

A WORK SESSION WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:04 P.M. BY MAYOR MARCHESE FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING ITEMS ON THE OCTOBER 6, 2025 AGENDA WITH THE CITY COUNCIL. THE WORK SESSION ADJOURNED AT 7:29 P.M.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

of the City Council of the

CITY OF DARIEN

October 6, 2025

7:30 P.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Darien was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Mayor Marchese.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Marchese led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL** — The Roll Call of Aldermen by Clerk Ragona was as follows:

Present:	Thomas J. Belczak	Ted V. Schauer
	Eric K. Gustafson	Ralph Stompanato
	Joseph A. Kenny	Mary Coyle Sullivan
	Gerry Leganski	

Absent: None

Also in Attendance: Joseph Marchese, Mayor
JoAnne E. Ragona, City Clerk
Michael J. Coren, City Treasurer
Bryon Vana, City Administrator
Gregory Thomas, Police Chief
Daniel Gombac, Director of Municipal Services
Ryan Murphy, Senior Planner

4. **DECLARATION OF A QUORUM** – There being seven aldermen present, Mayor Marchese declared a quorum.

5. **QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – GENERAL**

Tom Chlystek, Downers Grove Township Highway Commissioner, reiterated responsibilities included roads, bridges, and plowing in unincorporated Darien. He encouraged residents to sign up for “The Plow” newsletter at highway@dgtownship.com; first edition to be issued in November. He commented on paving success story between City & Township on Concord Place and upcoming paving project in Farmingdale area.

Administrator Vana referred to TIF Executive Summary in Council Packet; he noted factual TIF bullet points compiled by Senior Planner Murphy and clarified TIF information. Council discussion ensued.

It was moved by Alderman Stompanato and seconded by Alderman Leganski to approve the minutes of the City Council Meeting of September 15, 2025.

MOTION DULY CARRIED

Alderman Schauer received communication from Pat, resident in 1000 block of Hinswood Drive, who was happy with the shaving of City sidewalks. Mayor Marchese received a call from Angie DeYoung praising Public Works for doing a fabulous job restoring parkway and Darien Police Department for finding & returning her lost dog.

8. **MAYOR'S REPORT**

A. MAYORAL PROCLAMATION "HINSDALE SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY MONTH" (OCTOBER 2025)

Mayor Marchese read the proclamation into record declaring October 2025 as Hinsdale South High School (HSHS) Anniversary Month. Dr. Kari Peronto, Principal, HSHS, accepted proclamation. She commented on her employment of 22 years in various roles at HSHS. She stated HSHS has the best students, the best staff, and is located in the best community.

B. MAYORAL PROCLAMATION "ARTS DUPAGE MONTH" (OCTOBER 2025)

Mayor Marchese read the proclamation into record declaring October 2025 as Arts DuPage Month.

C. RECOGNITION OF KINGSWOOD ACADEMY BY THE NEWMAN SOCIETY

Mayor Marchese read recognition statement for Kingswood Academy by the Newman Society into the record.

D. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT — FOR THE YEAR ENDED APRIL 30, 2025

Kellen O'Malley, Director with Sikich LLP, summarized audit results and highlighted key items of interest when looking over Annual Financial Report, Auditor's Communication document, Management Letter & Management Discussion and Analysis. He noted reports were reviewed in detail at Administrative/Finance Meeting on September 2. He thanked City staff for their preparedness, timeliness, and professionalism. Mr. O'Malley addressed Council question regarding internal control deficiencies.

9. **CITY CLERK'S REPORT**

There was no report.

10. **CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

There was no report.

