

**CITY OF MARKHAM REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
August 17, 2022**

Mayor, Roger Agpawa called the Regular Meeting of the Markham City Council to order at 7:04p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Prayer led by Ald. McDowell. Roll Call was taken by City Clerk, Leslie Trimuel.

ROLL CALL: ALDERMAN PRÉSENT Alderman William Barron
 Alderwoman Wanda McDowell
 Alderman Breanna Hampton-Houser
 Alderman Rondal Jones

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Steven Miller
 City Treasurer, Belinda Richardson
 Attorney Burt Odelson

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
August 3, 2022**

Motion to approve minutes with corrections of August 3, 2022, by Ald. Barron, seconded by Ald. McDowell

Roll Call: 4 Yes/0 No/0 Absent/-Motion Carried

AUTHORIZATION OF CLAIMS

Motion by Ald. Hampton-Houser, seconded by Ald. Barron, to adopt Authorization of Claims and Accounts Bill list, totaling \$636,662.93, with manual checks of \$32,789.50 for a grand total of \$669,452.43

Roll Call: 4Yes/0 No/0 Absent-Motion Carried

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Members of Council members of the public with respect to the City Attorney's report, starting with a proposed resolution approving the extension and renewal of the Re-Proclamation and Declaration of a continued local state of emergency, within the City of Markham, and approving the Mayor's Determination Regarding Modifications to In-person Meetings in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic (August 17, 2022)

ADOPT RESOLUTION

22-R-688

Motion by Ald. Barron, seconded by Ald. Hampton-Houser, to adopt Resolution 22-R-688

A Resolution Approving the Extension and Renewal of the Re-Proclamation and Declaration of a Continued Local State of Emergency within the City of Markham and Approving the Mayor's Determination Regarding Modifications to In-Person Meetings in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic (August 17, 2022)

Roll Call: 4 Yes/0 No/0 Absent-Motion Carried

**CITY OF MARKHAM REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING**

August 17, 2022

WAIVE READING OF ORDINANCE

22-O-2335

Motion by Ald. Hampton-Houser, seconded by Ald. McDowell, to waive reading of Ordinance 22-O-2335 An Ordinance Amending Section 112.023, "Number of Licenses", Of Chapter 112, "Alcoholic Liquor" Of Title XI, "Business Regulations," Of The Code Of Markham To Decrease The Number Of Class B Liquor Licenses In The City Of Markham, Cook County, Illinois
Roll Call: 3 Yes/1 No/0 Absent-Motion Carried

ADOPT ORDINANCE

22-O-2335

Motion by Ald. Hampton, seconded by Ald. McDowell, to adopt Ordinance 22-O-2335 An Ordinance Amending Section 112.023, "Number of Licenses", Of Chapter 112, "Alcoholic Liquor" Of Title XI, "Business Regulations," Of The Code Of Markham To Decrease The Number Of Class B Liquor Licenses In The City Of Markham, Cook County, Illinois
Roll Call: 3 Yes/1 No/0 Absent-Motion Carried

WAIVE READING OF ORDINANCE

22-O-2336

Motion by Ald. Barron, seconded by Ald. McDowell, to waive reading of Ordinance 22-O-2336 An Ordinance Amending Section 11.02 of Chapter 11 of the Markham City Code to Redistrict the Wards of the City of Markham and Adopting an Official Ward Map of the City of Markham Following the 2020 Decennial Census
Roll Call: 3 Yes/1 No/0 Absent-Motion Carried

TABLE ORDINANCE

22-O-2336

Motion by Ald. Jones
An Ordinance Amending Section 11.02 of Chapter 11 of the Markham City Code to Redistrict the Wards of the City of Markham and Adopting an Official Ward Map of the City of Markham Following the 2020 Decennial Census
Roll Call: 0 Yes/0 No/0 Absent-Motion not duly seconded, no vote taken

