

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF CREST HILL
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
September 8, 2020

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.

Mayor Soliman asked that everyone remain standing for a moment of silence to honor Bette Randich the wife of former Mayor Donald Randich who recently passed away.

Roll call indicated the following 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 Nate Albert, Alderman Joe Kubal.

Also present were: City Administrator Heather McGuire, Deputy Police Chief Brad Hertzman, Community Development Director Scott McMaster, Director of Water/Wastewater Mark Siefert.

Absent were: Alderman Marco Coladipietro, Assistant City Administrator/HR Director Megan Fulara, Deputy City Clerk Janet Serdar, Police Chief Ed Clark, Finance Supervisor Ashli Motyka.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the regular meeting held on August 17, 2020 for Council approval.

(#1) Motion by Alderwoman Sklare, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on August 17, 2020 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

(72)

(84) Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the work session held on August 24, 2020 for Council approval.

(#2) Moton by Alderwoman Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Sklare, to approve the minutes from the work session held on August 24, 2020 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

(88)

(101) Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the work session held on August 31, 2020 for Council approval.

(#3) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderman Dyke, to approve the minutes from the work session held on August 31, 2020 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

(105)

(115) Mayor Soliman asked to deviate from the regular agenda for the reading of the proclamation for Constitution Week. Three members of the DAR were in attendance. The Council members from Ward III and IV read the proclamation.

(#4) Motion by Alderwoman Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve a proclamation declaring September 17, 2020 through September 23, 2020 as Constitution week.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

(178)

(194) Mayor Soliman presented the proclamation to the DAR members who were present. The DAR representatives gave a brief speech. Members of the Council commended the representatives of DAR.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: (323) City Administrator Heather McGuire presented AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13.04.115 OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL CODE OF ORDINANCES REGARDING EQUITABLE CONNECTION SURCHARGE FOR EXTENSION OF SEWER OR WATER STUBS. This was discussed at a previous work session. Alderman Albert asked if we amended the percentage from 5. % to 2.5% as was discussed. Administrator McGuire explained that it was left at 5%.

(#5) Motion by Alderwoman Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13.04.115 OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL CODE OF ORDINANCES REGARDING EQUITABLE CONNECTION SURCHARGE FOR EXTENSION OF SEWER OR WATER STUBS.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: Ald. Albert.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

ABSTAIN: Ald. Vershay.

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

Ordinance #1846

(354)

(410) Alderwoman Gazal asked if the \$50.00 credits would be up to date for the September billing. Administrator McGuire explained that we are working through the test version to see if we can go live on the system. We should know something by the end of the week. Alderwoman Gazal questioned the discussion on Social Media scheduled for the September 14th work session. Did this company reach out to us and if not, are we paying for this. Administrator McGuire explained it's a professional development presentation for the Council. Alderwoman Gazal would like to see the Council discuss economic development and get an update on what going on in the City. Administrator McGuire explained that she does give the Council an update in her reports. Alderman Dyke asked if we could have a few minutes in executive session to discuss the emails on the properties. Administrator McGuire explained that they are still working on them for future discussion. Alderman Albert questioned the Enterprise property that is on the Plan Commission agenda. Administrator McGuire explained that the case is going to be tabled with no official vote happening right now.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: (549) Director of Water/Wastewater Mark Siefert presented the Hillcrest Watermain/Wilcox Storm Sewer design contract with Christopher Burke Engineering not to exceed \$144,495.00 per the memo dated September 1, 2020. This was discussed at a previous work session.

(#6) Motion by Alderwoman Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Sklare, to approve the Hillcrest Watermain/Wilcox Storm Sewer design contract with Christopher Burke Engineering not to exceed \$144,495.00 per the memo dated September 1, 2020.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

(594)

(617) Director Siefert presented a request for approval of the Christopher Burke MFT Salt Bid contract not to exceed \$2,500.00 per the memo dated September 1, 2020. This was discussed at a previous work session.

(#7) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderman Dyke, to approve the Christopher Burke MFT Salt Bid contract not to exceed \$2,500.00 per the memo dated September 1, 2020.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

(640)

(655) Director Siefert presented the 2020-21 Pretreatment Implementation Proposal with Robinson Engineering not to exceed \$70,000.00 per the memo dated September 1, 2020. This was discussed at a previous work session.

