

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL OF CREST HILL  
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
SEPTEMBER 21, 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 of the City Building, 1610 Plainfield Road, Crest Hill, Will County, Illinois.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

Mayor Soliman asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence to honor Frances Brencich who recently passed away. Franny was one of our Gold Star Mothers. She lost her son William in the Vietnam War. Since the Memorial Garden was erected in 1988, she came to thirty-two straight Memorial Day ceremonies along with her daughter and granddaughter, honoring her son and all the veterans that lived in the City of Crest Hill. She was very involved with the entire Crest Hill community and will be sorely missed.

Roll call indicated the following present: Mayor Raymond Soliman, City Clerk Vicki Hackney, City Treasurer Glen Conklin, Alderman John Vershay, Alderman Scott Dyke, Alderwoman Barbara Sklare, Alderwoman Claudia Gazal, Alderwoman Tina Oberlin, Alderman Marco Coladipietro and Alderman Nate Albert.

Also present were: City Administrator Heather McGuire, Police Chief Ed Clark, Economic Developer Scott McMaster, Assistant City Administrator/HR Director Megan Fulara and Interim Public Works Director Mark Siefert.

Absent were: Alderman Joe Kubal, Deputy City Clerk Jan Serdar and Finance Supervisor Ashli Motyka.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the regular meeting held on September 8, 2020 for Council approval.

(#1) Motion by Alderwoman Sklare, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on September 8, 2020 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: Ald. Coladipietro

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal

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

(95)

Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the Work Session held on September 14, 2020 for Council approval.

(#2) Motion by Alderman Coladipietro, seconded by Alderwoman Sklare to approve the minutes from the Work Session held on September 14, 2020 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Albert, Oberlin, Vershay, Dyke, Gazal, Coladipietro and Sklare

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal

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

(113)

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: City Administrator Heather McGuire informed Council that she had one item for approval which was the Halloween 2020 hours. As previously discussed at the last Work Session, the City Council agreed to extend the trick-or-treating hours from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, unless the Governor mandates that trick-or-treating is cancelled. Mayor Soliman stated that we are leaving it up to each family if they wish to participate in the event. Extra police patrol will be out on this evening.

Alderman Albert announced that the Crest Hill Lions Club will not be doing the Halloweenie Roast, but they are trying to plan another event that will not bring large amounts of people together. Alderwoman Oberlin suggested some type of Halloween sign that we could put on our website that residents could download and post at their home showing that they are participating in the trick-or-treating event. Also, have copies available at City Hall for pick up. Administrator McGuire stated that she will work on putting something together.

(#3) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderwoman Oberlin to approve the trick-or-treating hours to be from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, for Halloween 2020.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Gazal, Sklare, Vershay, Dyke, Coladipietro, Oberlin and Albert

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal

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

(232)

Alderman Dyke asked what the status was regarding the abandoned home at 1916 Center Street. Alderman Dyke also questioned another property in Crest Hill that has been discussed in the past, regarding homestead exemptions and the rental of the property. Administrator McGuire stated that the Supervisor of Assessments would enforce the homestead exemptions. Administrator McGuire explained that the property in question is not being rented out. It was her understanding that the people that own the property are living in them. Administrator McGuire stated that she will look into the other issue and report back.

(295)

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: Interim Public Works Director Mark Siefert informed Council that he had no agenda items for discussion. Director Siefert updated the Council on the water tower painting on Waterford. The scaffolding has gone up. We are hoping to have the sand blasting to start by this weekend. The exterior sand blast should take one to two weeks. The interior sand blasting will begin once the exterior is complete. Alderwoman Oberlin asked how the sand is removed from the interior. Director Siefert explained that the sand is pushed to the middle, so it falls to the bottom. Once on the bottom, it is scooped out. The sand from the exterior is vacuumed up.

(349)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT: Community Development Director Scott McMaster had no agenda items for discussion. Director McMaster updated the Council on the Goofy G's ice cream store that will be located on Plainfield Road. They are currently in their final review. Obviously, like everything else with development, they were pushed back because of Covid, but are looking to start in the next couple of weeks. They are hoping to be open by next summer. Alderman Albert asked how many lots will this business be located on? Director McMaster explained that they will be located on three lots. There will be the ice cream shop, parking and some area for seating.

