

**CITY OF MARKHAM REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
August 3, 2022**

Mayor, Roger Agpawa called the Regular Meeting of the Markham City Council to order at 7:12p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Prayer led by Ms. Hall. Roll Call was taken by City Clerk, Leslie Trimuel.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Steven Miller
City Treasurer, Belinda Richardson
City Administrator, Derrick Champion
Attorney Ross Secler
Attorney Burt Odelson
Frank Calabrese

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
July 20, 2022**

Motion to approve minutes with corrections of July 20, 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. Jones, to adopt Authorization of Claims and Accounts Bill list, totaling \$940,326.59, with manual checks of \$27,498.34 for a grand total of \$967,824.93

Roll Call: 3Yes/0 No/1 Absent-Motion Carried

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Law Department Ward Census Presentation by Odelson Sterk Murphey Frazier & McGrath on Ward (Attorney Odelson presented) Remap for the City of Markham, per 2020 Census numbers. Presentation of maps by Frank Calabrese who is a Frank is a demographer a mapper who does this for a living. He takes the figures from the Census Bureau incorporates it into whatever community we're in and gives you statistics and gives you the demographics from 10 years ago and the new demographics. The Constitution and Federal laws is the first reason the 14th Amendment says that we should have one person and one vote. No person should have more than one vote, and every person's vote should be equal as the basis of the 14th amendment that flows right into the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965. You must balance your wards so that every person has an equal vote. If you don't, you're subject to a federal lawsuit because of a violation of one person, one vote or you must draw a ward to represent a minority group. If you don't do that, you could be subject to a lawsuit, this redistricting shall be completed not less than 30 days before the first day set by the general election law for the filing of the candidate petitions for the next succeeding election for city officers. The update as we told them in our memo is October 22. Because petitions for the next election primaries are due the end of November. This is a comparison of how the population is changing in Markham, it decreased almost 900 people and the demographics are changing. The wards that decreased the most are the 1st ward and the second ward; the 3rd and 4th ward had modest population increases.

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MAYOR AGPAWA

This is intended tonight for discussion, we're not taking action, but I do want to allow the Council to discuss here, I know we have people who've come out. Perhaps any of the council members that want to ask questions of you tonight here, then we can do that. One of the things I mentioned to you when I contacted you that for several months, they had been in contact with me, and I hadn't taken any action. I did tell them that one thing that had to be done. We want to try to maintain them as close to their home base as possible, so that will take into consideration where you live at and being your home base.

ALD. JONES

Contiguous means extending a cutting board adjacent neighboring join border. So just a precinct shouldn't be divided with two or more wards.

ATTORNEY ODELSON

We tried to do that but that's a low priority and the County Clerk will fix it. As far as practicable, no precinct shall be divided between two or more wards. A ward is going to encompass more than one precinct this is a function of how the precincts are, precincts are determined by the county clerk. I think in the process of being reapportioned is still based on the census.

MAYOR AGPAWA

The presentation will be made available on the City Website.

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 3, 2022)

ADOPT RESOLUTION

22-R-687

Motion by Ald. Barron, seconded by Ald. Hampton-Houser, to adopt Resolution 22-R-687

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 3, 2022)

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

ADOPT RESOLUTION – NOT PRESENTED FOR ADOPTION

A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City of Markham and Connect Freight, Inc. (2100 W. 163rd Street, Markham, IL 60428)

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

CLERK REPORT

Events

The Indian Boundary Prairies Annual Picnic August 7, 2022, 12:00pm, Midlothian Meadows, Picnic Shelter #2, Bring your own lunch.