ADOPT ORDINANCE

22-O-2336

Motion by Ald. Barron, seconded by Ald. McDowell, to adopt Ordinance 22-O-2336 An Ordinance Amending Section 11.02 of Chapter 11 of the Markham City Code to Redistrict the Wards of the City of Markham and Adopting an Official Ward Map of the City of Markham Following the 2020 Decennial Census
Roll Call: 3 Yes/1 No/0 Absent-Motion Carried

CLERK REPORT

Prairie Day – The Nature Conservancy, August 20, 200 9-11 a.m., Sunset Park 155th Street, Millard, and Paintbrush Prairie, 3454 W. 155th Street

MAYOR'S REPORT

Under the mayor's report, just a few comments before we go on to a couple of things I want to talk about with operations. I want to make a statement under my report to me I think it's a shame that the community does as well as it's doing and has been doing for some time, for the alarm to be sounded some people I see in the Council we don't see them until something gets stirred up somewhere. Well, I certainly wish that

**CITY OF MARKHAM REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING**

August 17, 2022

people would come out when something's not stirred up and show support then about trying to do something and be engaged ahead of time, then we would have to wait all this time. But you know, I think that it's just too bad that we just want to keep that spirit stirred up, I can tell you, it's not going to happen. We're going to continue to move the city forward, whether some people like it or not, we're going to do what's best and right for the general public here that's what we're going to do. So, if somebody wants to get stirred up about it, then have at it, the services are getting provided here in the community. I always regardless to what I have anything spirited to say to any of these aldermen, I think that reasonably everybody's working and doing their job., I think that we should continue, but if anybody wants to feed off of that and be negative about it, help yourself, but I'll tell you what, we're going to keep doing what has made the town better. We're going to keep trying to do that, regardless to what anybody tries to do, we're going to work hard so that's something I want to make clear. As long as long as I'm sitting here, that's how I'm going to do it. Otherwise, I don't want to be here and if somebody doesn't want me here, then vote me out. I'll go maybe it's time for me to go, but I don't think it's quite that soon, we're doing great things, we're doing good things in this community. Definitely by all the things that everybody sees, and some people just don't like that, too bad, we're going to keep doing good things. It's not going to always be to somebody's satisfaction in life. Just going into my report, I said some things about Public Works, here, I think there's some places where we need to do a reboot. That happens, by the same token we had to make some changes, they were good changes with the police department, they're doing better than it has in years. In the fire department and everybody services are getting done, same thing with the building department. All these departments and the management there is being done daily, and that's what we're here to do, before we go over to the aldermanic reports, please keep Mr. Champion, in your prayers, he's not here, he had a passing in his family, so please keep the City Administrator in your prayers.

ALD. JONES

For 16 years I've served on this board with integrity. It hasn't always been easy fights have been uphill battles, but I've always been truthful and transparent. For the past 16 years I've tried my best to listen to what you all wanted me to hear and sit on this council and not on my own being, but on you, the people listen to you all and I've spoken on your behalf it's many times I could have been silent. Anybody that knows me and knows my integrity and my character. This is not about me, it's about people, this council is not dictatorship, but is it a democracy sometimes we are going to bump heads, it's nothing wrong with that, but let's be respectful. Afterwards you still should be friends sometimes we will not agree on everything, that's fine, that's great. Let me present the facts, you present the facts and then we go from there, that's what this is about. I'm not going to win every battle that's not how Council, that's not how the world works, that's not how family works, some of you are married. You all win every battle with your wives or husbands? of course not, that's just not how it goes, but being truthful and transparent at the end, so to go back in the past, when we're moving forward with a new vision is all we're trying to do. All right, that's all I will ever do as long I'm here. I would like to give kudos to Markham's very own, he actually lives in Notting Hill in Canterbury. His name is Jesse Warren, he served in the US Army, he's been blessed by the Honor Flight Chicago, for those who don't know, the Honor Flight Chicago recognizes the bravery, determination, and patriotism of our nation's senior war veterans with a one-of-a-kind journey to Washington DC. The trip is only one day but the experience of a lifetime Mr. Warren served in the US Army from 1951 to 1953 as a Private First Class serving as a Guard Sargent during the Korean War in South Korea. Jesse received a Korean service medal, United Nations Service Medal Award, and two Bronze Stars. He married Helen in 1951, and four children, 15 grandchildren, 30 great grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren (Fifth Generation). He has been a resident of the city of Markham since 1973, he's 93 years old. I applaud him for his service and his commitment to the City of Markham. There's another Block Club Party, August 21, 2020, from 3 to 7 on Albany Street, in Meadowview.

