

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF CREST HILL
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
February 22, 2011

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.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

Roll call indicated the following present: Mayor Raymond Soliman, City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall, City Treasurer Joe Bobikiewicz, Alderman John Vershay, Alderman Scott Dyke, Alderwoman Brenda Lelis, Alderwoman Claudia Gazal, Alderman Charles Convery, Alderman Tom Inman, Alderwoman Tina Oberlin, Alderman Neal Sternisha.

Also present were: City Attorney Nick Sakaleriou, Police Chief Dwayne Wilkerson, STP John Roberts, Working Foreman Eric Newberry, Building Commissioner Steve Kuczkowski, City Administrator John Tomaszoski, Deputy City Clerk Janet Serdar.

Absent were: none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the regular meeting held on February 7, 2011 for Council approval. Alderwoman Oberlin asked that motion #9, page 21 be changed to state Alderman Inman rather than Alderwoman Inman.

(#1) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderwoman Lelis to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on February 7, 2011 with the corrections as stated.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Vershay, Dyke, Gazal, Lelis, Convery, Inman, Oberlin, Sternisha.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(25)

(54) Mayor Soliman informed the Council that DGO's at 2400 Caton Farm Road is one of the new businesses that have opened in the city. This is located where the Rte 30 Pancake House previously was.

(81) Mayor Soliman informed the Council that there is a proposed resolution honoring the Richland 7th grade boys basketball team. The Mayor asked the Council members to read a portion of the resolution.

(#2) Motion by Alderwoman Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal to authorize a resolution honoring the Richland 7th grade boys basketball team.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Dyke, Gazal, Lelis, Convery, Inman, Oberlin, Sternisha, Vershay.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Resolution #833

(178)

(200) Mayor Soliman congratulated the team and coaches on their accomplishments and gave a brief speech. Mayor Soliman asked Coach Troll to give a speech and he did. Alderman Convery asked that Coach Troll introduce the assistant coach who was Dan Wikert. Mayor Soliman presented each member of the team with a copy of the resolution honoring their achievement. Deiondre Taylor a member of the team gave a speech. Mayor Soliman presented Dr. Earley from Richland School with a resolution to be kept at the school. Dr. Earley gave a brief speech. Alderwoman Oberlin congratulated the team and coaches. Alderman Inman congratulated the team and coaches. Alderman Convery commended the teams parents for supporting them. Alderwoman Lelis commended the coaches and team members. Alderman Dyke commended the team and coaches. Alderman Vershay congratulated the team and coaches. Alderman Sternisha also commended the team.

CITY ATTORNEY: (936) City Attorney Nick Sakaleriou informed the Council that there is a proposed ordinance regarding the designation of places of deposit for funds and money in the Treasurer's custody belonging to the city. This ordinance follows a resolution that is already in place. The Attorney explained that this ordinance gives the City Council the authority to designate depositories and relieves the City Treasurer of personal liability when the deposits are made into those depositories. Secondly the ordinance allows the Council under certain circumstances to designate other depositories than what are listed here. Attorney Sakaleriou informed the Council that the second ordinance deals with the proceeds from the Build America bonds and provides that they can be invested using the consultants of PMA Securities. Mayor Soliman asked for comments and questions on the first ordinance and there were none.

(#3) Motion by Alderman Inman, seconded by Alderman Dyke to authorize an ordinance regarding the designation of places of deposit for funds and money in the Treasurer's custody belonging to the city.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Gazal, Lelis, Convery, Inman, Oberlin, Sternisha, Vershay, Dyke.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Ordinance #1558

(1031)

(1047) Mayor Soliman informed the Council that there is the need for the passage of the proposed ordinance authorizing and directing the investment of funds generated from the sale of series 2010 build America bonds and authorizing PMA Securities, Inc. and/or Financial Network, Inc. as an authorized financial intermediary for the investment of said funds. There was a work session held for discussion on these bonds. Mr. Weber of PMA Securities was present at the meeting. He went over some of the changes that have taken place regarding bonds since 2001. Mayor Soliman asked for comments and questions, there were none.

(#4) Motion by Alderwoman Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Convery to approve the passage of the proposed ordinance authorizing and directing the investment of funds generated from the sale of series 2010 build America bonds and authorizing PMA Securities, Inc. and/or Financial Network, Inc. as an authorized financial intermediary for the investment of said funds.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Lelis, Convery, Inman, Oberlin, Sternisha, Vershay, Dyke, Gazal.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Ordinance #1559

(1430)

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: (1455) City Administrator John Tomasoski informed the Council that there is a proposed engagement letter from Buckley Company regarding the property (vacant shopping center) on Weber and Division Street. Brian Gay, Economic Development Director for Crest Hill explained the letter and went over the background of the shopping center. The center was completed in 2008, but was not issued an occupancy permit because the entrance drive was too narrow. The city currently receives about \$60,000.00 in real estate taxes each year, but if the center were to open it would be about three times that amount. Mr. Gay explained that the property has now gone into receivership and he has been working with the receiver to see what could be done with the property. Mayor Soliman commended Brian for all of the work he has done with this property since he started with the City. Alderwoman Oberlin, Alderwoman Lelis and Alderman Convery commended Mr. Gay for his hard work.