(#8) Motion by Alderwoman Sklare, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve the 2020-21 Pretreatment Implementation Proposal with Robinson Engineering not to exceed \$70,000.00 per the memo dated September 1, 2020.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

(675)

(693) Director Siefert presented the Theodore Street Watermain Lining proposal with Robinson Engineering not to exceed \$26,000.00 per the memo dated September 1, 2020.

(#9) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderman Albert, to approve the Theodore Street Watermain Lining proposal with Robinson Engineering not to exceed \$26,000.00 per the memo dated September 1, 2020.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

(706)

(726) Director Siefert presented the Concrete Sidewalk and Curb Replacement Bid Results per the memo dated September 1, 2020. The low bidder was Davis Concrete. Because this came in under budget Public Works is asking to use the full budgeted amount which would allow us an additional 400LF of curb and gutter patching and 2080 SF of sidewalk patching. Alderman Albert asked if there is an area we have in mind to do the sidewalk patching in. Director Siefert went over the list.

(#10) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to award the Concrete Sidewalk and Curb Replacement bid to Davis Concrete per the memo dated September 1, 2020 and to use the full budgeted amount which would allow us an additional 400LF of curb and gutter patching and 2080 SF of sidewalk patching.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Sklare, Gaza, Oberlin, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

(761)

(799) Director Siefert informed the Council that the work on Jasmine Creek has been completed. We have gotten approval from the Will County Stormwater group to be reimbursed for the project. Alderman Dyke questioned the state of the retention pond for the property located next to our building. Director Siefert would look into it and get an update for the Council. Alderman Dyke explained that as far as the Kelly Avenue project, the contractor was out at 3:00 a.m. doing work on the pavement with no notification to the residents. Director Siefert explained that this situation has been addressed with the contractor.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT: (899) Community Development Director Scott McMaster had no agenda items for discussion. Alderwoman Gazal questioned the new restaurant set to open. Director McMaster did not have an opening date for the business. They are currently working on the interior.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: (924) Deputy Police Chief Brad Hertzman had no agenda items for discussion. Alderman Dyke asked how many Community Service Officers do we have. We have two. Alderman Dyke explained that there is a vehicle on Raynor Avenue that has been sitting all summer with no engine and plates on it. Deputy Chief Hertzman would turn it in.

MAYOR: (980) Mayor Soliman presented a proclamation for National Rail Safety Week. Council members from Ward I and Ward II read the proclamation.

(#11) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to approve the proclamation designating September 21, 2020 through September 27, 2020 as National Rail Safety Week.

On roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: Ald. Sklare, Gazal, Oberlin, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

(1075)

(1096) Mayor Soliman informed the Council that he accepted a letter of resignation from Tom Migatz on August 20, 2020.

(1103) Mayor Soliman presented a request for the appointment of Anthony Halaska as Interim Director Water/Wastewater at \$30.00 per hour not to exceed 29 hours per week effective Monday August 31, 2020 per the memo dated September 1, 2020. This was discussed at the August 24, 2020 work session. Alderwoman Sklare asked if this position was interim only and it was. The Mayor said that it would be roughly 3 to 6 months.

(#12) Motion by Alderman Vershay, seconded by Alderman Dyke, to appoint Anthony Halaska as Interim Director Water/Wastewater at \$30.00 per hour not to exceed 29 hours per week effective Monday August 31, 2020 per the memo dated September 1, 2020.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Sklare, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay.

NAYES: Ald. Oberlin, Gazal.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

(1129)

(1163) Mayor Soliman presented a request for the appointment of Mark Siefert as Interim Public Works Director effective August 21, 2020 at a salary of \$110,000.00 per the memo dated September 1, 2020. This was discussed on August 17, 2020. Alderwoman Gazal explained she has nothing against Director Siefert but is concerned that if he does not work out in the position, he is going to lose his job. The Mayor explained that anything pertaining to the interim position was discussed in an executive session. Discussion followed. This position would be for roughly 3 to 6 months. Alderwoman

Sklare agrees that we are pulling Director Siefert from a job that he is qualified for. After the interim period and the Director goes back to Water/Wastewater will the salary be re-adjusted. The Mayor explained that this will be discussed at a later date once the search for a Public Works Director is complete. Alderwoman Sklare wants to make sure that this salary is only for the interim position and that future duties and pay are discussed once the vacant position is filled. Discussion followed on the position of Director of City Services, Public Works, and Water/Wastewater.

(#13) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderman Kubal, to approve the request for the appointment of Mark Siefert as Interim Public Works Director effective August 18, 2020 at a salary of \$110,000.00 retroactive to August 21, 2020 per the memo dated September 1, 2020.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Dyke, Sklare, Albert, Kubal.