City Of Markham Upcoming Events

August 5th – Jazzing in the Park, Roesner Park, 5:00-10:00 pm

August 6th – Back to School Parade 11:00 am

August 6th - Car Show, 12:00 – 5:00 pm

August 13th – Back to School Event, City Hall, 11:00 – 2:00 pm

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MAYOR'S REPORT

I certainly see that we are busy with events, which is always good and healthy for the community. We're doing a lot of things, so we want to encourage everybody to participate and come out as much as you can and be involved. I wanted to just mention under my report that I had a note here I didn't know exactly what all I would say I'm going to still be very limited about it I imagine I may have to say more about it under open session, the mapping issue is a reality anywhere you go all over the country, it's not always a comfortable matter that we have to take on. Everybody's not going to be happy about it in some cases, and some may be okay with it, but it is something that we do, and I'll just leave it at that, we may have some more comments later. We are still working on quite a few things in public works, I've met with all of the aldermen about different things that we're trying to do to continue to build up that department. I know that we have been at some very high peaks with it, I think this is the first year that I feel the Valley of it. But that's a good thing to be able to see that there needs to be some other improvements, we're working on some areas and public works to better improve it of course we've got a lot of equipment, but you go through different things with personnel. I think I mentioned at one council meeting we had a lot of people off, either they were sick or they were off on vacation, so you go through these things where you're low on personnel, the same thing has occurred here in public works and other departments like trying to get police or firemen anywhere you go, where some people don't want to work, that's kind of what's happened in some places in society. The other thing I wanted to mention, I know that the Aldermen are going to mention in their wards that we still have a lot of people requesting speed bumps. I know what's going to happen, I believe by next year when we finally get them all nailed down, although the ones that are down now have to come up during the winter, when we do get to the peak of having speed bumps all over the place, the next thing is going to be that we have too many so I'm pretty much going to save you can mark my word on that one because that's just how it is everywhere, everybody wants them but the inconvenience of that is going to come about. We are still working on minimal street repairs, the Administrator is going to speak about some additional funding that's come in on a grant, we had a CDBG grant that is going to allow us to do a few streets and then we had some other additional funding that he is going to tell us about tonight to do some other streets or to add to some of the CDBG effort, we're going to do so some of the work. Ald. Jones, I think I talked to you about some work being done a while back that they finally got going with, that's coming out of some k funding that we received from last year as well. The other thing is I want to mention, and we've mentioned about a lot of times, I know that the City Administrator will mention it as well, we've had a lot of things that are still occurring with businesses just as Attorney Miller brought up about what we're doing with a land issue in terms of trying to get things moving and generated. We just worked on a TIF and finally got toward the closure of that TIF to get it operating and going. Some of these things just take time before they occur, we're still working on the Thorntons Gas Station., again, every time you get one place, it seems like the goalpost moves, but we're just about there to see that Walgreens building get torn down. We have some other things that we're working on as well, we talked about the Travel Plaza for quite some time and that's starting to surface again. Couple last mentions, Building Code Department, I can't tell you there's not a day that doesn't go by that we have someone that would come into the Building Department, the Code Department, and they just have to kind of get re-acclimated to how things are done. That's what we had to do, get re-acclimated to how things are done, sometimes it's a good experience or a pleasant experience, sometimes it's not. Some of the things that we used to do, we just don't do them., so that's where we're at and we'll take the time to explain what that means. I think that it's something that I've taken a page out of the City Administrator's book there are some places in Markham that is on a hard reset. That's what we've been doing, and I think that we're doing well, that's some of my opinion. I think that I didn't say that early on about Public Works, but I am happy with those guys, we just want to tune them up, so we're going to have points like that, where sometimes we need to get better. The last thing I want to mention on a regional aspect, I work with the mayors in the Southland here and we have an upcoming meeting with clergy and with other mayors and other leaders regarding the airport, that's one of the things that we really need in our region

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to really help support, especially some of the things we have in terms of big box distribution and things like that. Those are the things that are really going to help us regionally is an airport to carry primarily cargo.

DERRICK CHAMPION – CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Thank you, good evening, Council, I want to start off with Amazon, right now. They are ramping up employment again, there's opportunities out there and anybody who's looking for employment, this is the time to apply for those positions that are available. Some of the positions that are available are, fulfillment center associates, sort station center associates, delivery station associates Excel Warehouse Associate, they have several other positions that are available. This information will be on our social media platform and our website as well and all the Aldermen we'll have it on their social media. Stay tuned for that information. We are in the planning stages of having a job fair, also stay tuned. I've been working with the Treasurer getting Wintrust involved in the process of planning a job event here in Markham. Kind of piggyback on what the mayor had mentioned about some grant opportunities that we aggressively going after the Department of Commerce has reached out to us and there's some funding available for street repairs, we have identified some streets and we're looking forward to making Markham better from an infrastructure standpoint, one of the main things the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency have state revolving funds opportunity for Markham. We have almost \$20 million dollars that we can go after. I want to thank the Treasurer for moving this forward for us. We are going to replace the east side water distribution on the lead service lines in that area, so we're talking about hydrants, water meters, and water service lines on the east side. Kind of stay tuned for that information, we're working with the engineers right now, just trying to button up the process and getting the construction budget. The next thing is I want to say happy Black Business Month this week kicked off Black Month. We want to make sure that we are supporting small businesses, but this month focused on our small businesses so definitely support black businesses here in the city and wherever you may shop whether it's online or brick and mortar.

