

**CITY OF WARRENVILLE  
PUBLIC SAFETY AND FINANCE  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, January 27, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall  
28W701 Stafford Place**

**MINUTES**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Aschauer called to meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Physically Present: Chairman Stuart Aschauer, Mayor David Brummel, and Aldermen: John Paul Augustynowicz, Clare Barry, Kathy Davolos, Craig Kruckenberg, John Lockett, Bill Weidner and Judy Wilkie

Absent: None

Also Present: City Administrator Cristina White, Assistant City Administrator Alma Morgan, Finance Director Kevin Dahlstrand, Police Chief Sam Bonilla, Accountant Anthony Aguilar, City Treasurer Maury Goodman, Tourism and Arts Commission Chairman Monica Johnson, and Executive Assistant and Deputy City Clerk Dawn Grivetti

Also Absent: City Clerk Julie Clark

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Aschauer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**D. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no comments from the public.

**E. OFFICIALS AND STAFF COMMENTS**

National Night Out Against Crime 2024 Acknowledgment

Police Chief (PC) Bonilla acknowledged efforts and participation by staff and the community in making last year's National Night Out Against Crime event a great success. He indicated there were 60 participating organizations, an estimated 1,100 people attended, and 1,000 meals were served. The City received an award for the event ranking thirteenth in the nation among agencies with similar populations. PC Bonilla thanked all who participated and noted that winning next year will be more challenging as the City will be in a different population bracket.

Mayor Brummel wished Ald. Kruckenberg a happy birthday today.

**F. BUSINESS OF MEETING**

1. Consideration of Tourism and Arts Commission Hotel Tax Grant Recommendations

Accountant and Staff Liaison Aguilar introduced Tourism and Arts Commission (TAC) Chairman Johnson who presented the FY 2026 Hotel Tax Grant recommendations. She stated that TAC received 16 applications requesting a total of \$127,127 in grant funds. Following a review of all applications, TAC is recommending approval of 15 applications totaling \$123,728. She noted that the application submitted by the Historical Society for interpretive signage in Leone Schmidt Park did not meet the deadline for consideration. City Administrator White later clarified that the application is still under consideration to ensure it meets City Code zoning regulations. The application could be presented at a later time for City Council approval in the FY 2026 Budget.

There was discussion regarding the CoffeeCon event and any future plans for the event. Chairman Johnson reported that the planners did not participate in the grant workshop nor submit a request for funding in FY 2026.

TAC members and staff were thanked by members of the Committee for their efforts in reviewing grant applications and making quality recommendations.

Ald. Barry recommended a stipulation be added to Warrenton in Bloom's grant approval for the production of 2026 photo calendars to require the inclusion of the City's public meetings and other events sponsored by the Hotel Tax Grant program.

ALDERMAN LOCKETT MADE A MOTION, seconded by Ald. Wilkie, to recommend the City Council accept the Tourism and Arts Commission recommendations and award \$123,728 in Hotel Tax grant funding to various applicants for FY 2026, per the Tourism and Arts Commission memo dated January 17, 2025, and direct staff to include this funding in the FY 2026 Budget.

MOTION CARRIED VIA VOICE VOTE

2. Consideration of Warrenton Friends of the 4th funding request

Executive Assistant and Deputy Clerk (EA/DC) Grivetti presented the Warrenton Friends of the 4<sup>th</sup> Committee's request for \$10,000 in additional funding for the calendar year 2025 Independence Day Celebration. She also presented staff's request to evaluate an increase in the amount of City services budgeted for the event. The City sponsors this event with grant money from the Hotel Tax Fund for event expenses and in-kind City services.

EA/DC Grivetti stated, over the years, the City has increased the sponsorship grant for event expenses to accommodate the rising costs of the fireworks contracts and entertainment expenses. However, the City has not increased the budgeted amount for city services for at least 15 years. This amount has held steady at \$11,000 each year. She added that expense reports indicate a more accurate total of in-kind services provided by the City to be in excess of \$30,000 in each of the past three years.

Ald. Weidner requested the fireworks display reduce or eliminate the use of excessively loud display shells for the consideration of veterans and pets.

ALDERMAN LOCKETT MADE A MOTION, seconded by Ald. Davolos, to recommend the City Council: 1) approve Warrenville Friends of the 4th Committee's request for additional funding by directing staff to increase the budgeted Sponsorship Grant for the event in the Hotel Tax Fund to \$40,000 in FY 2026; and 2) direct staff to evaluate an increase in the budgeted City Services in Hotel Tax Fund to better represent actual costs for FY 2026 and beyond.