**CITY OF MARKHAM REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING**

August 17, 2022

ALD. BARRON

I think I've already explained to some people, I wasn't aware that we were supposed to be redistricting. Although I've only been on the board since 2014, I was aware that I had the biggest Ward, at least house wise, and I guess I wasn't surprised when I saw that I had 44% of the population now as far as the calculations go with census tracts and everything that Mr. Olson group did, I don't have the expertise to break that down, and I don't think anybody's happy that they're losing part of their ward or gaining, but I was not willing to put this off until next May, because I don't think it's fair for the people to go to the election next April and vote for somebody that might not even be their Alderman two weeks later. That made no sense to me, and now at least we have enough time to blow up these ward maps and let the people know. I lost part of my ward, but there's other people here that have gained new areas. That's going to be a bigger challenge, but also some of the ward that I lost, I need to go and talk to the people and let them know that I won't be representing them. As far as I'm concerned, anybody that calls me for assistance, I don't care where they live, I will help them. I could not see putting this off, I really couldn't, I don't think that would be fair to anybody, and nobody is going to be happy. I mean, I see all the fighting they do in Chicago and Mr. Olsen's group was there representing some of the wards. I was up till about one o'clock this morning reading, I needed a magnifying glass to actually figure out the streets. I hate to announce but we've lost two long, longtime residents Mary Anderson and Mary Alsworth, they both passed in the last couple of weeks. The VFW was sponsoring a pork chop dinner Friday from 3:30 to 7:00pm the public is invited. The back-to-school event last Saturday was over the top, it was really a big turnout, everybody seemed to really enjoy it and I thought it was one of our better festivals. We are in the process right now of trying to cut tree branches that are hanging over the streets where there are bus stops. I've got two or three trees that are going to be trimmed over the pump house. The guys are working hard, I mean I can't fault them. It's just you know; we got rain a week ago. and everything is doubled, kudos to Public Works. They were working those days when the temperature was in the 90's. These guys work hard. Some of these lots grew up so much, the vacant houses are being addressed again we're supposed to have a meeting in September. We're going to try and do something different with vacant houses because I've had vacant houses in my ward that have been there for over 10 years. Everybody have a nice Labor Day.

ALD. HAMPTON-HOUSER

Good evening, Mayor, Council, residents that are here at this point in time and who are listening on Facebook, I just want to say Mayor in regard to redistricting, I welcome that with open arms. I welcome the fact that we're actually getting to a position where we have equal representation throughout our city and I humbly do agree with Ald. Barron when he stated that we need to actually move on this now, versus waiting until April of next year. I'm not trying to bring up the past, but Ald. Jones made a statement at the last city council meeting, he said "I don't know those people, I don't know who they are". All the residents in the city of Markham be they renters, be they owners they're all our residents, they're everybody's residents on this diocese and if individuals call me from ward 1 or 2, which they did early on last week, I still handled it. These are all our people; I welcome meeting the new individuals that I'm going to be representing as well. Unfortunately, sometimes things don't pan out the way we want it to, but we should be mature enough, you voted us into these positions to make sure that we can represent you to the best of our ability. I did not like the fact the last city council meeting that Alderman Jones used that Kool aid to actually represent us, to me, that is an insult to this diocese. Moving forward, Mayor I welcome the new change, I welcome meeting the new residents. I welcome them with open arms and matter of fact, that leads me right into my next thing, my next statement is on August 27th this will include my new ward in Canterbury, we are having our first Ward Festival, at 12 noon, until 6 in the evening. I will be coming around to your homes, introducing myself and extending the invitation, even though you might have to travel on the other side of town to this function at Martin Luther King Park. I will be bringing that information out to you, and I welcome you to my coffee sips and where I can further introduce myself and show you exactly what I'm doing as your Alderman. That's why we sit here on this diocese I will not allow anyone not a resident or