ALD. JONES

I'd like to say first of all thank you all who came for this presentation. This is an injustice; things are unjust eight months before the election. The change in wards is unheard of, I can show you the presentations where other cities have actually passed redistricting. I have no problem with redistricting it's needed, it's the way that the redistricting is being done is wrong. This could be passed in a couple of months, however, in effect at the end of the new election cycle, just like the other communities do, just like Cook County had done. I understand attorneys but sometimes attorneys can say what you have paid them to say, this is wrong. You know I have lived in Country Aire all my life, over 45 years. I'm home grown I've been on this Council longer anyone else. I've served Canterbury for over 16 years, so within two months, you're changing and taking me out of Canterbury, the past four years of what I have done in Canterbury means nothing, and you're going to put me in another area where I don't know anybody. I've always stayed within my borders, so now you're going to take me out of my borders to run something that I don't know. I can show you right now multiple cities passing the redistricting and it goes into effect next year. It makes no sense people we need to work together. I love drinking water, sometimes, I have to use a little cinnamon because of blood pressure etc. Harold Murphy used to be a Alderman and told us a story, the story made no sense when I was younger, well I got older it started making sense to me. He says that these two men the nice suits came into a store, he was talking very kindly, very nicely, one of them he went to the back, the man in the back started causing confusion, he put something different in the drink, as they were arguing over the drink as it was sitting there the man in the front was robbing a store, taking the food. Who are you? I don't know that guy, it was a setup in our community is so bad that we are be confused within our community. We allow our resources in our community to go out of it. I believe that the mission should stay in our community. I believe that we have a Planning Board, we have a Zoning Board, we have intelligent people that we can pay to do this or be part of this. This is not rocket science, every one of you should remember this week, eight months before the election is a catastrophe. Please wake up, don't be fooled., don't drink the Kool aid,

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because everybody knows that this can be done after the election. Everyone is knowledgeable, but unfortunately in our community, we have had high priced lawyers telling us what is right and wrong. Follow your heart, your instinct, this is not right. So please, if you can reach out to your alderman, talk to them.

ALD. BARRON

Good evening, I have to admit I was a little bit caught by surprise. I didn't realize that after the census every 10 years that we're supposed to reanalyze our wards. When I received all call, I was a little bit stunned, I remember when the last one was done everybody was up in arms over that. Actually, my ward extended into where Alderman Jones is at one time, so everything changes. I don't know if there's any easy formula when you figure that to think of a consideration, you can't jump over one ward to go to another I don't think it is really easy. I think it's a complicated process and you have to work with census tracts and it's pretty vital. I think when everything going on, that'll be the end my report.

