

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION
CITY COUNCIL OF CREST HILL
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
March 22, 2021

The March 22, 2021 City Council work session was called to order by Mayor Raymond R. Soliman at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 1610 Plainfield Road Crest Hill, Will County, Illinois.

The following Council members were present: Mayor Raymond Soliman, City Clerk Vicki Hackney, City Treasurer Glen Conklin, Alderman Scott Dyke, Alderman John Vershay, Alderwoman Barbara Sklare, Alderwoman Claudia Gazal, Alderwoman Tina Oberlin, Alderman Marco Coladipietro, Alderman Nate Albert, Alderman Joe Kubal.

Also present were: City Administrator Heather McGuire, Interim Director of Public Works Mark Siefert, Police Chief Ed Clark, Finance Supervisor Ashli Motyka, Finance Advisor Nick Narducci, City Engineer Ron Wiedeman, Mechanic Brian Semplinski, Interim Planner Maura Rigoni.

Absent were:

TOPIC: Small Business Grants.

Mayor Soliman presented the Small Business Grant-Round 2 request per the memo dated March 22, 2021. Interim Planner Rigoni gave a presentation to the Council on the background of the program. She went over the applications that we received. Administrator McGuire explained that we have enough funds from the CARES Act to award these businesses the same amount that we did the original applicants. Members of the Council felt that these businesses should be awarded the same amount. Alderman Coladipietro asked if any of the businesses indicated that they were going to close.

Mayor Soliman asked for an informal vote on the Small Business Grants in the amount of \$5,000.00 per business who have applied. All members present were in agreement. Administrator McGuire would prepare a resolution for the next Council meeting.

TOPIC: City Center VMS Security Presentation.

Mayor Soliman announced the City Center VMS Security Presentation. Financial Advisor Nick Narducci gave a presentation on the proposed security system for the new City Center. They are still within budget for the new center. The construction is roughly 6 weeks behind. We are still anticipating a late fall occupancy. He thanked everyone who has been involved with the building process. Advisor Narducci gave a presentation on the financial aspect of the security system which included a video presentation. Advisor Narducci explained the Opensource Software and the proprietary aspect of it. Sgt. Opiola explained what the Police Department would require in the new facility. He thanked the Council for approving the new Police Department and explained how cameras and technology help with solving crimes and storing data. Alderwoman Oberlin asked if there is a limit as to how many cameras can be put into this system and does it have the capability to view bodycams. Sgt. Opiola explained how the system works. Alderwoman Oberlin felt that this system would be a benefit to the City. Sgt. Opiola explained that they have viewed this system at another department and was impressed with what they saw. Alderman Vershay asked if someone would have to monitor the cameras. They would not. It could be tapped into at any time. The goal is to create a security blanket for the City if we need to. Alderwoman Oberlin asked what the retention time was. Alderwoman Gazal asked if

this system would allow the Police to see what is going on at a school in case of an emergency. Alderwoman Gazal felt that this system is something that is needed for the City. Alderman Vershay asked if the cameras would be fixed or could they rotate. Sgt. Opiola explained that we would have both. Officer Ryan Dobczyk, who is the evidence custodian addressed the Council in regard to chain of custody and what happens when it is broken. There is an organization called International Association of Property and Evidence Incorporated. They provide information on how evidence is collected and stored. In the new Police Department, we will have a room for high profile evidence with enhanced security via cameras. With this proposed system we have the ability to upgrade it in the future. Officer Dobczyk thanked the Council for their consideration of the camera system. Deputy Chief Hertzmann addressed the Council. He explained that one of his responsibility's is video evidence. He went over the system that we currently have in place. He gave a video presentation on what our current system can do. When the system was purchased it was state of the art. The new cameras can adjust for daylight and nighttime lighting. He also went over how the new system would enhance security. Deputy Chief Hertzmann explained that he has had roughly 190 requests for video evidence. Our current system is nearing capacity. He then gave a presentation on the software for the camera system. Deputy Chief Hertzmann then showed the Council footage from the system that is being proposed from the new City Center. He gave a video presentation on the equipment. With this system we will no longer be using keys. We would be using a key card that the City would have control over. Deputy Chief Hertzmann thanked the Council for their support. Police Chief Ed Clark summarized the request for the City Center VMS Security. With the new City Center, we have a responsibility to make our staff and residents safe. One of the goals the Chief has is to get the City accredited. This system will also provide safety for the schools and City events. Chief Clark thanked the Council for their continued support of the Police Department. Financial Advisor Narducci explained that this proposal is within our budget. The only thing that is being requested tonight is to waive the bidding process and accept the proposal that was presented. Alderman Vershay asked what the turnaround time is if a camera goes down. Alderman Dyke asked if the system notifies you when a camera goes down. This company has one of the lowest failure rates in the companies that were reviewed. Alderman Albert was happy that we are being proactive with this proposed system. Members of the Council commended the Police Department on the presentation. Mayor Soliman gave a brief speech on the proposed system and the City Center.