**CITY OF MARKHAM REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING**

August 17, 2022

anyone to taint the integrity of this diocese because we work hard, we work for you. My condolences as well go out to our City Administrator Mr. Champion, please keep him in your prayers. The Back-to-School function last Saturday, had more participants than we had the year before, the line literally was back past the township building. That let us know how diligent these mothers and fathers are to come out to receive the donations of the back-to-school supplies. We had an awesome turnout, and I don't think anyone had any school supplies left. I kind of wish we had more but we'll be more prepared next time. Also, the residents over in Ward one on our pumphouse which is located on 161st Hermitage is getting repainted, and cleaned up, so it's looking much better over there in that area. I want to also say that we have been diligently working as far as cleaning up our easements we are working hard to get those done, I thank you all for being patient, this is not an easy task. If you want to actually look at Markham on Google Maps we live inside of a forest now, it did not get like that over overnight or from this current administration. It has it has grown like that over the years and not putting fault on anybody but at least give us the courtesy or consideration of saying they are making efforts to get it done. Even though majority of people do know that the easements were actually given to the homeowners, but we still have to have a certain area of course for the utilities, but we are coming through cleaning up the easements, the vacant homes, it's not easy living next door to a vacant home, it attracts rodents, please be patient with us we are diligently working on it. Okay, and then last but not least, just remember August 27th.

ALD. MCDOWELL

Good evening, Mayor, Council, and the residents that are present to night, I want to thank the staff who worked with our back-to-school giveaway which was absolutely fantastic. If you are in still in need, I still have a couple bookbags, you can call my office and I will be more than happy to bless your kids. This change in our ward map has hit each and every one on our diocese, it was a very stressful, but it was something that we have to do as we sit here. I gained a lot of friends in the 2nd Ward that I have been blessed to serve, I have lost an entire area. Belaire I am no longer your Alderwoman, Alderman Jones now will take over that entire area, those residents that are in that ward, even if you still reach out to me, I will still service you. Alderman Jones will be your Alderman in that area. I was blessed according to the map to pick up Canterbury, Alderlady Hampton will take four streets and I take the entire Canterbury. I do not take this job lightly that God has blessed me to sit here. I am sitting here to serve you because you put me in office, this is what we're here to do, is to serve you, to make sure that our residents know their Alderman, we have plenty of events here is Markham, so it will not be hard for you all to know. I've been in office three and a half years unfortunately as much as I've been in my ward, people still tell me they don't know I'm me. I will make sure that my new residents receive a postcard in the mail stating that I am your new Alderwoman due to the ward remap. I will make sure every home will get a postcard stating that I am the Alderwoman that has been appointed since we have rerouted the maps so there should be no confusion with who your new alderman or alderperson is. Mayor from my office to your office, I will make sure those streets that are lost, from Woods to Dixie Highway to Ald. Hampton, and Alderman Jones, those homes that I have worked on or we've had problems with, I will make sure they get a list of anything that I have worked on. This is how we work together in unity; this is how we build a community. We build a community by working together as a team, we build up and we come together to become strong in this community. There's no confusion, with who's you're Alderman or Alderlady, we're here for you, we will make the transition easy so that you will know who your Alderman is. On September 3rd, the 2nd Ward will have a Labor Day Festival, this is the 3rd year. I will make sure everyone in my new area, receives information, I encourage you to come out because this is for you and we're here for you.

MOTION TO OPEN FLOOR TO PUBLIC

Motion by Ald. Barron, seconded by Ald. Hampton-Houser to Open Floor to Public.