11. **DEPARTMENT HEAD INFORMATION/QUESTIONS**

A. POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL RECOGNITION CEREMONY

Chief Thomas, Deputy Chief Norton (Support Services Bureau) and Deputy Chief Jump (Operations Bureau) co-presented detailed information in recognition of Darien Police Department employees that have retired, were hired, promoted and earned awards, with highlights as follows:

Retirements:

- Clerk Steve Highland (12/31/23)
- Clerk Liz Poteraske (5/16/25)
- Officer Rick Hellmann (6/3/25)
- Sergeant Geoff Kosieniak (5/25/24)
- Sergeant Steve Liss (9/12/25)

New Hires:

- Clerk Haley Gerstein (11/6/23)
- Clerk Mandy McCulloch (8/4/25)
- Community Service Officer Jeff McKenzie (7/8/24)
- Community Service Officer Antonija Magazin (12/16/24)
- Officer Jaimie Pilia (1/2/24)
- Officer Kimberly McKay (9/18/24)

Promotions:

- Sergeant Doug Rumick (5/25/24)
- Sergeant Keith Keough (7/5/25)
- Sergeant Brette Glomb (9/6/25)
- Deputy Chief Austin Jump (7/12/25)

Awards:

- Letters of Appreciation
77 received in 2023
114 received in 2024
- Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists (AAIM):
Officer Maciej Cachro (2023, 2024)
Officer Tony Hruby (2023, 2024)
Officer Paulina Janik (2023, 2024)
Officer Nelson Servin (2023, 2024)
Officer Nick Nelson (2024)
- Lifesaving:
Officer Nick Nelson
Officer Nelson Servin
Officer Maciej Cachro
- Commendations:
Officer Nelson Servin (3)
Sergeant Doug Rumick

Officer David Milazzo (2)
Sergeant Austin Jump (2)
Officer Konrad Kano
Officer Maciej Cachro (3)
Officer Christopher Oplawski

In recognition, biographies, videos, & award details were noted; flowers presented; badges pinned and pictures taken. There were rounds of applause.

Deputy Chief Jump thanked Council & Chief Thomas for their trust and confidence in leading the Police Department. He acknowledged his family & friends for their unwavering support, and the Darien Police Department for their professionalism, dedication and commitment in keeping the community safe and strong. He recognized Members of the DuPage Metropolitan Swat Team in attendance.

Mayor Marchese thanked Chief Thomas, Deputy Chief Norton and Deputy Chief Jump. He expressed how proud he was to be Mayor of such a strong and outstanding Police Department.

B. MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Director Gombac announced the City of Darien & Metronet will be hosting a Fiber Optic Internet & Streaming Workshop at the Indian Prairie Public Library on October 13 from 4:30-6:30 P.M. Residents will discover how fiber optic internet can simplify streaming, save money, have questions answered and see equipment demos. Due to limited seating, those interested need to register on the City's website by typing "fiber optic" in the search bar. If needed, additional workshops will be added.

Alderman Leganski commented on pictures taken during creek dredging, south of Portsmouth, which will make creek cleaner and allow water to flow.

Mayor Marchese...

...commented on completion of work by Metronet in his neighborhood.

...stated ComEd was adding underground power lines.

Alderwoman Sullivan voiced appreciation for the opportunity to walk The Jade Residences property on South Frontage Road with current and previous owners to address landscaping concerns; she was pleased to see progress made.

Director Gombac provided an update on 2305 Sokol Court landscape deficiencies.

Director Gombac submitted supplemental documentation pertaining to New Business Item G to Clerk Ragona.

A. WARRANT NUMBER 25-26-11

MOTION DULY CARRIED

16. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Marchese stated Consent Agenda Item C was removed from the Agenda and Item D was moved to New Business as Item H.

