

THE 2026-2027 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:04 P.M. BY MAYOR MARCHESE. THE PUBLIC HEARING ADJOURNED AT 7:05 P.M.

A WORK SESSION WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:05 P.M. BY MAYOR MARCHESE FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING ITEMS ON THE APRIL 6, 2026 AGENDA WITH THE CITY COUNCIL. THE WORK SESSION ADJOURNED AT 7:25 P.M.

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting**

**of the City Council of the**

**CITY OF DARIEN**

**APRIL 6, 2026**

**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

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

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

There were none.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Administrative/Finance Committee-of-the-Whole – February 18, 2026

It was moved by Alderman Kenny and seconded by Alderman Schauer to approve the minutes of the Administrative/Finance Committee-of-the-Whole of February 18, 2026

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

**MOTION DULY CARRIED**

B. Administrative/Finance Committee-of-the-Whole – February 25, 2026

It was moved by Alderman Schauer and seconded by Alderman Belczak to approve the minutes of the Administrative/Finance Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting of February 25, 2026.

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

Abstain: Kenny, Stompanato

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

**MOTION DULY CARRIED**

Alderman Kenny noted he was not in attendance due to a family emergency.

C. City Council Meeting – March 2, 2026

It was moved by Alderwoman Sullivan and seconded by Alderman Belczak approve the minutes of the City Council Meeting of March 2, 2026.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

**MOTION DULY CARRIED**

7. **RECEIVING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

Alderwoman Sullivan received communication from Kelly Glisan regarding several issues, which included police response calls, stoplights, and busing at Cass District 63; she forwarded concerns to respective parties.

Alderman Kenny read email from resident, Dan Tischler, expressing appreciation for the care and attention given to our community by the City of Darien. He stated, “We are not just fortunate to live in a nice place, but in a GREAT place to live and raise a family!”

8. **MAYORS REPORT**

**A. RECOGNITION – HEART OF DARIEN AWARD – DR. CHRISTOPHER REILLY, ROTARY CLUB OF DARIEN**

Mayor Marchese chose Dr. Reilly as recipient of “Heart of Darien Award” for his dedicated time and effort in making Darien and the world a better place to live. Mayor Marchese highlighted Dr. Reilly’s contributions as a charter member of the Rotary Club of Darien, which included helping to create Rotary’s Grant-in-Aid Program and being instrumental with Food for Kids supplemental nutrition program and Dictionary Program. He also led projects helping senior citizens and supporting the Darien Historical Society. As a Rotarian, Dr. Reilly served in many leadership roles, most notably, representing the Rotary as Governor for District 6450 and currently serving as Rotary Foundation Chair.

For decades, Dr. Reilly has given part of his heart to our community in making Darien “A Nice Place to Live.” Mayor Marchese honored him with a “Heart of Darien Award.” Due to health reasons, Dr. Reilly attended in spirit; Priti Shah, President, Rotary Club of Darien, was honored to accept the award on his behalf.

**B. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF DARIEN IN SUPPORT OF THE ILLINOIS AMERICA250 COMMEMORATION**

Mayor Marchese read the resolution into record.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. R-04-26                    A MOTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF DARIEN IN SUPPORT OF THE ILLINOIS AMERICA250 COMMEMORATION**

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

                          Nays:            None

                          Absent:           None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

**MOTION DULY CARRIED**

Mayor Marchese encouraged all local organizations to be involved in planning the celebration of America’s 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

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 MONTHLY REPORT – ANNUAL REPORT 2025**

Chief Thomas presented 2025 Annual Report and highlighted the following topics: Crime, Crashes, Concerns, Partnerships, Community Engagement, and Investments.

Chief Thomas spoke of the March 26 incident on the 1000 block of Janet Avenue involving a subject experiencing a mental health crisis. He commented on communication channels used for community alerts, law enforcement response/procedures and information dissemination restrictions.

Chief Thomas addressed Council question regarding new officers.

**B. MUNICIPAL SERVICES – NO REPORT**

Director Gombac commented that owner of 9sting, proposed billiard facility at Chestnut Court, inquired about an economic incentive. Information will be sent to Council.

Director Gombac addressed Council inquiries regarding streetlight at the corner of Hinswood Drive & Frontage Road, Walmart EV Charging Station, refuse in wetland area, condominiums on Plainfield Road and IDOT I55/Cass Avenue ramp closures. Alderwoman Sullivan read IDOT notification regarding I55.