Roll Call: 4 Yes/0 No/0 Absent-Motion Carried

**CITY OF MARKHAM REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING**

August 17, 2022

RESIDENT – PATRICIA MCKINNEY

Good evening, I hope everyone is doing well. Before I begin to submit my comments regarding the redistricting, rezoning. This is after the ordinance was passed tonight, but I worked hard on this. So, I'm going to read my statement. Many jurisdictions require the local elections which go to collect public input prior to the adoption of final map. This usually applies when making changes to smaller local districts such as Markham. This governing body limited participation to only 20 attendees at the last meeting. What was curious benefits for community participation, whether they be conducted in person or electronically to the extent possible governing bodies need to provide more than one platform to submit input, adequate notice will be given to invite participants who will be present, public meetings held online should include detailed instructions for public access and how public input will be collected, stored, made available and considered for inclusion and final decision. Greater access to public hearings, more likely it will be to receive meaningful engagement, that's my statement. Now my question is to Alderman Jones, can you tell us when you will begin examining the senior grass cutting, snow blowing program to kind of fix the problems associated with it?

Alderman Jones - Yes at the next council meeting.

Patricia McKinney - As I understand it, it is outsourced.

Alderman Jones - Yes.

Patricia McKinney - Do you know how they submit an invoice for payment Also, I'm on the list, I am a senior and I've never seen anyone. We have friends cut our grass because my husband is disabled, he can't push lawnmower anymore. I would like to take advantage of this senior benefit, but we haven't seen anyone or have been contacted, do you know who has a list of the seniors that will be considered?

Alderman Jones – That would be Lisa Young.

Patricia McKinney - Can you ask her if I can have a copy of the list to check to make sure my name is on there? This is directed to the mayor, I have requested an in person meeting with you on July 26, I didn't hear anything back, I wrote to Ernestina and about a week or so later I contacted her , she said that she would have to update your calendar to make sure it coordinated with hers, to date I haven't received anything.

Mayor Agpawa - I didn't know you wanted to meet, I'll check with her, but she'll have to coordinate it.

Ald. Hampton-Houser – The young lady stated that she wants a list of the for the snow removal, snow plowing, but I don't think we'd give out a list. I think Lisa will just check and make sure that she is on the list.

Mayor Agpawa – You will have to touch bases with me, or Mr. Champion, I'll find out what's going on why you did not get serviced. There's a process that we ask people to go through to get signed up, if you didn't go through that with her, then you that's why you don't get serviced. That's an easy fix.

Patricia McKinney - The Alderman made the call to put me on the list because, I did try to sign up and I kept calling and they wouldn't accept any more voicemails.

Mayor Agpawa - Okay, well, then I'll follow up and see what's going on.

RESIDENT – DARLENE HARRIS

Good evening, to everyone.

For the business licenses of Harris Transportation with the City of Markham I haven't heard from you when I spoke with Mr. Champion last week, he's waiting to hear something. Is there any way that we can have a meeting with the mayor, or the commissioner in reference to decision making?

Mayor Agpawa - I don't know why you haven't been contacted, but when I talk with you and your sister, there was no there was no real issue with what you're doing with your office space. You remember that? I don't know what happened since then, I think you were to follow up with him. You saying you did.

Darlene Harris – I made phone calls to Mr. Robert, Mr. Champion, and they just put it off to hear from you.

Mayor Agpawa - I'll check in find out give you a call with Harris, what they're going do with your office space over there.

**CITY OF MARKHAM REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING**

August 17, 2022

Darlene Harris - One more thing in reference to the senior grass cutting and snow, is there any reason why they are only doing the front end versus the back? I think I spoke with Devon called me, I don't know his last name. He deals with the landscape not cutting up the grass, I received a call from them, I asked him is there any reason why they only do the front versus the back.