It was moved by Alderman Belczak and seconded by Alderman Schauer to approve by Omnibus Vote the following items on the Consent Agenda:

A. MOTION NO. M-70-25 A MOTION ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) NEW FCS DXMIC PRO KIT WITH GPS CAPABILITIES AND TRAINING FOR LEAK SURVEYING FROM SUBSURFACE SOLUTIONS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$13,648.00

B. MOTION NO. M-71-25 A MOTION ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL FROM GARLAND/DBS, INC., SERVICES FOR THE REMOVAL, PURCHASE AND REPLACEMENT OF THE ROOF HATCH AND GUTTER DIVERSION ENHANCEMENTS AT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$6,324.00

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Kenny, Gustafson, Leganski, Schauer, Stompanato, Sullivan

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

17. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO APPROVE AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE CITY OF DARIEN CHESTNUT COURT SHOPPING CENTER REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA TAX INCREMENT FINANCING REDEVELOPMENT PLAN AND PROJECT

It was moved by Alderman Stompanato and seconded by Alderman Belczak to approve the motion as presented.

Administrator Vana thanked members of the Joint Review Board for being helpful, professional, and coming to meaningful consensus.

Lengthy discussion ensued with Council members sharing background information and expressing their reasons for being in agreement/opposition to TIF.

ORDINANCE NO. O-43-25

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE CITY OF DARIEN CHESTNUT COURT SHOPPING CENTER REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA TAX INCREMENT FINANCING REDEVELOPMENT PLAN AND PROJECT

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Kenny, Leganski, Schauer, Stompanato, Sullivan

Nays: Gustafson

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 6, Nays 1, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

B. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO APPROVE AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE CITY OF DARIEN CHESTNUT COURT SHOPPING CENTER TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT

It was moved by Alderman Schauer and seconded by Alderman Belczak to approve the motion as presented.

ORDINANCE NO. O-44-25

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE CITY OF DARIEN CHESTNUT COURT SHOPPING CENTER TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Kenny, Leganski, Schauer, Stompanato, Sullivan

Nays: Gustafson

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 6, Nays 1, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

C. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO APPROVE AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING TAX INCREMENT FINANCING FOR THE CHESTNUT COURT SHOPPING CENTER TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT

It was moved by Alderman Schauer and seconded by Alderman Belczak to approve the motion as presented.

ORDINANCE NO. O-45-25 AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING TAX INCREMENT FINANCING FOR THE CHESTNUT COURT SHOPPING CENTER TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Kenny, Leganski, Schauer, Stompanato, Sullivan

Nays: Gustafson

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 6, Nays 1, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

D. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO ADOPT THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN NORTHEAST DUPAGE FAMILY AND YOUTH SERVICES (NEDFYS) AND THE CITY OF DARIEN POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE POLICE SOCIAL WORK (PSW) SERVICES

It was moved by Alderman Belczak and seconded by Alderwoman Sullivan to approve the motion as presented.

MOTION NO. M-73-25 A MOTION TO ADOPT THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN NORTHEAST DUPAGE FAMILY AND YOUTH SERVICES (NEDFYS) AND THE CITY OF DARIEN POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE POLICE SOCIAL WORK (PSW) SERVICES

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Gustafson, Kenny, Leganski, Schauer,
Stompanato, Sullivan

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

E. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION ACCEPTING DRIVING A CLEANER ILLINOIS-VOLKSWAGEN GRANT THROUGH THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT/ORGANIZATION UNIT: BUREAU OF AIR, IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$298,395.00, AND APPROVING THE CITY SHARE OF \$149,197.00, FOR A TOTAL COST NOT TO EXCEED \$447,592.00 FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) ELECTRIC DUMP TRUCK VEHICLE AND ONE (1) ELECTRIC CHARGING UNIT

It was moved by Alderman Stompanato and seconded by Alderman Belczak to approve the motion as presented.

Several Aldermen voiced their opinions on electric vehicles and ability to move forward with the Driving a Cleaner Illinois Illinois-Volkswagen Grant.

Director Gombac commented on the technology and grant. As the technology is new, more information/research will be forwarded to Municipal Services Committee for further recommendation.