NAYES: Ald. Vershay, Gazal, Oberlin.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

There being four (4) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(1820)

(1825) Alderman Vershay felt that the Public Works Foreman should be in charge of Public Works since he has more knowledge of the job. Alderwoman Sklare asked to verify that the salary is only for the interim position. Once someone is hired permanently for the position, then we will revisit salaries for the other positions at a later date. Alderman Albert said he made his motion based on the memo dated September 1, 2020 that was in the packet. Alderwoman Oberlin said that Director Siefert is a good employee. She does not want to see him set up for any type of failure. He should remain in the position that he currently is in.

(1987) Mayor Soliman reminded the residents that if you have not filled out the Census, enumerators will be going door to door to help residents with the forms.

CITY CLERK: (2009) City Clerk Vicki Hackney had no agenda items for discussion.

(2015) Clerk Hackney reminded the residents that the petition packets for the upcoming April election will be available starting Tuesday September 22, 2020 at the Clerk's Office. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Petitions must be filed between December 14, 2020 and December 21, 2020. Residents will be voting on the positions of Mayor, Clerk, Treasurer and one Council member from each of the four Wards.

CITY TREASURER: (2072) City Treasurer Glen Conklin presented the regular and overtime payroll from August 3, 2020 to August 16, 2020 in the amount of \$224,607.37. Treasurer Conklin presented the regular and overtime payroll from August 17, 2020 to August 30, 2020 in the amount of \$218,615.07.

(2092) Treasurer Conklin presented the list of bills in the amount of \$1,928,128.54 for Council approval.

(#14) Motion by Alderwoman Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Albert, to approve the list of bills in the amount of \$1,928,128.54 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

(2102)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (2125) There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS: (2128) Alderman Dyke asked to have an item added to a work session regarding signage for the Police Department. Administrator McGuire explained that we have a safety grant, and this could possibly fall under that category.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS: (2164) There were no committee/liaison reports

COUNCIL COMMENTS: (2168) Alderman Albert reminded the residents to contact the Police if they see any suspicious activity in their area. Alderman Albert announced that garbage pickup would be a day late due to the Labor Day holiday.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (2211) Steve Kemnetz from Kelly Avenue informed the Council that there is an issue with residents connecting to the storm sewer due to a neighbor not signing the necessary paperwork. Mr. Kemnetz asked if he could access the storm sewer by going down the side of his property. Mayor Soliman informed the Council that the lines were put in back the 1950's. The new lines would run down what was known as the alley in this area. There is one property owner who will not sign the consent to allow the lines to be put in. Director Siefert explained that there are 19 houses. The original 5 houses that were built had a signed agreement that the City would not be allowed to run a pipe through the area. The remaining 14 owners gave the City permission to place the pipes in the alley. We have signatures of the four of the five owners. Alderman Vershay asked if we could just put the pipe on the west side of the alley. Director Siefert explained that the 19 property owners have equal ownership in each shared foot of the alley. The necessary pipe is in the ground going from Ludwig. The Mayor suggested contacting the 5th property owner to get them to sign the paperwork that is needed to complete the project. Mrs. Gomez from Kelly Avenue has reached out to the property owner but has not gotten any response. Mayor Soliman explained that the City wants to get the project finished but cannot continue until we get the signatures. Mrs. Gomez explained how this is affecting her property and her surrounding neighbors. The Mayor explained that we have discussed this with our legal counsel, and we cannot go on the property without the proper consent. Discussion followed. Mr. Kemnetz asked if he could schedule a meeting with the Mayor and Building Department to address some other issues he has.

(2841) Mayor Soliman informed the Council that there was a need for an executive session on litigation (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)).

(#15) Motion by Alderwoman Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Albert, to go into an executive session on litigation (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)).

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro
There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.
Executive session 8:16 p.m.
(2851)

Tape #2 begins.

(#16) Motion by Alderwoman Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to reconvene from the executive session on litigation (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)).

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

Reconvened at 8:49 p.m.

(11) There being no further business before the Council, and no action needed from the executive session a motion for adjournment was in order.

(#17) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to adjourn the September 8, 2020 City Council meeting.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

(16)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Approved this 21st day of September, 2020

As presented ✓

As amended _____



VICKI L. HACKNEY, CITY CLERK



RAYMOND R. SOLIMAN, MAYOR