Alderwoman Sullivan thanked Director Gombac for contacting Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. regarding communication/postcards sent to residents about Tara Hill North Basin Control Burn. Director Gombac commented on logistics of control-led burn.

Mayor Marchese inquired about tree removal and backyard work along Plainfield Road between Cass & Linden Avenues. Director Gombac stated ComEd is removing trees in order to relocated utility poles. He provided an update on the Plainfield Road Wall Project.

12. **TREASURER’S REPORT**

**A. WARRANT NUMBER 25-26-22**

It was moved by Alderman Belczak and seconded by Alderman Stompanato to approve payment of Warrant Number 25-26-22 in the amount of \$669,754.99 from the enumerated funds, and \$360,568.45 from payroll funds for the period ending 03/05/26 for a total to be approved of \$1,030,323.44.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

**MOTION DULY CARRIED**

**B. WARRANT NUMBER 25-26-23**

It was moved by Alderwoman Sullivan and seconded by Alderman Schauer to approve payment of Warrant Number 25-26-23 in the amount of \$206,559.82 from the enumerated funds, and \$676,640.43 from payroll funds for the periods ending 03/19/26 and 04/02/26 for a total to be approved of \$883,200.25.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

**MOTION DULY CARRIED**

**C. MONTHLY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2026**

Treasurer Coren reviewed year-to-date sources of revenue, expenditures, and fund balances through the month of February 2026.

General Fund: Revenue \$17,847,268; Expenditures \$13,971,213; Current Balance \$7,976,042

Water & Water Depreciation Funds: Revenue \$7,302,295; Expenditures \$7,212,270 Current Balance \$3,300,092

Motor Fuel Tax Fund: Revenue \$793,854; Expenditures \$610,955; Current Balance \$782,856

Capital Improvement Fund: Revenue \$837,257; Expenditures \$2,881,485; Current Balance \$21,425,701

13. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Administrative/Finance Committee** – Chairwoman Sullivan announced the Administrative/Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.

**Municipal Services Committee** – Chairman Belczak announced the Municipal Services Committee meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.

**Police Committee** – Chairman Kenny announced the Police Committee meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. in the Police Department Training Room.

14. **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS – AGENDA RELATED**

There were none.

15. **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business.

16. **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**A. MOTION NO. M-41-26**

**A MOTION TO APPROVE:**

**•THE ANNUAL FOURTH OF JULY PARADE ON SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2026, BEGINNING AT 9:30 A.M., SPONSORED BY THE DARIEN LIONS CLUB AND**

**•AUTHORIZING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ASSIST IN TRAFFIC CONTROL AND AUTHORIZING THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF STREETS FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY PARADE: FROM THE JEWEL PARKING LOT, NORTH ON CASS AVENUE TO 71ST STREET; EAST ON 71ST STREET TO CLARENDON HILLS ROAD; SOUTH ON CLARENDON HILLS ROAD TO HINSDALE SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL**