MOTION NO. M-74-25

A MOTION ACCEPTING DRIVING A CLEANER ILLINOIS-VOLKSWAGEN GRANT THROUGH THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT/ORGANIZATION UNIT: BUREAU OF AIR, IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$298,395.00, AND APPROVING THE CITY SHARE OF \$149,197.00, FOR A TOTAL COST NOT TO EXCEED \$447,592.00 FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) ELECTRIC DUMP TRUCK VEHICLE AND ONE (1) ELECTRIC CHARGING UNIT

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Kenny, Leganski, Schauer, Stompanato, Sullivan

Abstain: Gustafson

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 6, Abstain 1, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

F. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN JASON VITELL AND THE CITY OF DARIEN FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

It was moved by Alderman Belczak and seconded by Alderwoman Sullivan to approve the motion as presented.

MOTION NO. M-75-25

A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN JASON VITELL AND THE CITY OF DARIEN FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Gustafson, Kenny, Leganski, Schauer, Stompanato, Sullivan

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

G. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL FROM GARLAND/DBS, INC. SERVICES RELATED TO THE EXTERIOR WALL MAINTENANCE OF THE SALT SHED BUILDING INCLUDING MATERIALS AND RELATED SERVICES FOR THE EPOXY INJECTION OF SPECIFIED WALL CRACKS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$131,453.00

It was moved by Alderman Schauer and seconded by Alderman Belczak to approve the motion as presented.

Alderman Schauer felt the cost to fix the salt shed was worth it, as the cost to build a brand new shed would be astronomical.

MOTION NO. M-76-25

A MOTION ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL FROM GARLAND/DBS, INC. SERVICES RELATED TO THE EXTERIOR WALL MAINTENANCE OF THE SALT SHED BUILDING INCLUDING MATERIALS AND RELATED SERVICES FOR THE EPOXY INJECTION OF SPECIFIED WALL CRACKS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$131,453.00

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Gustafson, Kenny, Leganski, Schauer, Stompanato, Sullivan

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

H. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION APPROVING A TRANSFER FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND OF \$1,700,000.00

It was moved by Alderman Schauer and seconded by Alderman Leganski to approve the motion as presented.

Alderman Belczak inquired about dollar difference; Treasure Coren responded monies will stay in the General Fund.

Alderman Kenny noted Item was moved from Consent Agenda for transparency.

MOTION NO. M-72-25

A MOTION APPROVING A TRANSFER FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND OF \$1,700,000.00

Roll Call: Ayes: Belczak, Gustafson, Kenny, Leganski, Schauer,
Stompanato, Sullivan

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

18. **QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – GENERAL**

Alderswoman Sullivan thanked Darien Business Alliance and City staff for planning of Darien Fest and summer concerts. Congrats to Alderman Belczak and Darien Lions Club for successful Oktoberfest. She looks forward to more community gatherings in the new year.

Alderman Leganski inquired about Halloween Decorating Contest deadline of 11/3. Administrator Vana explained due to late start, the deadline was extended. Mayor Marchese noted Holiday Home Decorating Committee will be appointed at the October 20 City Council Meeting. Alderman Kenny commented on nominations.

Mayor Marchese...

...announced Fall Carnival will be held at Chestnut Court on October 17-19. He encouraged all to attend.

...thanked Lion Belczak, for a successful Oktoberfest.

...announced Darien Lions Club Candy Day will be held October 10-11; money raised stays in Darien and is used for humanitarian causes.

...announced National Faith & Blue 2025 at Our Lady of Peace Parish on October 11 from 8:30-11:30 A.M.

Alderman Gustafson announced Darien Woodridge Fire Protection District Open House on October 11 from 10-1:00 P.M. at 7550 Lyman Avenue in Darien.

19. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the City Council, it was moved by Alderman Schauer and seconded by Alderman Kenny to adjourn the City Council meeting.

VIA VOICE VOTE – MOTION DULY CARRIED

The City Council meeting adjourned at 9:56 P.M.

Mayor

City Clerk

All supporting documentation and report originals of these minutes are on file in the Office of the City Clerk under File Number 10-06-25.
Minutes of 10-06-25 CCM.