(383)

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Police Chief Ed Clark informed Council that he is seeking approval for the placement of a stop sign on Carlton at the intersection of Carlton and Abbey. Compliance and risk data were collected. As discussed at the Work Session, with the high-density population of that area, it is recommended that a stop sign be placed at that intersection.

(#4) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderman Coladipietro to approve the placement of a stop sign at the northwest corner of Carlton and Abbey per the memo dated September 16, 2020.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Vershay, Dyke, Sklare, Gazal, Oberlin, Coladipietro and Albert

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal

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

(415)

Chief Clark informed Council that his activity report was enclosed in their packets.

Alderman Dyke stated that at the last meeting he complained about a vehicle that was parked on Raynor with no engine, that has not moved all summer. Alderman Dyke stated that he was incorrect in stating that the vehicle had no engine, because it does. The car has now been tagged by the Police Department.

MAYOR: Mayor Ray Soliman presented AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF CREST HILL REGARDING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. Mayor Soliman explained

that this would be for the property known as 12 Handles which is now called Forza located at 1827 Knapp Drive. Everything is in order.

(#5) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal to approve AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF CREST HILL REGARDING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Dyke, Vershay, Sklare, Oberlin, Coladipietro, Gazal and Albert

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal

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

ORDINANCE #1847

(483)

Mayor Soliman announced that Census 2020 will be ending on September 30<sup>th</sup>. If you have not filled out your questionnaire yet please do so. There are great benefits to municipalities from the Census. Mayor Soliman asked for everyone's cooperation in getting the forms completed and sent in to help the City of Crest Hill.

(520)

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

Clerk Hackney reminded the residents that the petition packets for the upcoming April election will be available starting tomorrow, September 22, 2020 at the Clerk's Office. The office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 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, City Clerk, City Treasurer and one Council member from each of the four Wards.

Clerk Hackney congratulated one of our residents, John Matthews, for retiring from the Lockport Township Fire Department. He had thirty years of service with them and forty combined between two fire departments. Clerk Hackney wished Mr. Matthews well on his retirement.

(574)

CITY TREASURER: City Treasurer Glen Conklin presented the regular and overtime payroll from August 31, 2020 to September 13, 2020 in the amount of \$228,785.26.

Treasurer Conklin presented the list of bills in the amount of \$725,413.25 for Council approval.

(#6) Motion by Alderwoman Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Sklare to approve the list of bills in the amount of \$725,413.25 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Vershay, Dyke, Gazal, Coladipietro, Albert, Sklare and Oberlin

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.  
(600)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no Unfinished Business before the Council.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no New Business before the Council.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS: There were no Committee/Liaison reports before the Council.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Alderman Coladipietro congratulated John Matthews on his retirement from the Lockport Township Fire Department. Alderwoman Oberlin also congratulated John Matthews on his retirement. Alderwoman Oberlin wished that everyone stays safe and reminded all to wear their masks. Alderman Albert reminded everyone that the Crest Hill Lions will not have their Halloweenie Roast this year but are working on something to show their presence to the community. Alderman Albert also congratulated John Matthews on his retirement. Aldermen Dyke, Vershay, Alderwoman Sklare and Gazal had nothing to report.  
(663)

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no one wishing to address the Council.

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

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

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Vershay, Dyke, Sklare, Gazal, Albert, Oberlin and Coladipietro

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal

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

Executive Session: 7:22 p.m.

(687)

Tape #2 begins.

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

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Vershay, Dyke, Sklare, Gazal, Albert, Oberlin and Coladipietro

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal

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

Reconvened: 7:42 p.m.

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

(22)

(#9) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderman Vershay to adjourn the September 21, 2020 City Council meeting.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Sklare, Gazal, Oberlin, Coladipietro, Albert, Vershay and Dyke

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal

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

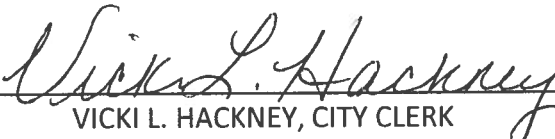
(30)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Approved this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020

As presented: ✓

As amended: \_\_\_\_\_

  
VICKI L. HACKNEY, CITY CLERK

  
RAYMOND R. SOLIMAN, MAYOR