

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF CREST HILL
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
July 19, 2021

The regular meeting of the City of Crest Hill 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 Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

Roll call indicated the following present: Mayor Raymond Soliman, City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall, City Treasurer Glen Conklin, Alderman Scott Dyke, Alderman John Vershay, Alderwoman Claudia Gazal, Alderman Darrell Jefferson, Alderperson Tina Oberlin, Alderman Mark Cipiti, Alderman Nate Albert, Alderman Joe Kubal.

Also present were: City Administrator Heather McGuire, Police Chief Ed Clark, Director of Public Works Mark Siefert.

Absent were: Engineer Ron Weideman, Interim Planner Maura Rigoni.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the regular meeting held on July 6, 2021 for Council approval.

(#1) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderman Albert, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on July 6, 2021 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(31)

(41) Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the work session held on July 12, 2021 for Council approval.

(#2) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderperson Oberlin, to approve the minutes from the work session held on July 12, 2021 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Vershay, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(46)

(56) Mayor Soliman asked to deviate from the regular agenda for a presentation. Allie Brandolino gave an update on the annual Festa Italiana. This year's events will take place on August 13, 14, 15, 2021. She went over the schedule and events that would take place that weekend. At 11:00 a.m. on Sunday there will be the mass with a parade to follow. Ms. Brandolino questioned the lane closure and additional Police presence. The monthly

spaghetti dinners will begin again in September. Members of the Council wished the American Italian Club good luck on their upcoming event.

(178) Mayor Soliman presented A RESOLUTION HONORING BRADLEY R. HERTZMANN ON HIS RETIREMENT AS DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL POLICE DEPARTMENT. Members of the Council read the resolution.

(#3) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Albert, to approve A RESOLUTION HONORING BRADLEY R. HERTZMANN ON HIS RETIREMENT AS DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL POLICE DEPARTMENT.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution #1115

(287)

(304) Mayor Soliman gave a speech honoring Mr. Hertzmann. Chief Clark gave a brief speech. Brad Hertzmann gave a brief speech. Members of the Council commended Mr. Hertzmann for his years of service to the City.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: (593) City Administrator presented a request for approval of the PFAS Litigation Engagement Letter. Information on this subject has been posted on the City website along with documents from the IEPA. The City is entering into an agreement with several law firms for the purpose of investigating and assessing potential claims arising out of the presence of contaminants in water supply wells. The city would be joining into a lawsuit against several chemical manufacturers for their role in contributing to the contamination of wells here and throughout the country. The IEPA has been conducting studies into the prevalence of PFAS in water distribution systems in 1,749 communities in Illinois. Four of the existing wells in the City have the presence of PFAS in the water supply. Exposure to PFAS does not necessarily mean that a person will get sick, but research continues as to what the effects PFAS has on human health. PFAS is a chemical that is derived from firefighting foams. Cases of PFAS being in the water system have surfaced across the nation. There are currently no federal or state regulatory drinking water standards or required action on the City's part regarding PFAS. The City will work with the IEPA to continue to reduce the risk to the residents. The City is seeking to enter into a nationwide fight to hold the chemical companies accountable for their actions. We are seeking approval from the Council to enter into an agreement with Driscoll Law Firm which is representing more than three states and dozens of other municipalities to pursue legal action against multiple chemical companies including DuPont and 3M. This will not incur any cost to the City or taxpayers. This will be on a contingency basis. This would hold the chemical companies responsible for any contamination they caused and require them to pay to fix the problem.

(#4) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderperson Oberlin, to approve the PFAS Litigation Engagement Letter.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(703)

(713) Alderwoman Gazal thanked Administrator McGuire for providing this information and informing the residents as to what is going on. This is a serious matter. Administrator McGuire explained that as more wells are showing signs of contamination more news reports are going to come out about this matter. Alderperson Oberlin asked that we continue to update the residents on this matter and asked if the wells are continually tested. Director Siefert explained that they are tested on a quarterly basis. Alderperson Oberlin said that this is a very serious matter, and everyone needs to be abreast of the situation. Administrator McGuire said that this is in the early stages, and we are tackling this as quickly as we can. It is going to take some time to figure out what to do to get rid of the contaminants in our water supply. This is not just a local problem but a worldwide problem.

(767) Administrator McGuire presented A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONSULTING SERVICE AGREEMENT (“Brent Hassert Consulting, LLC”). We are seeking approval to use Brent Hassert Consulting to fill some interim based service needs for the City and the position would be for 30 to 40 hours per week.

(#5) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderman Cipiti, to approve A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONSULTING SERVICE AGREEMENT (“Brent Hassert Consulting, LLC”).

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Gazal, Oberlin.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(782)

(798) Mayor Soliman thanked the Council. He wished Administrator McGuire good luck on her new endeavor and thanked her for her time with the City. Mayor Soliman introduced Steve Gulden who will be the Management Consultant during the period of time that we will be searching for an Administrator. Mr. Gulden gave a brief speech. Members of the Council welcomed Mr. Gulden.

(873) Administrator McGuire announced that this would be her last meeting. She thanked the Council, and residents for their support. Administrator McGuire thanked the City staff for their support. She gave a brief speech. Members of the Council thanked Administrator McGuire for her service to the City.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: (1015) Public Works Director Mark Siefert had no agenda items for discussion. Hydrant painting has begun and should take less than a week to complete weather permitting. Concrete work has started, and concrete should be removed this week or early next week. Alderperson Oberlin thanked Director Siefert for addressing the issue with the surface rust. She also thanked the Public Works Department on the tree trimming and the care they took with the trees. Alderman Kubal asked with the subject of the PFAS being addressed, could Director Siefert give a brief presentation on

how the water is currently being tested. Director Siefert gave a presentation on how the water is tested.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT: (1117) There were no agenda items for discussion. The reports were on file.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: (1122) Police Chief Ed Clark had no agenda items for discussion. The reports were on file.

