

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION
CITY COUNCIL OF CREST HILL
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
July 27, 2020

The July 27, 2020 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: Assistant City Administrator/HR Director Megan Fulara, Police Chief Ed Clark, Public, Finance Advisor Nick Narducci.

Absent were: City Administrator Heather McGuire, Community Development Director Scott McMaster, Director of Water/Wastewater Mark Siefert, Works Director Tom Migatz, Finance Supervisor Ashli Motyka.

TOPIC: Plan Commission Recommendation

Mayor Soliman presented a request for the Plan Commission Recommendation for the appointment of two members to the Commission to replace Bill O'Connor and Joe Casagrande submitted their resignations to the Mayor. The Mayor is seeking concurrence from the Council for the appointment of Angelo Deserio and Paula Skiotes to the Commission after contacting them regarding their interest in serving the community. Both submitted applications and resumes. Mr. Deserio and Ms. Skiotes each gave a brief presentation to the Council. The Mayor explained that the 1-year term would be filled by Ms. Skiotes and the three term would be filled by Mr. Deserio.

Mayor Soliman asked for an informal vote on the Plan Commission Recommendation (appointment of Paula Skiotes for a one-year term). All members present were in agreement.

Mayor Soliman asked for an informal vote on the Plan Commission Recommendation (appointment of Angelo Deserio for a three-year term). All members present were in agreement.

Alderwoman Oberlin expressed concern over the email that was not received from Joe Casagrande regarding his resignation that was previously provided. If it did not bounce back to the recipient, could there be others we are not receiving. The Mayor explained that we did experience some problems with the computers that were issued to the employees during quarantine.

TOPIC: Elevators for City Center

Mayor Soliman presented a request for the City Center Elevators per the memo dated July 27, 2020. Nick Narducci informed the Council that there is a request for the review, the waiver of bidding and awarding of a sub-contract for the City Center elevators. Various companies were notified of the bid. The only company that responded was Kone Corporation in the amount of \$245,000.00. This would be a savings of \$91,000.00 from the estimated price. Mr. Narducci is requesting that the contract be awarded to Kone

Corporation. Discussion followed on the building schedule. Alderwoman Oberlin asked if we are installing one or two elevators. We would be installing two. Alderman Coladipietro explained that they have been dealing with an elevator company at his place of employment and encouraged the City to keep on the company once the construction starts.

Mayor Soliman asked for an informal vote on the Elevators for City Center (Kone Corporation). All members present were in agreement.

TOPIC: Fingerprinting

Mayor Soliman presented the Fingerprinting fees per the memo dated July 16, 2020. Chief Clark informed the Council that we have seen an increase in requests for fingerprinting services. The Chief asked the Council if they would like to discontinue the service or raise the fee for non-residents. Chief Clark surveyed surrounding communities to see what they charge. Discussion followed on the fee. Alderwoman Oberlin suggested \$15.00 for residents and \$30.00 for non-residents. Clerk Hackney reminded the Council that we ran into a similar problem with notary services. We had to limit it to residents only. The Council decided on \$15.00 for residents and \$30.00 for non-residents.

Mayor Soliman asked for an informal vote on the Fingerprinting. All members present were in agreement.

TOPIC: Fireworks Update

Mayor Soliman presented discussion on fireworks per the request of Alderwoman Gazal. She explained that in the past we agreed to increase the fee for the ticket and we only issued 2 tickets this year. She was told that an Officer said he would not issue tickets and if necessary, would only issue a warning. Another comment was about her calls being from a third party and not actually witnessing the event personally. Alderwoman Gazal said that she also called to file a Police report due to the condition that a street was left in. When the Officers arrived, she was told the system was down and she would get a report. As of today, she still does not have one. Her concern with fireworks is dry conditions and fires, Veterans who are affected by the noise, the elderly, and pets. Chief Clark informed the Council that he did have a conversation with the Officers. Alderman Albert asked if you have to catch the resident shooting the fireworks off. The Chief explained that you can be ticketed for possession. Alderman Albert felt that there were more fireworks this year, and they continued after the 4th of July holiday. Alderman Vershay felt that it is hard to catch people shooting fireworks off. Discussion followed on the confiscation of fireworks and the ticket which was \$150.00. Alderman Coladipietro asked if we had ever considered auxiliary Policing. Chief Clark felt that you could possibly run into more problems. Alderman Albert said he is more concerned with the fireworks activity leading up to the holiday and the time frame afterwards.

Mayor Soliman asked for an informal vote. All members present were in agreement.

TOPIC: 12 Handles Update

Mayor Soliman updated the Council on 12 Handles. The business changed owners in 2015. We have had very few incidents over the last five years. The current owners are actively trying to sell the business. The Mayor met with two gentlemen who were interested in the business. Neither one had any background in a business involving alcohol. They applied for a liquor license and were fingerprinted, but we have not gotten anything back on it. The current owners were given the option of having outdoor seating and then to re-open when it was allowable but chose not to do so. They currently have

someone else that is interested in the business. The applicant has background in the restaurant business. A new application and fingerprinting were done, and we are awaiting those results. The current owners have agreed to let the applicant be the manager of the business until all of the approval comes through. This would be for a three-month period of time. There are still some issues that need to be worked out with the license and the lease for the property. Discussion followed on the proposed hours of operation and type of food that would be served.

TOPIC: Temporary Outdoor Dining Permissions for Liquor License Holders

Mayor Soliman informed the Council that bars and taverns have been allowed to open back up with indoor seating. Six establishments in the City had temporary outdoor seating and were allowed to have music. We have not had any complaints on any of the establishments. The Mayor suggested extending the outdoor seating until September 7, 2020. If we do not encounter any problems, then it could be extended. Alderman Kubal asked if this is something that could be extended into next summer. This was only intended to help during the pandemic and the majority of the businesses are using their parking lots or sidewalk area for the seating.

TOPIC: Solar Panel Regulations

Mayor Soliman presented discussion on Solar Panel Regulations per the request of Alderman Albert. Alderman Albert explained that he spoke with the Building Department regarding regulations for solar panels on roofs. As long as they are flush, they are acceptable. There is no restriction on where they can be placed on the roof. There are a lot of companies that are putting these panels on homes. Alderman Albert does not like the way these panels look on the homes. He explained that some of the other municipalities are not allowing the panels on the front of the homes. Alderwoman Gazal informed the Council that you cannot stop them from putting the panels on a home but can regulate where they go. This is something that one of the HOA's is doing. The Mayor said that we currently have an ordinance that allows the panels, but you have to have an inspection done on them. Discussion followed on how solar panels generate electric. If we can't restrict where the panels go, can we restrict how much of the roof is covered by the panels. Assistant Administrator/HR Director Fulara said that this is something we can do further research on and then update the Council on the findings. Alderman Vershay said that you have to make sure you face the panels where they get the most amount of sunlight and they have to be black to absorb the energy.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

MAYORS UPDATES: Mayor Soliman presented the additional tag days that were requested by the food pantry. This would be open to any organization that would request additional days. Alderman Albert doesn't think we are going to get an influx of organizations requesting additional days. Alderwoman Oberlin said that there are people tagging at the six-corner intersection where it is not allowed on a regular basis.

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

CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES: There were no City Administrator updates.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Approved this 3rd day of August, 2020

As presented ✓
As amended _____

Vicki L. Hackney

VICKI L. HACKNEY, CITY CLERK

Raymond R. Soliman

RAYMOND R. SOLIMAN, MAYOR