(#5) Motion by Alderman Convery, seconded by Alderwoman Lelis to authorize the engagement letter from Buckley Company. (Vacant shopping center at Weber/Division Street).

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Inman, Oberlin, Sternisha, Vershay, Dyke, Gazal, Lelis, Convery.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(1732)

(1750) Mayor Soliman informed the Council that there is a proposed ordinance authorizing the developmental handbook. This was discussed at the January 10, 2011 work session and the necessary changes and updates were made. Administrator Tomasoski thanked the City staff and Dana Ludwig for all of their help and input in this project. Alderwoman Oberlin asked if we had the books printed yet and we had not. She would like to make sure that we get the updated census figures put in it.

(#6) Motion by Alderman Convery, seconded by Alderman Inman to authorize an ordinance for the developmental handbook.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Oberlin, Sternisha, Vershay, Dyke, Gazal, Lelis, Convery, Inman.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Ordinance #1560

(1825)

(1860) Administrator Tomasoski informed the Council that there is a proposed intergovernmental agreement between the City of Crest Hill and Will County.

(#7) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderman Convery to authorize an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Crest Hill and Will County.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Sternisha, Vershay, Dyke, Gazal, Lelis, Convery, Inman, Oberlin.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(1889)

(1904) Administrator Tomasoski informed the Council that there is a proposed resolution for improvements by a Municipality under the Illinois Highway Code. There is also a preliminary engineering services agreement for motor fuel tax funds. The agreements pertain to the intersection of Division Street and Gaylord Road.

(#8) Motion by Alderman Convery, seconded by Alderwoman Oberlin to authorize a resolution for improvements by a Municipality under the Illinois Highway Code.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Vershay, Dyke, Gazal, Lelis, Convery, Inman, Oberlin, Sternisha.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Resolution #834

(1939)

(2015) Administrator Tomasoski informed the Council that there is a need for the passage of the preliminary engineering services agreement for motor fuel tax funds.

(#9) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderman Vershay to authorize the passage of the preliminary engineering services agreement for motor fuel tax funds.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Convery, Inman, Oberlin, Sternisha, Vershay, Dyke, Gazal, Lelis.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(2018)

(2034) Administrator Tomasoski informed the Council that there is a memo regarding a contract with Brent Hassert Consulting LLC to assist the City in pursuing the "IKE" grant. Alderman Convery asked the Administrator to go over the priorities that Mr. Hassert would be working on and he did. Alderman Convery said that we need to get going on the "IKE" program because there are a number of cities that are vying for the grants. Alderman Inman explained that it would be an asset to have former Representative Hassert representing the best interest of the city. Alderman Sternisha asked that Administrator Tomasoski explain the quick take procedure and he did. Alderman Sternisha said that we would be paying \$1,500.00 out of water and sewer and \$1,000.00 out of public benefit funds. Are we okay with the funds being split. Treasurer Bobikiweicz explained that it was.

(#10) Motion by Alderman Convery, seconded by Alderman Inman to authorize a contract with Brent Hassert Consulting LLC to assist the City in pursuing the "IKE" grant.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Gazal, Lelis, Convery, Inman, Oberlin.

NAYES: Ald. Vershay, Dyke, Sternisha.

ABSENT: None.

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

(2284)

(2297) Alderman Dyke said that at the work session we discussed the quick take procedure being part of the contract and now it's not. Administrator Tomasoski explained that at this time the quick take procedure is not included. Alderman Dyke cast a no vote because of the quick take. Alderman Sternisha cast a no vote because the information that was provided to us shows that our engineering firm does a good job getting the grant applications done correctly and submitted in a timely fashion and our current State Representative and State Senator do a good job for us. This fee seems steep.

(2374) Administrator Tomasoski informed the Council that there will be a work session on Monday February 28, 2011 for discussion on PT Ferro and the Police Department structure.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: (2395) Working Foreman Eric Newberry had no report. Alderman Dyke thanked the crews for getting the stop sign replaced at Raynor and Elsie. Alderman Dyke explained that there is an alley in the 1900 block between Highland and Rose that you can't go through. He asked if we can get a sign posted that says no outlet or dead end. Alderman Inman thanked Foreman Newberry and the crew for a job well done on the potholes on Gaylord Road.

SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT: (2455) STP John Roberts had no report.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT: (2462) Mayor Soliman welcomed back Building Commissioner Steve Kuczkowski. Commissioner Kuczkowski thanked the Council for the approval of the development handbook and everyone that was involved in it. Alderwoman Oberlin and Lelis welcomed back Commissioner Kuczkowski.

POLICE REPORT: (2501) Chief Dwayne Wilkerson informed the Council of the report on file.

(2505) The Chief informed the Council that there is a memo regarding the Will County 911 telephone system board. There are funds that are available to be used for the communication center and through an interagency agreement these monies would be allocated to Wescom. There is the need for the passage of a resolution giving authority to enter into the agreement.