ALD. HAMPTON-HOUSER

Good evening Council, members of the City of Markham, I want to start off with August 27th. Ward 1 will be have their festival, it will be held at Martin Luther King Park. Be expecting to see the information in reference to it, it should be coming to your mailbox. I don't discriminate, anyone in the City of Markham who would like to attend is welcome. We have an awesome time planned, it's going to be great, please if you get the opportunity to come out, mark that on your calendar for August 27. I want to thank Public Works, they had to come out. As we all know we have huge trees in our in our city and couple of trees have fallen onto some properties this week. We had to have Public Works to come out, clean it up and cut the trees, of course the rain stopped us, but we are moving forward with actually getting those trees and easements done as soon as the weather permits us to start back up again. I just want to say Public Works, works hard, they truly do work hard, and I must give kudos to them. In reference to those speed bumps, I want to let Ward 1 know that the next speed bumps will be going down 163rd Street the previous speed bumps that were put in Ward 1, I had to identify the street that was the most dangerous and that happened to be Marshfield. It's like an expressway on Marshfield, so I had to take care of Marshfield, I'm not quite finished with Marshfield. The next set of speed bumps will be going down 163rd Street there will be three speed bumps from Wood Street going back east to Park Avenue. Every other block will have a speed bump. We have to slow them down, 163rd is an expressway. I will them move forward I'm going to 162nd Street and 164th Street, then I'll go back onto the side streets Hermitage, Marshfield, Paulina and finish up that way. Also thank you, City Administrator who mentioned the black businesses for Black Business Month. Please take an opportunity to come out and support black businesses that are here, smaller businesses are not big corporate businesses, but please take the opportunity to support them. We have plenty of them, in our city alone, down a 159th Street we have them in Canterbury. Last but at least in reference to the map is, I think my point of view as the Alderwoman of Ward 1, when I get a call phone stating I need to meet with the attorneys to see exactly how to re-districting is structured it was a shock for me for me as well, but I understood the legalities that needed to take place within the city. Of course, we have not been for many, many years, in compliance. d I understood that these remapping of wards have to take place, the shift has to take place it will pick up more, we dropped some here and picked up there. But I think as an Alderman, communication out in the new Wards, new area, we have to communicate and just let them know exactly what's going on and who their Alderman is, that's what I'm planning on doing and more. So, again, just like Alderman Baron was saying, it's not an easy task, but that's what we're here for. We have to stand up to the task and we have to actually accommodate and do what is needed to be done from a legal point of view. Of course, it's been 30 years, whatever the case may be, I wasn't sitting on this bench 30 years ago, don't misunderstand me but I was still a little bit informed as well. I'm a Markhamite as well I was raised in Markham since eight years old, and today is my day birthday. I understand that things do shift, but the most important thing is I think we're professional, we're an adult enough, we're knowledgeable enough to accept the changes and keep moving. Because the most important thing is that we must still represent the masses of people who live in Markham, and I'm willing to do that even if I have to shift, pick up and do what needs to be done.

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ALD. MCDOWELL

Mayor City Council there are more speed bumps coming to the 2nd Ward, by next week they will be putting out more speed bumps. On 161st Honore, we are blessed to be able to be a part of that grant to get that street repaired, that will be done very soon. They're dumping on 165th and Winchester they're dumping from one side of the street to the other, the house they're dumping at is a vacant home. I want to encourage residents if you see somebody bringing furniture from their house and dumping it on someone else's property, please call the police. On Saturday for the parade those in the 2nd Ward if you would like to participate in our parade, please come out decorate your car, represent the 2nd Ward. Also, with our ward map changes is not easy, this is a big step. As an Alderperson myself, with the changes it's going to shift the second ward, but God has put me here in this seat for the challenge, I'm here for you, it's all about serving our people in our community. We are going to work together to adapt to this new change for our city, this is for you. Unfortunately, our hands are tied because of the census, but we're here to do the work and we're here for you.

MOTION TO OPEN FLOOR TO PUBLIC

Motion by Ald. Barron, seconded by Ald. Jones to Open Floor to Public.

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

RESIDENT – DARLENE HARRIS

The behalf of Jack Harris Transportation, Darlene Harris, Office Manager, my assistant is here. I'm here on behalf of the decision that was made, ever since last year we have been trying to secure a location for Harris Transportation, we've been in business for 48 years. We wanted to secure business in Markham, Illinois. We did all our compliance did everything that was required of us, on numerous occasions I spoke with aldermen as well. Long story short, we found the location and I appreciate all the help that we receive on behalf of the Mayor and Mr. Champion and all the others who have spoken to, so I'm no stranger again, grew up in Markham, long story short, there was an error on the meeting, and we were told that it was voted, but we've been trying to get our business license. We've completed everything that was asked of us, then until the oversight of the meeting to come before the City Council it was thrown out and my acknowledgement that I didn't think it was fair because I couldn't attend, I mis-understood that it was only by Zoom, had I known that we could have come to the meeting, just like we here tonight, my staff and all of us tonight, so I'm pleading and asking if we could have the opportunity to reconsidered. Also, we would like to participant to provide free service during the election, a lot of things we have, to Markham as well we would like to be a little more active with the City of Markham myself, for this weekend for all that I've heard. I'm definitely glad to be involved, thank you for your time. I'm no stranger.