Mayor Agpawa - I spoke with Miss Lisa about your property and several others over there with your neighbor. I talked to Ms. Statom, she said she tell her sister when we talked to her and then I think I may have did I call you to Ald., so the problem is that your yards are bigger than the average yard in the city, so that's where it becomes a challenge to treat your property just like anybody else. We have to try and figure out that's something we could do. Your neighbor decided she would forego the service because she doesn't want the front cut and somebody else cutting the back. That's your call, but we don't have a program that's going to facilitate us cutting all that property, we can't do that, it has to be spread as evenly as possible, because we would be disproportionately giving you more than we give the rest of the residents. So that was the issue.

Darlene Harris - Last question in reference to the seniors, we are encouraging the community to attend these meetings as well as our events here, it's not a big turnout. Are we able to encourage them when I hear complaints, I tell people to come signup and let them be heard.

Mayor Agpawa - The only time you're going to really see somebody is when you got an issue, they're fine until they have an issue. It's just the nature of it.

Darlene Harris - The Alderman have listened to all the community activity, which is wonderful. I think the word coming out is the most important. I'm excited to listen to what I've heard, just to reiterate, changes is always good.

Mayor Agpawa - I'm glad you're out Miss Harris, but two of the Alder ladies spoke very well about engagement, some people don't come because they are engaged, other people they come because they want to see a hornet's nest. That's just the nature of people, but that's not the issue now. I'm telling you, you come back a couple of weeks, these people aren't going to be here. That's the truth, that their nature, they're going to be too busy or going doing something else. That's just how people are.

Ald. Hampton-Houser - Just here to let you know as well that our city council meetings is on our cable channel. It tells exactly when we have our city council meetings, a lot of the information is also given by word of mouth as well. But I do have to do I think we need to put a little extra push we will pass out some flyers in my ward and we'll see how it works.

RESIDENT – JACK HARRIS

ComEd ran electrical in the back of my property trees are growing up around the lines. I called them they stated they have no responsibility, but I feel like trees are growing will interfere with cords, we can get somebody to do it but it should have been ran the front, we've taken care of the easement, but we never got compensated for it, my belief is that they are trying to save money by using our easements, you can see the weeds and trees that's going. I would like to add a few things since I've been here for 47 years, I've bought revenue and been a help to this community. I don't think they've been fair when you're putting us on delay for the license concern, not that we can't get them anywhere else. We went other areas, and they'd be more than happy to get that tax revenue. But if you don't see fit, let us know that you don't want the money. Others said they will be more than glad to receive it. I have been in the transportation business for 47 years, I have shared my income and my knowledge with other people to help them grow, we want those people to prosper. I hope that you see fit it to grant Harris Transportation a business license.

RESIDENT – MEHLANIE SPEARS

Good evening, first thing I would like to do is address that I got in the habit of not attending the Council meetings, because of Bible study on Wednesdays, therefore, when I make the effort to come it's because of something I'm concerned about, or I've been asked to come as a senior to address issues.

**CITY OF MARKHAM REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING**

August 17, 2022

Mayor Agpawa - I didn't point you out, mam that was a blanket statement that was made, I made it but it didn't apply to you. Apparently, it didn't apply to you because you go to Bible Study, I'm glad you're here.

Mehlanie Spears - I don't have that excuse now because of the fact that it's been moved to Thursday. I moved out to Markham from Chicago, I got a very bad taste in my mouth, from Chicago politics. One of the things that concerns me looking at the redistricting, my background from the Postal Service a diversity specialist going across the country doing training. But one of the things I noticed is that there's a disparate amount in the numbers in the way things are being in the redistricted, looking at this and I don't know if anybody else would pick up on this but I'm looking at 53% of one of our ethnicities are in 2 wards. I don't know how you're doing this as far as the lines drawn, never seen it zigzag or whatever that are inside Chicago. I know recently there's been a lot on the news about creating wards based on ethnicity in Chicago. The other way without having input and giving us a chance to ask questions, because we don't know why it's done, but we need to be aware of the appearance Chicago deliberately created wards based on ethnicity. This was my issue as a diversity person to say was this determined by a particular group or groups in a certain area zigzag to include them in a certain area, I need understanding.

