

Regular Council Meeting of the City of Melvindale was held in the Council Chambers on Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Wheeler T. Marsee, Jr. and roll call was taken:

PRESENT COUNCIL MEMBERS: Jackson, Rauser, Filipowski, Densmore, Cartrette

ALSO PRESENT: Linda Land, City Clerk; Michel Belch, Treasurer; Richard S. Ortiz, City Administrator/Finance Director; Lawrence J. Coogan, Corporation Counsel; Dan Jones, Chief of Police; Jeremy Kurick, Assistant Fire Chief; Brad Burns; Chief Building Official, Larrie Ordus, DPW Director; Renee Cook, Arena Manager; Sandy Law, Senior Center

Councilman Scott Frederick was absent and excused.

Invocation: Deaconess Annette Taylor

*A moment of silence was offered for Renee Green, former Melvindale Treasurer, passed away November 6, 2023 and wife of the late Dick Green former Melvindale Police Officer.

Presentation:

Larry Czajkowski – Mill Steel

Awards:

Certificate of Appreciation: Kenneth Murray

Certificate of Appreciation: Glen Owens

Proclamation:

Family Court Awareness month

23-11-238 Moved by Densmore and supported by Rauser, to approve the Regular Council meeting minutes dated November 1, 2023.

Passed Unanimously

23-11-239 Moved by Filipowski and supported by Rauser, to remove from table and confirm the appointment of Deputy Fire Chief Laura Ridenour to the Pension I Board Fire Representative, to fill the unexpired term of Steve Densmore, term expires January 17, 2024.

Passed Unanimously

Audience Participation

23-11-240 Moved by Jackson and supported by Filipowski, to approve the resolution request of Robert Brazeau, City Assessor, to combine lot 243 be added to parcel 47 006 04 0204 001.

Whereas the Common Council for the City of Melvindale in 2017 combined Parcel Numbers 47 006 04 0204 000, 47 006 04 0205 000, 47 006 04 0244 000, 47 006 04 0245 000, 47 006 04 0246 000, 47 006 04 0247 000, and 47 006 04 0248 000, the application requested that parcel # 47 006 04 0243 000 also be included in the combination.

Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council for the City of Melvindale that:

1. Parcel number 47 006 04 0243 000 be added into the combination as requested by the owner whose Child Parcel number is 47 006 04 0204 001.

Passed Unanimously

23-11-241 Moved by Cartrette and supported by Densmore, to amend the language, by adding the word “real” before property on the 2023 Police and Fire special assessment resolution as follows:

Whereas, the Common Council for the City of Melvindale is levying the Special 2024 Assessment to maintain the current level of Police and Fire Protection for the protection and wellbeing of its citizens as permitted by MCLA 41.801 et seq; and,

Whereas, the City Clerk published a Notice of Public Hearing regarding the estimate of the expenses for Police and Fire protection, the amount of the Special Assessment levied for such Police and Fire protection and for the distribution of the Special Assessment levy in the News Herald Newspaper; and,

Whereas, a Public Hearing was held on October 18, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. before the Common Council for the City of Melvindale where citizens were given the opportunity to state their comments and objections to the estimate of the expenses for Police and Fire protection, the amount of the Special Assessment levied for such Police and Fire protection and for the distribution of the Special Assessment levy; and,

Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council for the City of Melvindale that:

2. It is estimated that the cost and expenses of Police and Fire protection, exclusive of healthcare and pension is \$4,182,702; and
3. The amount of the Special Assessment shall be 10 Mills which is estimated to generate \$1,958,266; and
4. The City Administrator or his designee shall spread the assessment on the taxable value of all real property in the City of Melvindale except lands exempt from collection of taxes under the general property tax act.

Passed Unanimously

23-11-242 Moved by Jackson and supported by Filipowski, to approve the reimbursement of officer's time used due to COVID 19.

Passed Unanimously

23-11-243 Moved by Jackson and supported by Densmore, to approve DPW COVID sick time reimbursement.

Passed Unanimously

23-11-244 Moved by Rauser and supported by Jackson, to table the retention bonus for DPW and clerical (AFSCME).

Yeas: Jackson, Filipowski, Rauser

Nays: Densmore, Cartrette

Motion Passes

23-11-245 Moved by Jackson and supported by Cartrette, to hire 4 (four) DPW workers from the eligibility list.

Passed Unanimously

23-11-246 Moved by Filipowski and supported by Cartrette, to approve the request to authorize Linda Land, City Clerk to publish a Public Hearing Notice for December 6, 2023 for the 2024 Budget.

Passed Unanimously

23-11-247 Moved by Jackson and supported by Filipowski, to authorize Larrie Ordus, DPW Director to sign the Frost Law Permit for Savage Services and further the agreement is for 5 (five) years in the amount of \$16,000.00 (sixteen thousand dollars) per year to be paid in one lump sum in the amount of \$80,000.00 (eighty thousand dollars) in December 2023.

Passed Unanimously

23-11-248 Moved by Filipowski and supported by Rauser, to receive and place on file the October 2023 Treasurer's report.

Passed Unanimously

23-11-249 Moved by Jackson and supported by Filipowski, to approve the start-up funds for the Beautification Committee in the amount of \$2,200.00 between now and January 2024 and further a request for more funds will be made in January 2024.

Yeas: Jackson, Filipowski, Rauser, Densmore

Nays: Cartrette

Motion Passes

23-11-250 Moved by Jackson and supported by Cartrette, to approve the removal of 2 (two) pine trees from the employee parking lot.

Yeas: Jackson, Filipowski, Rauser, Cartrette

Nays: Densmore

Motion Passes

23-11-251 Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to place a city-wide moratorium opposing plasma centers in the city for a period of 1 (one) year from today.

Passed Unanimously

23-11-252 Moved by Filipowski and supported by Rauser, to table the reappointment of Jeff Bolton, to the Public Safety Commission, new term expires November 15, 2028.

Passed Unanimously

23-11-253 Moved by Filipowski and supported by Rauser, to table the reappointment of Rob Vaillancourt to the Historical Commission, new term ends November 15, 2028.

Passed Unanimously

23-11-254 Moved by Filipowski and supported by Rauser, to table the nomination of Sue Herman as Police Department member, to the Pension I Board, to fill the unexpired term of James Brophy, unexpired term ends January 17, 2024.

Passed Unanimously

Second Audience Participation

23-11-255 Moved by Filipowski and supported by Jackson, to receive and place on file the invoice and cover sheet and to authorize the payment of approved invoices totaling \$1,098,244.72 and the electronic transfers totaling \$327,366.86.

Passed Unanimously

23-11-258 Moved by Cartrette and supported by Filipowski, to adjourn at 8:55 p.m., no objections, so ordered.

Passed Unanimously

Mayor Nicole Shkira

Diana Zarazua, City Clerk