MAYOR AGPAWA

Miss Harris we will reach back out to you in regard to this evening, and because I know that you have an existing office that we need to talk to you about what would occurred from the last meeting where your business was denied, I can tell you I obviously it was solely based off of the parking and transportation, but you do have office space that we need to discuss. If the council wants to revisit the bus matter, then we will take that up but we'll be back in touch with you. We need to discuss that so that you can see where it's going to go from there.

RESIDENT – KINDELL PARETH

Good evening, City Council and fellow Markhamites, I have a couple of questions in reference to the proposed mapping. Earlier the gentleman was talking about census data from the 2020 census, but my question is, at what level did the city of Markham participate in census, was it 50% 60% 70% 80%, what were the numbers because I've worked with the census 17 communities throughout the census process. What percentage of Markham residents actually filled out the census data in order for him to come up with

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the numbers that he came up with? That's question number one. Question number two is if there will be a proposed mapping change, will there be public meetings in various wards to explain this to the residents so they can fully understand and grasp what's going on in the city? Those are my two questions.

MAYOR AGPAWA

Well, I'll do my best Mr. Pareth to tell you that I'd probably ask you first since you worked with them, I mean, you would know better than anybody.

RESIDENT – KINDELL PARETH

I've worked with 17 communities, so I don't know

MAYOR AGPAWA

I mean, but you live here you don't know the number.?

RESIDENT – KINDELL PARETH

No.

MAYOR AGPAWA

Well, me and you would be pretty close to each other. But I believe it was 40, 50 60% I don't remember, that was a percentage I recall, I don't know if that was the close out number but like I said, I was going to rely on you once you said where you worked. I don't know what that does for you. But you know, that's what I'm guessing.

RESIDENT – KINDELL PARETH

But then the numbers will be skewed because there was not 100% participation from the residents.

MAYOR AGPAWA

You're going to have that everywhere you go. I mean, there's nothing you do about that, maybe try and do it over but you know, good luck with that.

Second Question response - Well, there's nothing that requires that, there's nothing about law that requires us to do that. Nothing strenuous about it, but certainly tonight is the beginning. And we've got a lot of things out there on social media and passed out and everything else and we've got a Council that is committed to making sure that people know what's going on. So that's what their jobs are and that's what they're going to do.

RESIDENT – LEONARD/OTTIE DAVIS

I wanted to speak to Ald. Hampton-Houser - You said you're going to start on 163rd, but you didn't mention 161st Street is where the Center is now whenever. Usually as route children will be coming home from school on the bus, cars go up and down that street sometimes somewhere between 40 and 60 speeding down the street, with these little guys getting off the bus, not looking around for cars that is the most dangerous street, that should be considered a hundred because they're going to the park which is right there and they're not paying attention playing or whatever the ball bounces out, consider that area as well. Otherwise, it's just a matter of time before some of those little guys are hurt. If one of those school buses or one of those speeding cars come thru.

ALD. HAMPTON-HOUSER

Did I say 162nd or did I say 161st Street? Okay, my apologies. Then 161st Street as well, because I'm going to streets first and then I'm going onto the name streets, so 163rd I'll put it in layman's terms, 163rd is the Eisenhower Expressway, 162nd is Dixie Highway so the ones that actually get more speeders is 163rd. I'm going to do 163rd then I'll move over to 161st Street as well. You're absolutely correct in determining where

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the speed bumps should actually be placed. I did not take into consideration a lot of the children there as well. You're absolutely right that school is starting back up again, I might just add to that and do 161st, then come over to 160th.

RESIDENT – MICHELE BROWN

I'm in Ward 3, according to this piece of paper I will be in Ward 1, I just got a new card Saturday, where will I go vote.

MAYOR AGPAWA

The attorney has indicated that it's not going to change. So, where you go to vote will not change.

RESIDENT – MICHELE BROWN

When I get ready to talk to my Alderman, I'm used to going to Mr. Jones.

MAYOR AGPAWA

Well, you'll be going to somebody different if that's what they all decide.