MOTION CARRIED VIA VOICE VOTE

3. Consideration of three-year agreement for fireworks displays

EA/DC Grivetti stated, for liability purposes, the City Council approves the fireworks display agreement for the Warrenville Friends of the 4th Committee for the annual Independence Day Celebration. Included with the agenda backup material is a proposal for a twenty-minute fireworks display on July 4, 2025, 2026 and 2027 in the annual amount of \$28,000. Staff is requesting direction to work with the City Attorney to create a resolution and agreement for the provision of fireworks at the Fourth of July event.

Ald. Augustynowicz requested the Friends of the 4<sup>th</sup> Committee consider a larger celebration and fireworks display in 2026 to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

ALDERMAN LOCKETT MADE A MOTION, seconded by Ald. Augustynowicz, to recommend the City Council direct staff to work with the City Attorney to create a resolution and agreement with Rogue Productions LLC for the provision of a fireworks display at Fourth of July events occurring in 2025, 2026, and 2027.

MOTION CARRIED VIA VOICE VOTE

4. Consideration of Historical Society request for Director/Curator funding for FY 2026

Finance Director (FD) Dahlstrand presented the Warrenville Historical Society's request for FY 2026 funding in the amount of \$20,000 to cover the cost of a part-time Museum Director and Curator. Funding for this expense is budgeted as a reimbursement through the Hotel Tax Fund.

There was discussion regarding the amount of the request, and a suggestion was made to increase the amount of the contribution. Historical Society President Melissa Simmons stated the Director works part-time, and the Society contributes additional funds for the Director's salary. FD Dahlstrand indicated there is nothing precluding the City Council from authorizing an amount exceeding the requested contribution in the FY 2026 Budget.

A consensus was reached to increase the authorized amount to \$25,000 in recognition of and appreciation for the excellent work performed by Director Phalan.

ALDERMAN BARRY MADE A MOTION, seconded by Ald. Wilkie, to recommend the City Council approve the Warrenville Historical Society's grant request in the amount of \$25,000 from the Hotel Tax Fund to cover the cost of their part-time Museum Director/Curator, and direct staff to include this funding in the FY 2026 Budget.

MOTION CARRIED VIA VOICE VOTE

5. Discussion of FY 2026 Preliminary Citywide Work Plan

Assistant City Administrator Morgan presented the FY 2026 Preliminary Citywide Work Plan for consideration. The work plan highlights large multi-departmental projects and new Strategic Plan initiatives. She reminded the Committee members that the projects and initiatives listed can be moved up or down in priority, and the plan will be presented at every Committee of the Whole meeting until the Budget Workshop meeting in March. There were no comments on the work plan as presented.

NO COMMITTEE ACTION WAS TAKEN NOR REQUESTED

6. Financial Update – December 2024

FD Dahlstrand provided a financial assessment of City funds for FY 2025 through December 2024. He noted that seven of the eight City operational accounting funds are working with revenues exceeding expenditures in each fund. The City is also now receiving per capita revenue based on the City's new special census population.

Trends over a two-year period in the General Fund, Capital Maintenance and Replacement Fund, and Hotel Tax Fund were presented as well as a summary of the Water and Sewer Fund.

Treasurer Goodman commented on revenue anomalies in the General Fund and the possibility of receiving individual merchant information. FD Dahlstrand replied that individual information is proprietary and not available to the general public.

There was a discussion regarding where the increased per capita revenue is recorded in the budget and how it will be distributed in the future; and the financial health of the TIF #3 Fund.

FD Dahlstrand was thanked for the thorough report.

NO COMMITTEE ACTION WAS TAKEN NOR REQUESTED

7. Review and file Administration, Finance, and Police Department FY 2025 Work Plans and Decision Packages Status Report

There were no comments regarding the report.

NO COMMITTEE ACTION WAS TAKEN NOR REQUESTED

**G. MISCELLANEOUS**

**H. CLOSED SESSION**

There was no closed session.

**I. ADJOURN**

ALDERMAN LOCKETT MADE A MOTION, seconded by Ald. Wilkie to adjourn.

MOTION ADOPTED VIA VOICE VOTE

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Approved: February 3, 2025



Dawn R. Grivetti, Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk