

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF CREST HILL
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
October 19, 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 to observe a moment of silence to honor Annamae Lukancic, who did the vocals for the Memorial Day ceremony for over 30 years.

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 Marco Coladipietro, Alderman Nate Albert, Alderman Joe Kubal.

Also present were: City Administrator Heather McGuire, Assistant City Administrator/HR Director Megan Fulara, Police Chief Ed Clark, Community Development Director Scott McMaster, Director of Water/Wastewater Mark Siefert,

Absent were: Deputy City Clerk Janet Serdar, Finance Supervisor Ashli Motyka.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the regular meeting held on October 5, 2020 for Council approval. Alderman Dyke ask that on page 96 under Economic Development, tape count 195, it should read Alderman Vershay, not Alderman Dyke.

(#1) Motion by Alderwoman Sklare, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on October 5, 2020 with a correction to page 96, tape count 195.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: Ald. Coladipietro.

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

(78)

(108) Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the work session held on October 12, 2020 for Council approval.

(#2) Motion by Alderman Coladipietro, seconded by Alderwoman Sklare, To approve the minutes from the work session held on October 12, 2020 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being eight (8) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(112)

(125) Mayor Soliman asked to deviate from the regular agenda for a business presentation. Lawrence George from Family Outreach addressed the Council. He announced that one of their longtime volunteers recently passed away. Mr. George thanked the Council for their continued support of the food pantry. The pantry is seeking volunteers to help box food for the upcoming holidays. They are also still seeking donations to replace their box truck. Mayor Soliman announced that the food pick up is on Thursdays behind Hillcrest Shopping Center. Mr. George announced the various ways residents can contact the pantry. Alderwoman Oberlin commended Mr. George for the work that they do.

PUBLIC HEARING: (340) Mayor Soliman asked for a motion to open the public hearing on the East Water Reclamation Facility Project Plan.

(#3) Motion by Alderwoman Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to open the public hearing on the East Water Reclamation Facility Project Plan.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being eight (8) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(348)

(361) Mayor Soliman opened the public hearing for the East Water Reclamation Facility Project Plan at 7:12 p.m. Mayor Soliman went over the background of the public hearing. The request would allow the City to apply for a low interest loan for the phosphorus levels. Mayor Soliman asked for comments and questions from the audience. There were no residents that wished to address the Council.

(#4) Motion by Alderwoman Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to close the public hearing on the East Water Reclamation Facility Project Plan.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being eight (8) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(414)

The public hearing was closed at 7:14 p.m.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: (430) City Administrator Heather McGuire presented AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 2 OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL CODE OF ORDINANCES CREATING THE POSITION OF CITY ENGINEER. Administrator McGuire explained that this was discussed in a previous work session.

(#5) Motion by Alderman Kubal, seconded by Alderman Coladipietro, to approve AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 2 OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL CODE OF ORDINANCES CREATING THE POSITION OF CITY ENGINEER.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being eight (8) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

Ordinance #1849

(447)

Administrator McGuire presented AN ORDINANCE ABATING THE TAX HERETO LEVIED FOR THE YEAR 2020 TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BODNS (WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM ALTERNATE REVENUE SOURCE), SERIES 2019A, OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL, WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS. Administrator McGuire went over the background of the ordinance.

(#6) Motion by Alderwoman Sklare, seconded by Alderman Dyke, to approve AN ORDINANCE ABATING THE TAX HERETO LEVIED FOR THE YEAR 2020 TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BODNS (WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM ALTERNATE REVENUE SOURCE), SERIES 2019A, OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL, WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being eight (8) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

Ordinance #1850

(497)

(520) Administrator McGuire presented AN ORDINANCE ABATING THE TAX HERETO LEVIED FOR THE YEAR 2020 TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS (SALES TAX ALTERNATE REVENUE SOURCE), SERIES 2019B, OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL, WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS. Administrator McGuire went over the background of the ordinance.

(#7) Motion by Alderman Coladipietro, seconded by Alderman Dyke, to approve AN ORDINANCE ABATING THE TAX HERETO LEVIED FOR THE YEAR 2020 TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS (SALES TAX ALTERNATE REVENUE SOURCE), SERIES 2019B, OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL, WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being eight (8) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

Ordinance #1851

(530)

(556) Administrator McGuire announced that there will be a work session on Monday October 26, 2020 for discussion on the audit presentation, with additional topics being finalized.

(560) Alderwoman Gazal inquired that she had asked why Economic Development was not on the work session agenda as requested September 8, 2020. Alderwoman wants to know what goals they are working on. Administrator McGuire said that if there are specific items or goals that the Council is looking to discuss, we can add this to the agenda. Alderman Dyke questioned the property on Center and Broadway. Administrator McGuire explained that the property on Broadway is vacant property and there are no violations in the system. Alderman Dyke said that it was the home that caught fire and was boarded up. Administrator McGuire would look into this address. As far as the property on Center, citations were issued, and we are trying to get ahold of the bank.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: (651) Interim Public Works Director Mark Siefert had no agenda items for discussion. Concrete curb and sidewalk work should begin this week. The company is out doing the cutting. The Gaylord Road water tower is in primer and they should begin the top coating soon.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT: (688) Community Development Director Scott McMaster had no agenda items for discussion. Director McMaster announced that there are two proposed businesses coming to the City. One is an Italian deli and the other is a yoga studio. There is also a middle eastern restaurant interested in locating in the City. Alderwoman Gazal informed the Council there was an article in the Joliet Patch regarding the Italian deli.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: (718) Police Chief Ed Clark had no agenda items for discussion. Chief Clark gave the Council an update of a situation that occurred in the City last week. Alderwoman Oberlin asked who was in charge that night. It was Deputy Chief Rosetti and Sergeant Opiola. Alderwoman Gazal asked if the Chief had looked into the ordinance she questioned. The Chief will be following up on it with the City Administrator.