ALD. HAMPTON-HOUSER

I stated earlier that basically when this new method come into existence, it's my obligation to make sure that new areas that I pick up that I come to you. It's my obligation to make sure I introduce myself to you. It's my obligation to make sure I can answer your questions. It's my obligation to make sure that I can come back and give answers to you, so I don't feel that the quality of service that you have been receiving is going to change. It's just a different face. But I promise you I will be a diligent Alderman to you as well as everyone else.

MAYOR AGPAWA

Well, if it goes any different then you may see her, but they all do good work and that's just my opinion. I think that Ald. Jones has done well by you and a lot of people there as well. They've all done well in their wards. We'll see where they land and whether they'll represent you or not. We have some time before we get there. But in the meantime, your voting place has not changed.

RESIDENT – MICHELE BROWN

Where is your office located?

ALD. HAMPTON-HOUSER

My office is located right near City Hall. Now make sure to be in your car

RESIDENT – JOANN SIMS

Good evening, Mayor, and elected officials. I'm here to state my opinion, in person, this is my personal opinion I regarding the remap. I feel that 8 months out from the election is injustice to the constituents as well as the elected officials. I've heard what someone say you can do the election in your ward, but the remap does not have to become effective until May 1, 2023, that would give you four years or three years to prove to your new constituents as well as you the elected official that you can build relationships. I don't see a relationship being built effectively in 8 months. Even though you get out and knock-on doors, I don't see you covering every door, but I feel that as a constituent, and you as elected officials should make this map effective February 1, 2023. I think it would benefit everyone in the long if it can be done legally. Then on May 1st you will have 4 years to do service and get to know the new constituents that you picked up and to continue to be a public servant. I just want to make sure that everyone gets a proper and fair chance to prove that you are worthy of being elected. Your current constituents know you, but you will pick up maybe

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1,500 new constituents, they don't know you. That's unjust to them, I think to do the fair thing is May 1, 2023, let the map go into effect, then everyone can prove themselves the next 4 years. When you look at the redistrict, I see we had 22 Black Congressional members in Congress now we only have 9, this is serious. Redistricting anytime we have to make a change. Change is not easy, but we have to be mature enough and flexible enough to accept it, but I want change to be in on my behalf as a constituent as well as your behalf as an elected official. Thank you.

RESIDENTS – GRACE STATOM/REENAY LANE/JACK HARRIS

I'm here to talk about my grass cutting we have been here for 23 years, I've paid for my grass cutting ever since I've been here All of a sudden, we were told about the program for the senior citizens that is free for grass cutting and snow removal, so I signed up for that. Those that were going to work with me didn't cut my grass for the first time we didn't know when they would start, we were told it would start in May, they cut one time, the first time was like a jungle, the second time they cut it, it wasn't right it was a mess, the next time it was not cut right. From that time, I checked to see when they would cut it, I was told every two weeks. From that time until almost the end of July they grass was not cut as far as Markham was concerned. We then had someone else to come cut it, which we had done for 20 years or more, we were then told that person could not cut our yards, he was stopped him and said he would be fined \$500.00, I think that's unfair. I personally don't mind paying; I just want my yard cut right.

MAYOR AGPAWA

I'll take your information and give you a call.

ALD. JONES

In answer to your question., I believe that the free program is flawed five years we've been having issues with the program. I want to implement a program, instead of the money to the vendors, we need to get constituents that you can control how and who cuts your grass. So hypothetically, if we if we pay the vendor \$50.00 to cut your grass, instead of to them we give to you it's the same money, it's the same exchange. That way you can control your vendor. You can tell the vendor cut this way and this way, they have to be licensed with the city, when they give you a receipt, you just bring it to us, and we reimburse you. I believe that will be the most effective way to go with this program. Because by paying the vendor you can cut your question easily.

MAYOR AGPAWA

I believe that we've changed the program, you can certainly recommend that to us all. You can put in writing, and we can address it that way because we're not going to just send the money, we have to have a process. So, if you want to have us address it, we can do that.

RESIDENT – REENAY LANE

I'm here with Grace for the same reason, she has spoken well for all of us, I will say that our grass didn't look like before, it looks like a hay field. It never we always tried to maintain our property to be an attribute to the city of love.