Mayor Soliman asked for an informal vote on the City Center VMS Security waiver of bids. All members present were in agreement.

TOPIC: Budget Work Session #1

Mayor Soliman presented the Budget Work Session #1. Administrator McGuire gave a brief presentation on the budget. Finance Supervisor Ashli Motyka asked City Engineer Ron Wiedeman to go over the MFT Projects for 2021/2022. Engineer Wiedeman went over the MFT program which includes snow/ice maintenance, the retro-reflective sign program, pavement markings, sidewalk/concrete program, 2021, roadway crack control, bridge inspection, Public Works facility salt and brine storage, and the Illinois Rebuild program. The MFT General Maintenance total is \$1,508,730. The Illinois Rebuild Funds Total is \$1,967,250.00. Supervisor Motyka went over the specifics of the budget in detail including the MFT fund, non-home rule fund. The capital replacement purchases include squad cars and non-patrol vehicles. The water/sewer capital fund and capital projects includes various projects including the Well's, West Plant Design and watermain replacement and the new City Center. The West plant rehab fund is a new fund. This was created to keep track of the expenses for the project. As far as the TIF funds, these are still

being worked on and established. Supervisor Motyka then presented the City of Crest Hill overall debt services summary. The water/sewer debt included the bond issues. The general fund debt also included GO bonds, principal, and interest. The next items were the additional garbage surplus, and refuse. Supervisor Motyka suggested maintaining the \$25,000.00 surplus in the account. Administrator McGuire explained that this would help cover the costs of storm clean up etc. The recommendation is for an additional .37 cents on each bill to go towards the surplus account.

Mayor Soliman asked for an informal vote on the addition of .37 cents per bill to go towards the surplus account. All members present were in agreement. Administrator McGuire informed the Council that even with the .37 cent increase we are still at a lower rate than some of the surrounding municipalities. Discussion followed on the services that are being offered and the customer service. Alderwoman Gazal asked that we get more information out to the residents when the increase takes effect.

Supervisor Motyka presented the Police pension fund for discussion. Administrator McGuire explained that we put funds in a separate account because we do not know what the State is doing with their contribution fund yet. Discussion followed on the contribution account. The final discussion was on the Police special asset account. This includes the proposal to purchase a drug incinerator. We are currently taking the items to Will County to be incinerated. Alderwoman Oberlin asked if this could be used to incinerate the medication we get in the collection box. We currently have a service that does this but can look into doing it in house. There are many times that the box is full. Administrator McGuire would talk to the Chief about giving a presentation to the Council.

TOPIC: WRDR Audit Engagement Letter.

Mayor Soliman presented the WRDR Audit Engagement Letter dated March 2, 2021. This would be a one year agreement for 2021. After the election, we can look into a three year contract that would coincide with the Mayor's term. We can also go out to bid in 2022 to see if there is a better price. Treasurer Conklin thought that would be a good move on the City's part. The Mayor announced that Dave Meyer from the firm has retired.

Mayor Soliman asked for an informal vote on the WRDR Audit Engagement Letter for a one year extension for 2021. All members present were in agreement.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

MAYORS UPDATES: Mayor Soliman announced that we received \$20,452.00 in video gaming funds for February of 2021. He went over the top gaming facilities in the City.

Mayor Soliman informed the Council that if they have any questions regarding the letter that was in the packet to please give him a call.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON UPDATES: There were no committee/liaison committee updates.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES: City Administrator Heather McGuire informed the Council that she gave them a copy of a resume and engagement letter for a candidate for the Interim Financial Advisor. She went over his background working with other municipalities.


Administrator McGuire informed the Council that the projected move in date for the new City Center is September 30, 2021. We will have some color schemes as far as the flooring for the Council to look through at the next work session for the new Council Chambers. Alderwoman Gazal that the Council also be included in the choices for the paint colors for the new building. Administrator McGuire said that they would. Treasurer Conklin asked that he get a copy of the engagement letter for the job candidate.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Approved this 5th day of April, 2021

As presented ✓

As amended _____


VICKI L. HACKNEY, CITY CLERK


RAYMOND R. SOLIMAN, MAYOR