**B. MOTION NO. M-42-26**

**A MOTION TO GRANT A WAIVER OF THE RAFFLE LICENSE BOND REQUIREMENT FOR THE WEST SUBURBAN SYMPHONY SOCIETY**

**C. MOTION NO. M-43-26**

**A MOTION TO ACCEPT A PROPOSAL FROM STEVE PIPER AND SONS, INC., FOR TUB**

**GRINDING SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$6,500.00**

- D. RESOLUTION NO. R-05-26**      **A RESOLUTION FOR MAINTENANCE UNDER THE ILLINOIS HIGHWAY CODE (FY 2026/27 GENERAL MAINTENANCE)**
- E. RESOLUTION NO. R-06-26**      **A RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE CITY OF DARIEN TO PERFORM MAINTENANCE AND EMERGENCY WORK ON CITY OWNED INFRASTRUCTURE ON STATE OF ILLINOIS HIGHWAY SYSTEM, FOR A PERIOD MAY 1, 2026 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2028**
- F. MOTION NO. M-44-26**      **A MOTION TO ACCEPT A PROPOSAL FROM GARLAND/DBS, INC., SERVICES RELATED TO THE INTERIOR WALL, ROOF PURLINS, ROOF AND GUTTER UPGRADES OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES SALT SHED, 1041 S FRONTAGE ROAD, INCLUDING MATERIALS AND RELATED SERVICES FOR THE REPAIRS AND UPGRADES OF SPECIFIED WORK IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$295,763.00**
- G. MOTION NO. M-45-26**      **A MOTION TO APPROVE A DEDICATED PLAT OF EASEMENT AT CHESTNUT COURT PLAZA FOR AN ELECTRICAL SERVICE TO PROVIDE POWER FOR LOW-VOLTAGE LIGHTING AT THE CITY'S GATEWAY SIGN, LOCATED WITHIN THE SOUTHERN RIGHT-OF-WAY EAST OF LEMONT ROAD, ON PROPERTY OWNED BY CHESTNUT COURT DARIEN IL LLC (PIN NO. 09-29-300-008)**
- H. MOTION NO. M-46-26**      **A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CHESTNUT COURT DARIEN IL LLC RELATED TO PROVIDING ELECTRICAL SERVICE FOR THE LOW-VOLTAGE LIGHTING AT THE CITY'S GATEWAY SIGN, LOCATED WITHIN THE SOUTHERN RIGHT-OF-WAY EAST OF LEMONT ROAD**
- I. ORDINANCE NO. O-10-26**      **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE SUBURBAN TREE CONSORTIUM (MEMBERSHIP - EXHIBIT A)**

**J. MOTION NO. M-47-26**

**A MOTION TO ACCEPT A PROPOSAL FROM BELMONT DIGITAL LLC TO REMOVE DAMAGED COMPONENTS AND REPLACE THE MARQUEE PANEL, DATA BOX CONTROLS, LIMITED WELDING METAL FABRICATION AND THE ILLUMINATED SIGN PANEL FOR THE MARQUEE SITE ON THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF PLAINFIELD RD. AND CASS AVE. 7702 CASS AVE. AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$34,950.00**

**K. MOTION NO. M-48-26**

**A MOTION TO ACCEPT A PROPOSAL FROM TERRAIN LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS TO REMOVE DAMAGED COMPONENTS AND REPLACE THE LANDSCAPE LIGHTING CONTROLLER, LOW VOLTAGE LIGHTING, LIMITED RETAINING WALL RESET, LANDSCAPE PLANTINGS AND MULCH AT THE MARQUEE SITE ON THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF PLAINFIELD RD. AND CASS AVE. 7702 CASS AVE. AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$9,743.00**

**L. MOTION NO. M-49-26**

**A MOTION TO APPROVE ELECTRICAL SERVICES FROM RAGS ELECTRIC, INC. AS RELATED TO THE ELECTRIC PANEL CIRCUITRY, RE-WIRING AND CONDUIT REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT AT THE MATERIAL AND HOURLY UNIT PRICES IN AN ESTIMATED AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000 AT THE MARQUEE SITE ON THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF PLAINFIELD RD. AND CASS AVE. 7702 CASS AVE. UNIT COSTS ON FILE UNDER R-13-25 RAG'S ELECTRIC STREET LIGHT MAINTENANCE**

**M. MOTION NO. M-50-26**

**A MOTION TO APPROVE A CONTINGENCY FOR UNFORESEEN DAMAGES TO UNDERGROUND, AND STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS, WATER THAT MAY REQUIRE REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$5,000.00 AT THE MARQUEE SITE ON THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF PLAINFIELD RD. AND CASS AVE. 7702 CASS AVE**

**N. ORDINANCE NO. O-11-26**      **AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A MINOR PUD AMENDMENT AND FINAL PLAT OF SUBDIVISION (PZC-26-3: HOME DEPOT LOT SPLIT, 2101 W 75<sup>TH</sup> STREET)**

**O. ORDINANCE NO. O-12-26**      **AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIAL USE FOR AN AMUSEMENT USE (BILLIARDS) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DARIEN ZONING ORDINANCE (PZC-26-2: DARICK AMMONS, 7511 LEMONT ROAD)**

Roll Call:      Ayes:      Belczak, Gustafson, Kenny, 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 2026-2027 BUDGET**

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

**ORDINANCE NO. O-13-26**      **AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE 2026-2027 BUDGET**

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

                         Nays:      None

                         Absent:      None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

**MOTION DULY CARRIED**



19. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

**VIA VOICE VOTE – MOTION DULY CARRIED**

The City Council meeting adjourned at 8:59 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 04-06-26. Minutes of 04-06-26 CCM.