MAYOR AGPAWA

I know what part of that issue is down the street. Let's take some time to resolve it, you have a little bit different issue down there then the norm. I've heard about some of it, so we'll talk about it but I need I still want your phone numbers, I have Mr. Harris's number but I need your numbers.

RESIDENT – LESLIE JONES

Good evening, City Council, I would like to first say thank you and happy birthday Ald. Hampton. I wanted to come to you tonight about one of the constituents who was not able to come tonight. Their

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concern was the fence on frontage road, it is down, she wanted to see if that can be addressed. On 155th Street a resident just requested more speed bumps, and I told her it might be coming up pretty soon. There's one speed bump there but people are speeding up the street, and they were concerned about that. I wanted to address I know firsthand that attorneys charge quite a bit to be present, I really wish were still here so we can properly address or question them. I want to know if there is a copy of the presentation that could be made available or e-mailed everyone.

MAYOR AGPAWA

We have the video for tonight we can make that available online.

RESIDENT – LESLIE JONES

The questions I would ask for them I just wanted to make sure it was public. You mentioned that there are priorities in drafting it doesn't relate to the statute here and that there was a typo. This is the record directly from the county, Illinois compiled status information maintained by the legislative reference bureau, they send out policy reports and updates all the time. Municipal Code 65 ILCS 5/3.1 -20-25, sec 3.1.-20-25, my question is related to that if you want to get back to that that's fine, I just want to be clear on the question, you said it was a typo but that's federal and state guidelines, this outlined.

ATTORNEY ROSS SCHLER

Just to try to briefly explain it, there's no typo. It's just what the statute says that, first you have to draw maps so that there is nearly as equal in population as possible, which emulates the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution, one person one vote. Then the ward shall be as compact and contiguous territory, so that's what we're talking about., you can't have one piece of a ward here and another piece of the ward there without them connecting, kind of like the current map does, which is illegal. Then, the third part is that as so as far as practicable, that's important, no precinct shall be divided between two or more wards. The last factor we look at, but that's also a factor because of the precincts, the city uses to draw precincts. The county clerk does that, and of course, the county clerk is still preparing the precincts and still redoing all the maps so, we don't draw maps based purely on the precincts and to the extent most of these do not split any precincts at all.

RESIDENT – LESLIE JONES

When I look at that map it's like some of the wards on the corner it's not really touching side by side or north and south, it might be a section of the corner separated by the interstate.

ATTORNEY ROSS

Currently, that's what the map has.

RESIDENT – LESLIE JONES

Do you look at the actual voting data, the history here, the last little general election was like the 800 votes in Markham.

MAYOR AGPAWA

Some of this was explained already. What we'll do over the next two weeks, we'll try to make sure we can help with some of the additional questions you have for the sake of time.

RESIDENT – LESLIE JONES

So, the other two questions I have, did they look at the actual voting data, the history did you consider the deaths during COVID because of that, we have two or three years accounted or unaccounted for the population growth. Then did you consider the modification in the deviation into account? That was a question for the attorney because it didn't look like you accounted for that data as the gentleman said earlier,

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only so many people in this specific area might fill out the census, so when you look at population growth, and population dissension, is this also considered? You must look at how many actual voters have because we want to make sure that you can't vote more than once, we'd have to have equal voting population. As a federal mandate, I believe that we should be informed on all the facts and all the possibilities, before you make the decision and the action that the board takes.

MAYOR AGPAWA

Make sure that we get your questions, and I can make sure that the attorneys can get some emails going, I'll make sure that we get some contact for you.

RESIDENT – JENNIFER COLES

Good evening, I just had a couple of questions. My first question was the redistricting, Mr. Pareth brought up the census numbers, question, and the participation, but I was wondering, did you account for the skewed numbers and the low participation? Because Mr. Olson stated that part of the process of development should have equal representation, we know we had low participation in the census count, everyone is not necessarily accounted for in those numbers. Is that also a factor when you're re doing the maps?

