legislative and Finance Committee Chair Chris Westmark**

**Ms. Westmark asked Clerk of Council to read by title only.**

RESOLUTION 2024-1 Authorizing the City Manager to purchase a New 2023 Dodge Durango V8 AWD with Emergency Equipment and to take all action necessary to effectuate such purchase. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Westmark made a motion to pass the resolution, Mr. Camp seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held Mr. Camp, yes, Ms. Downs yes, Mr. Feldhaus yes, Ms. Kohorst yes, Ms. Westmark yes, Mayor Donnellon yes. ( Mr. Kelly not present). Resolution 2024-1 passed.

The car will be in service within 60 days and once in service the car it is replacing will be placed for auction, funds are coming from the Police fund. The fund has about \$80,000 the car will cost \$56,000 including the emergency equipment.

### **Safety Committee Chair Tom Camp**

Mr. Feldhaus discussed the December Police report,. During 2023, there were 9998 calls for service, 316 arrests.

It was suggested residents keep their garage doors closed to limit theft.

### **Public Works Committee Chair Kathy Downs**

Ms. Downs had nothing to report this evening.

### **Park Board Committee Chair Mark Feldhaus**

Mr. Feldhaus stated this past weekend there was a party held at the Community Center for the park volunteers. Fun was had by all.

Armchair races are February 24<sup>th</sup>, doors open at 6 pm, Post time 7 PM.

Music in the Park is back; starting May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

The park committee is working on a grant due February 15, would help with farmers markets, festivals and other park events.

### **Diversity & Inclusion Steering Committee Chair Neil Kelly**

Ms. Downs reminded all they are welcome at the Diversity & Inclusion Committee meetings.

Next one this Thursday Jan 25, 2024, 7 pm

### **Correspondence & Miscellaneous**

None

### **Executive Session**

A public Body may adjourn into executive session with the public body's attorney to discuss a pending or imminent court action...

Mayor Donnellon made a motion to enter Executive Session, seconded by Ms Kohorst

Roll call vote, Mr. Camp, yes, Ms. Downs, yes, Mr, Feldhaus yes, Ms. Kohorst yes, Ms. Westmark yes,

Mayor Donnellon ,yes

Session began at 7:16 pm

Adjourn from Executive Session 7:26 pm, Mayor Donnellon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Feldhaus; unanimous vote.

### **Old Business**

Vacant Residential property ordinance

City Solicitor Brian Pacheco discussed the commercial property ordinance and how council could add residential property to it as well. He also gave council some info on other cities' property ordinances.

Discussion ensued; Brian read thru parts of the commercial ordinance and answered questions.

Mr. Pacheco suggested council take the three paragraphs Gerry Stoker wrote and incorporate into the city's current commercial ordinance. Mr. Pacheco will send a redline copy to council with the changes by Monday January 29 to look at for discussion at the Feb 5, 2024, council meeting.

Mr. Pacheco reminded residents and council the ordinance is about compliance and not citations and fees.

### **New Business**

Ms. Westmark asked council about adding a second round of public comments or questions in the council meeting agenda. Discussion ensued; Mr. Pacheco stated the cities he works with also only do once in the beginning of the meeting. Mayor Donnellon reminded residents if there is a speaker, they can ask questions that arise from the speaker. Ms. Westmark then suggested residents could approach council members after the meeting for additional questions.

### **Special Announcements & Reports from Other City Officials**

**Solicitor** – Mr. Pacheco had no additional comments.

### **City Manager**

Dr. Jetter stated the finalized bid documents will be presented to council at the February 5, 2024, meeting.

The bid was a good one and there should be funds left for sidewalks and curbs. He stated he has received complaints around the watermain project, there is a timeline on the city web page for completion.

The city has received complaints on the Gail and Galbraith intersection. The county wants \$25 million dollars to do work there. The city is looking at other options.

Dr Jetter stated they are working on a new budget, not spending what we don't have.

He stated the Service Department did an excellent job with snow removal last week.

He shared SORTA recognized the city on our project and Neil Kelly was appointed to the SORTA board.

Mr. Kelly was recommended by the County Commissioners. Congratulations Mr. Kelly.

## Mayor

Mayor Donnellon reminded the residents that the Park Board can always use volunteers. Ms. Downs thanked Dr. Jetter for speaking at the block watch meeting last week. Mayor Donnellon reminded everyone to be careful with the upcoming bad weather.

## Schedule:

February 5, 2024 Council Meeting 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers

February 19, 2024 Council Meeting 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers

## Events

February 20, 2024 Block Watch at 7:00 PM in the community center

No block watch meeting in March

March 23, 2024 Strategic Planning Session 8:30 am-Noon Community Center

DEI Committee Meeting 7:00 PM in Council Chambers:

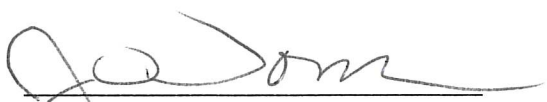
January 25, 2024

February 22, 2024

March 28, 2024

Ms. Downs motioned to adjourn. Mr. Feldhaus seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM



John Donnellon Mayor



Angie Tegenkamp Chachoff Clerk of Council