MAYOR: (1134) Mayor Raymond Soliman presented a request for the waiving of the Three Day Liquor License from the American Italian Cultural Society for the Festa to take place on August 13, 14, 15, 2021 per the memo dated June 30, 2021. This was discussed at a previous work session.

(#6) Motion by Alderman Cipiti, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to approve the request for the waiving of the Three Day Liquor License from the American Italian Cultural Society for the annual Festa to take place on August 13, 14, 15, 2021 per the memo dated June 30, 2021.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

ABSTAIN: Ald. Albert.

There being six (6) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(1149)

(1163) Mayor Soliman presented a request for the approval of the waiving of the sign permit fees from the American Italian Cultural Society for the annual Festa to take place on August 13, 14, 15, 2021 per the memo dated June 30, 2021.

(#7) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Cipiti, to approve the waiving of the sign permit fees from the American Italian Cultural Society for the Festa to take place on August 13, 14, 15, 2021 per the memo dated June 30, 2021.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

ABSTAIN: Ald. Albert.

There being six (6) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(1169)

(1184) Mayor Raymond Soliman presented a request from the American Italian Cultural Society for the use of the Police Officers and for the road closure for the annual Festa Italiana Parade to be held on Sunday August 15, 2021 at 12:00 noon per the memo dated June 30, 2021.

(#8) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderperson Oberlin, to approve a request from the American Italian Cultural Society for the use of the Police Officers and for the road closure for the annual Festa Italiana Parade to be held on Sunday August 15, 2021 at 12:00 noon per the memo dated June 30, 2021.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

ABSTAIN: Ald. Albert.

There being six (6) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(1198)

(1226) Mayor Soliman presented a request for the appointment of Alderman Nate Albert as the Forest Preserve Liaison per the memo dated June 30, 2021. This was discussed at a previous work session.

(#9) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to approve the appointment of Alderman Nate Albert as the Forest Preserve Liaison per the memo dated June 30, 2021.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Gazal, Oberlin, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

ABSTAIN: Ald. Albert, Cipiti.

There being five (5) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(1235)

(1252) Mayor Soliman presented a request for the appointment of Marco Coladipietro to the Police Pension Board per the application dated July 3, 2021. This was discussed at a previous work session.

(#10) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Albert, to approve the request for the appointment of Marco Coladipietro to the Police Pension Board per the application dated July 3, 2021.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Vershay, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Gazal.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(1277)

(1292) Mayor Soliman presented a request for the approval of the appointment of Kirk Wilkins as Building Commissioner effective July 20, 2021 per the memo dated July 14, 2021. This was discussed at a previous work session.

(#11) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderman Albert, to approve the appointment of Kirk Wilkins as Building Commissioner effective July 20, 2021 per the memo dated July 14, 2021.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Gazal.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(1305)

(1317) Mayor Soliman presented A PROCLAMATION COMMEMORATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CARILLON LAKES COMMUNITY IN THE CITY OF CREST HILL. Members of the Council read the proclamation.

(#12) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve A PROCLAMATION COMMEMORATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CARILLON LAKES COMMUNITY IN THE CITY OF CREST HILL.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Oberlin, Gazal.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(1428)

(1451) Mayor Soliman gave a brief speech. Members of the Council commended Carillon Lakes on their 20th anniversary.

CITY CLERK: (1517) City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall had no agenda items for discussion. On behalf of the Clerk's Office Clerk Vershay-Hall extended best wishes to Administrator McGuire on her future endeavors.

CITY TREASURER: (1527) City Treasurer Glen Conklin presented the regular and overtime payroll from June 21, 2021 to July 4, 2021 in the amount of \$213,803.56.

(1539) Treasurer Conklin presented the list of bills in the amount of \$1,154,939.51 for Council approval.

(#13) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Dyke, to approve the list of bills in the amount of \$1,154,939.51.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(1545)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (1567) There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS: (1571) There was no new business.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS: (1573) There were no committee/liaison reports.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: (1577) Alderman Vershay congratulated Brad Hertzmann on his retirement. He also congratulated Carillon Lakes on their anniversary. Alderwoman Gazal announced the meet and greet in the park will be on August 4th at the Borio Park in the Fields in Longmeadow. Alderperson Oberlin congratulated Brad Hertzmann on his retirement and best wishes to Administrator McGuire on her future endeavor. Alderman Albert announced that the Crest Hill Lions Club will be hosting their annual picnic on September 5, 2021 at St. Joes Park. Alderman Albert thanked Administrator McGuire and

wished her best of luck for the future. Alderman Kubal announced that on July 29th there will be a benefit at Keglers on Theodore Street to help out a young man in need. He also thanked Administrator McGuire for all of her work with the City.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (1700) There were no citizens wishing to address the Council.

There being no further business before the Council, a motion for adjournment was in order.

(#14) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to adjourn the July 19, 2021 City Council meeting.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.
(1708)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Approved this 2nd day of August, 2021

As presented ✓

As amended _____


CHRISTINE VESHAY HALL, CITY CLERK


RAYMOND R. SOLIMAN, MAYOR