ATTORNEY ROSS

There are a few things for the final census that's issued, it takes the participation and then with statistical analysis and other things, it doesn't try to fill in the gaps because they know based on city records, that housing data etc. they fill in, they know that there is a fair amount of people in certain areas if you can, there's low participation. If you look at the trend of where Markham was and especially from 2010 it was relatively stable in terms of total population on the right and the issue the city faces, is because it hasn't redistricted in like 30 years. That's if we were just comparing the 2010 numbers and the 2020 numbers, if the map was correct in 2010, maybe we wouldn't be having to create as many drastic changes, but the issue is we're using a map that's based on 1990 numbers, so that's the bigger issue. Overall, the census is what we did by state and federal mandate is what we have to work with. There are options to do special censuses and those costs a lot of money and are a huge undertaking, certain communities are looking at that because they were severely undercounted. I don't know of any major reports in Markham as to whether that is the case here or how the cost benefit analysis or if there would be a policy decision or something else to consider but right now, we have to work on the federally issued final census, and those are the numbers.

RESIDENT – JENNIFER COLES

I'm not opposed to a mapping and redistricting, what I wanted to ask, I know that other bodies may typically get input and feedback from members of the public or their board members, and I think some allow members of the public to submit renderings of their own map with supporting information on how they came up with that, is that an option for the public to have some input in that redistricting or is it just you all say or what is it just what the attorneys have drafted?

MAYOR AGPAWA

I wouldn't be opposed to anything over the next two weeks, I think that anything could be considered, I think that one of the things that I mentioned when the attorney was here, not to mention how the computer generates and the numbers and trying to deal with the variances on both sides and the deviation between Ward 1 and Ward 4, we had to take in consideration that we had two aldermen that practically were almost living on top of one another to try to go with the census block. It's about as fair as it could be because we had to take in consideration where everybody's home base was, that's how it should have been even years ago when you served, how are these things got carved up? So, we'll consider some things if it's given to us.

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RESIDENT – JENNIFER COLES

Will there be something that will be presented or offered to the public where they can submit?

MAYOR AGPAWA

That's an option, we'll post something that if they want to turn in something that we will accept.

RESIDENT – JENNIFER COLES

To piggyback on what Leslie asked for, is there a way we could get the information that was given to the Council where we can drill down into those Census Blocks to be able to go a step further, or at least given the information to direct us to where we can dig into the Census Blocks to be able to do our own maps?

MAYOR AGPAWA

I can certainly talk to them about that.

RESIDENT – JENNIFER COLES

My final question for you, Mr. Champion you brought up Amazon is hiring, exist for is it for the Markham location? I know people who have issues being able to apply for Markham Amazon positions, they kept being redirected to Matteson and other locations.

DERRICK CHAMPION

When they send me emails directly, that they've opened opportunities. When you go to the link it is going to ask you to put the zip code and location and route you to what jobs that are available. I've dealt with Markham, Matteson, Joliet, or anywhere that you put in the search field.

RESIDENT - JENNIFER COLES

A lot of people were having a lot of issues with actually finding anything open in Markham.

DERRICK CHAMPION

Right so I went on the personally there are not any Markham jobs available, but what happens so people know, they only have so much room on their training portal, so once that is filled, they shut it back down, and only those locations and only those locations that have openings will populate, they only have so many training seats available. So that's what happened.

RESIDENT – GEORGE COX

Name called but left beforehand.

RESIDENT – DEBRA WILLIAMS

Good evening and thank you, I have been here for a while, but I was pleasantly surprised that I've heard The Indian Boundary Prairies mentioned, I'm not sure where it came from. up above. More information will be coming out about that, we do have the events on August 27th. I will also leave information and flyers on the media sites for what's going on That information has not gone out publicly as of yet. I'm not sure what that was that was announced

MAYOR AGPAWA

That was given to us at the last Council meeting. I think Mr. George was here.
That might have been something for the Indian Boundary Prairies Friends Annual Picnic.

MOTION TO CLOSE FLOOR TO PUBLIC

Motion by Ald. Hampton-Houser seconded by Ald. McDowell to Close Floor to Public.
Roll Call: 4 Yes/0 No/0 Absent-Motion Carried

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ADJOURNMENT Motion by Ald. Hampton-Houser, seconded by Ald. Barron to adjourn at
8:47p.m.
Roll Call: 4 Yes/0 No/ 0 Absent-Motion Carried

Submitted by:

DATED: Aug 17, 2022

Leslie Trimuel

Leslie Trimuel, City Clerk