MAYOR: (768) Mayor Soliman presented a request for the appointment of a City Engineer. The Mayor went over the background of the request. Ron Weideman is the candidate for the position with a salary of \$106,500.00 and three weeks' vacation.

(#8) Motion by Alderman Vershay, seconded by Alderman Albert, to appoint Ron Weideman as the City Engineer with a salary of \$106,500.00 and three weeks' vacation.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being eight (8) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(947)

(964) Mr. Weideman thanked the Council and gave a brief speech. Members of the Council welcomed Mr. Weideman to the City.

(996) Mayor Soliman presented a request for the appointment of Roger Kramp to the Police Pension Board. The Mayor went over Mr. Kramp's background. This would be for a two year term.

(#9) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderman Coladipietro, to appoint Roger Kramp to the Police Pension Board for a two year term to expire April 30, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being eight (8) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(1055)

(1074) Mayor Soliman presented AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 5 (BUSINESS LICENSES AND REGULATIONS), CHAPTER 5.08 (ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES) OF THE CREST HILL CITY CODE TO CREATE A NEW LIQUOR LICENSE CLASSIFICATION FOR VIDEO GAMING CAFES. Mayor Soliman went over the background of the request. This was brought to the attention of the Council by Alderman Albert, Alderwoman Sklare, and Alderwoman Gazal. The new liquor license would be a class K, with a yearly fee of \$1,200.00 and a limit of seven license. Alderman Albert was happy to see the creation of this liquor license classification. Alderwoman Sklare mentioned that Alderman Dyke was a part of this also.

(#10) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 5 (BUSINESS LICENSES AND REGULATIONS), CHAPTER 5.08 (ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES) OF THE CREST HILL CITY CODE TO CREATE A NEW LIQUOR LICENSE CLASSIFICATION FOR VIDEO GAMING CAFES.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being eight (8) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

Ordinance #1852

(1126)

(1176) Mayor Soliman thanked all of the volunteers that helped with the fall cleanup of the Memorial Garden.

(1223) Mayor Soliman announced that the Halloween hours for the City would be on Saturday October 31, 2020 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. If you would like to pass out candy, please put your porch light on. He reminded everyone that you still have to wear a mask and practice social distancing.

(1257) Mayor Soliman gave an update on the Census. He thanked everyone who participated.

(1279) Mayor Soliman announced that the new Public Works facility has been in operation since July. Due to the pandemic, we are going to delay the open house until further notice. Mayor Soliman reminded the residents to continue to wear masks and practice social distancing so that everyone can stay safe and healthy.

(1390) Alderwoman Gazal was unable to help with the cleanup of the garden but thanked everyone who volunteered to get the job done and Glen for having additional individuals present to cover for her being unable to attend.

CITY CLERK: (1397) City Clerk Vicki Hackney had no agenda items for discussion. Clerk Hackney announced that Karen Kozerka from her office created a business booklet that shows the steps a new business needs to go through when they apply for a license. She confirmed these are available in the Clerks office and she also has some available for council members this evening.

CITY TREASURER: (1424) City Treasurer Glen Conklin presented the regular and overtime payroll from September 28, 2020 to October 11, 2020 in the amount of \$206,446.70.

(1446) Treasurer Conklin presented the list of bills in the amount of \$368,165.11 for Council approval.

(#11) Motion by Alderwoman Sklare, seconded by Alderwoman Oberlin, to approve the list of bills in the amount of \$368,165.11 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being eight (8) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(1452)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (1470) There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS: (1473) There was no new business.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS: (1475) Alderwoman Oberlin thanked Clerk Hackney for her help with a computer that crashed. She presented the financial report from the annual picnic to the Council. After all of the donations to area organizations were made there is a balance of \$23,503.76 in the account. We will be doing the annual donations to the community again this year.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: (1563) Alderman Vershay reminded everyone to continue wearing masks and social distance. Alderman Dyke wished everyone a safe and happy Halloween. Alderwoman Sklare welcomed the new City Engineer and Police Pension member. She also thanked Nick and Brian for the tour of the new Public Works facility. Alderwoman Gazal congratulated the new employees and wished everyone a Happy and safe Halloween. She noted that there is a representative of a local paper in attendance. For the record she did not contact them to be here tonight. Alderwoman Oberlin wished everyone a safe and Happy Halloween. She reminded the residents that we have trick or treat signs for their homes. This indicates which homes are participating in Halloween.

Alderman Albert wished everyone a Happy Halloween and reminded the residents to check out some of the displays that residents have in their yards. Alderman Kubal welcomed the new appointments. He announced that the Lockport Park District will be holding a drive in movie at Hastert Park. Admission is \$5.00 per car.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (1723) Mark Gregory, addressed the Council in regard to notifications to the residents by the City. We recently had a shooting in the City. Other city's had notifications out on their social media to let the residents know that it was an isolated incident. There are residents in the City that were scared because they did not know what was going on. We need to get the information out to the residents more quickly.

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

(#12) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to adjourn the October 19, 2020 City Council meeting.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being eight (8) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Approved this 2nd day of November, 2020

As presented ✓

As amended _____

Vicki L. Hackney
VICKI L. HACKNEY, CITY CLERK

Raymond R. Soliman
RAYMOND R. SOLIMAN, MAYOR