Mayor Agpawa - It's simple if I can just address that much of it, that's where they live. The map is just drawn simply where people live, no, we didn't put people in certain places. The map was drawn in that section, when it was cut, that's where those people live, it's always been that way. If you looked at the previous data you're referring to, for basically, I guess it probably be White or Hispanic in the Fourth Ward, that Ward still predominantly has more white or Hispanic in it as before that did not check because that's where they live. I tried to say that as simple as I could even for me, so, there's nothing, no big formula to that, other than that's where the line is cut. If that's where you live, that's where you're at.

Mehlanie Spears - As the lay person, rather than zig zagging it just looks strange to me, I know that there is some reason I'm not aware of, it just looks illogical when you look at it.

Mayor Agpawa - There were reasons for that.

Mehlanie Spears - Are those reasons available for understanding?

Attorney Odelson - Very simple it's not as simple as straight lines we wish it was. But the federal government divides communities by Census Blocks and in the census blocks, are blocked by neighborhoods, we have to stay within the census block, in order to comply with what the federal government gives us. That's why you have some lines that are zigzag and go this way or that way. This map was not done like Chicago. I participated in the last four Chicago maps over the last 40 years. And obviously, they're map, the state map is what we call a gerrymander done for a particular purpose for people. This map was done so the population could be evened out. As the mayor said, the population in the fourth ward was the population in the fourth ward the changes went from 16% White to 19% White, and from 28% Latino to 30% Latino, because that's where they live so we had to keep everything within the federal census blocks.

Mehlanie Spears there was one other thing, this is about the cutting of grass, I would like to make the suggestion that whoever is cutting in a particular area, be assigned to that area. I think I have seven of the little floodlights broken, and nobody ever knows who's responsible and they're not held responsible, it's not that they're expensive to replace, but it is getting expensive when you get that many to have to replace.

Mayor Agpawa - Let us know they shouldn't be messing your property up. Please let us know we'll take care of that and replace it.

Mehlanie Spears - The trees were growing up, I had a hip replacement surgery, by the time I really got back out and paid attention in our backyard, these trees got to be substantial in size, and they've got thorns on and when I say thorns, I'm talking about needle like thorns. We have unlimited income; I can pay somebody to come in and cut the trees down at house north of me and to the west of me or both. I don't know who to ask or who owns the property to see about working with them to get these cut down, but they are dangerous, especially if people move in with children.

Mayor Agpawa - I will address that with you Ms. Spears.

**CITY OF MARKHAM REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING**

August 17, 2022

Mehlanie Spears - One last thing, I didn't know anything about the easement cutting. I can allow plenty of room for easement access, the question is do I need to do anything else? both houses I know they're working on the house to the west. But the house to the north of me it doesn't look like anybody's moving in

Mayor Agpawa - I will I'll make sure I give you a call on all of that. Let me apologize to you, but I'm going to fuss when people come to the to the meeting and I'm going to keep some order so I didn't mean that with you, but I'm here to try to keep some control. I'm going to fuss about Markham.

Mehlanie Spears- Can I get information about things that are going on with that just happened to hear a rumor about the ward changes and didn't know what was going on.

RESIDENT - LAURENCE PATTERSON II

Good evening, City Council, Mr. Mayor, to the Attorney, and City Clerk, my name is Maurice Patterson II, I don't have any questions. I have a statement. This is what this forum is for right now, first and foremost, before I start, I want to apologize to the city of Markham. Sometimes, especially in the back of the room, which I sat behind these two young ladies back here saying is that how they act, is that how the City Council represents some things, that's unprofessional. These are things I heard sitting back there, this is not how we act, I've been coming to these meetings for over six years it's not how we act, sometimes the emotion is for a worthy cause. When I first learned of the ward map changes, I said this is interesting. I was in the 4th Ward and now I am in Ward 3. I do have political endeavors so eventually want to run for Alderman. I also know that a part of running wards is getting to know everyone in this room. A part of being on this board is letting the citizens we represent know what's going on the city of Markham. One thing that really triggered me and it was brought to my attention when Ald. McDowell and an Ald. Hampton said that "I'm going to get out there and I'm going to let my constituents know what is going on" in my ward." I have one rhetorical question; we send postcards for every city ordinance that we should not violate to every citizen with an address. Why wasn't this one of those most postcards? In my opinion, strong opinion, I think this room should be filled from wall to wall because this is the most important thing or issue that we have come through in the past 10 years: We have a census that they know about the census every 10 years. With the census being every 10 years, we know that the population is going to increase or decrease determined by ethnic groups., we know that we know that we're going to lose some people unfortunately to death and other causes, people are going to move out of state and the city because of the high taxes, people know that we have these real-life issues. Why wasn't this something that could have been delivered to everybody? I got notice about this the day before August 3, two weeks later you vote on it, how's that fair to the city of Markham, over 12,000 people, it's not fair. My intention is not to make any enemies up here, my intention is to always speak the facts. If I'm not speaking the facts, I'm not doing my job as an official but more importantly, I'm not doing my job as a constituent. All of this is my job right now is to ensure that moving forth whatever is going on in this city council as Commissioner of Markham Park District that you guys understand what is going on. They are the liaisons to the ward the mayor is a liaison to the city; it goes through them then it comes to me and it goes to you guys. Help them, contact them, when you have issues or have concerns. Do not let it go by get your neighbors in here, get your friends in here. This is something that is going to impact generations to come. My family has been a part of Markham, Illinois for the past 60 years. I'm a generational Markham little boy I've bought some houses in the city of Markham and I'm planning on staying in the city. With that, Mr. Mayor, I consider you a very good friend, we've had some great debates some spirited debates, I've had some great conversations some good fist bumps with Ald. Hampton and Ald. McDowell, you guys have engaged me. I love Ald. Hampton, she hugs me so tight, I get that energy from her, Ald. Jones has known me since I was young, they are right next to each other, he can tell you, my story, just like anybody else. Ald. Barron, a hero of this community. We need representation that is going to work and that's why you have to keep the trigger on them to make sure that they work.

**CITY OF MARKHAM REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING**

August 17, 2022

Mayor Agpawa - It is unfortunate but sometimes this is how we act; I don't like it when we have to but I'm not afraid or ashamed to have to do it. Now some of it not emotion, it's just spirited. When you meet that spirit, that's what you get it and then we'll hopefully move on we're all elected officials. I appreciate some of the things that was said by the Aldermen tonight in terms that they're going to do what they need to do to get out there it's our job to we didn't ask the census to come to us a way it did it came, and we took action we'd be here for eons, trying to get everybody to agree on something. That's just not going to happen. That's what these people were elected to do, and that's what they did. You're not going to have a full vote to where everyone's going to agree, it's just not going to happen. That's democracy at its best, we're fortunate that we got three to vote on and didn't go a different direction. So that's a good thing. You can still have your aspirations, your aspirations are not taken from you. So that's just what it's about. And I just wanted to you know, I'm not going to apologize for defending what I think is right, as the leader of the city, that's just my job, that's what I'm charged with for a little while, and then we'll see where it goes.

Mehlanie Spears – I did go on the website and information, is there a way to view the subjects before we come to the meetings?

Mayor Agpawa - It's posted but we'll make sure we even print out the agenda and make it available at the front counter on maybe that Friday or Monday, you can stop by and pick up an agenda.

MOTION TO CLOSE FLOOR TO PUBLIC

Motion by Ald. Hampton-Houser seconded by Ald. Barron to Close Floor to Public

Roll Call: 4 Yes/0 No/0 Absent-Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT Motion by Ald. Hampton-Houser, seconded by Ald. Barron to adjourn at
8:24p.m.
Roll Call: 4 Yes/0 No/ 0 Absent-Motion Carried

Submitted by:

DATED:

Sept 7, 2022

Leslie Trimuel

Leslie Trimuel, City Clerk