(#11) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderwoman Oberlin to authorize a resolution authorizing an intergovernmental agreement between Will County 911 emergency telephone system board and the City.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Gazal, Lelis, Convery, Inman, Oberlin, Sternisha, Vershay, Dyke.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Resolution #835
(2528)

(2537) Alderman Dyke explained that at the last Wescom board meeting they went over the cost to each community. Some of them have seen a slight decrease, but we have seen an increase. It was explained that this was due to an increase in calls. He asked the Chief if this was true. Chief Wilkerson explained that we are charged a surcharge by the number of phone lines that we have with Wescom. The Chief will look into this matter. Alderman Dyke commended the Police for the increase in traffic citations.

MAYORS REPORT: (2619) Mayor Ray Soliman informed the Council that we are applying for funds from the Federal Agency in Will County in regards to the blizzard.

(2642) Mayor Soliman thanked Alderman Inman, Alderman Convery and Alderwoman Oberlin for attending the recent meeting that was held at St. Ambrose to explain the NIMEC electric plan. We have set up the following meetings for residents to attend to get information on the NIMEC plan. They are; March 9, 2011 at 6:30 p.m., Chaney-Monge School and March 16, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at Richland School.

(2703) Mayor Soliman informed the Council that we attended a City Council meeting in Joliet and presented Mayor Schultz with a resolution honoring him on his retirement. The Mayor thanked Alderman Convery, Alderman Inman, Alderwoman Oberlin, Alderman Dyke, Linda Dyke and Vicki Soliman for attending the meeting with him.

(2747) Mayor Soliman informed the Council that last week we held the state of the city address sponsored by the Chamber at Prairie Bluff Golf Course. The Mayor thanked Michelle Payla and her board for a job well done. He thanked the members of Council and City staff that attended. Mayor Soliman thanked the members of CHCTV who taped the event so that the residents can watch it on channel 6.

CITY CLERKS REPORT: (2824) City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall presented the monies to report. Motor fuel tax from February of 2011 was \$46,307.66. Sales tax from February of 2011 was \$159,073.71. Automobile rental tax from February of 2011 was \$513.65 for a grand total of \$205,895.02.

(2847) Clerk Vershay-Hall informed the Council that there is a request from the Autumn Ridge home owners association to change the date for the use of the Council chambers from August 4, 2011 to August 11, 2011.

(#12) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderman Inman to change the use of the Council chambers from August 4, 2011 to August 11, 2011 per the request of the Autumn Ridge Home Owners Association.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Lelis, Convery, Inman, Oberlin, Sternisha, Vershay, Dyke, Gazal.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(2856)

(2877) Clerk Vershay-Hall informed the Council that there is a request from the Renwick Club Townhomes for the use of the Council Chambers on Thursday April 7, 2011 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

(#13) Motion by Alderwoman Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Dyke to authorize the use of the Council Chambers on Thursday April 7, 2011 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. per the request of Renwick Club Townhomes Association.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Convery, Inman, Oberlin, Sternisha, Vershay, Dyke, Gazal, Lelis.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(2886)

(2901) Clerk Vershay-Hall informed the Council that the Clerks staff reviewed the tape from the last Council meeting and the minutes will remain as is.

CITY TREASURERS REPORT: (2929) City Treasurer Joe Bobikiweicz presented the list of bills in the amount of \$1,066,966.07 for Council approval.

(#14) Motion by Alderman Convery, seconded by Alderwoman Lelis to approve the list of bills in the amount of \$1,066,966.07 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Inman, Oberlin, Sternisha, Dyke, Gazal, Lelis, Convery.

NAYES: Ald. Vershay.

ABSENT: None.

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

(2938)

(2963) Alderman Dyke explained that on the payroll sheet it used to show the employee number. Can we get this back on the report. Treasurer Bobikiweicz explained that we can but we would get charged to have to done. Alderman Sternisha felt that we need to get software that will allow us to import the data and to do the changes in house. Discussion followed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (3085) There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS: (3089) There was no new business.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: (3098) Beautification, Alderman Dyke informed the Council that there will be a meeting at 5:30 on February 23, 2011 in the Council Chambers.

Events, (3121) Alderwoman Oberlin informed the Council that we had the first meeting and are working on the picnic that will be on August 7, 2011 at St. Josephs Park.

Economic Development, (3141) Alderman Convery thanked Mr. Gay, Administrator Tomasoski and Robinson Engineering for the work on the developmental handbook. Alderman Inman informed the Council that the committee attended the ICSC convention last week. He thanked Mr. Gay for making the arrangements for the convention.

Cable, (3196) Alderwoman Oberlin informed the Council that CHCTV taped the basketball tournament at Chaney-Monge school and it should be airing on cable soon.

Veterans, (3217) Mayor Soliman informed the Council that there will be a veterans committee meeting on March 4, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: (3230) Alderwoman Oberlin thanked CHCTV for taping the city address and the basketball tournament. She commended the Mayor on his speech at the state of the city address. Alderman Inman and Alderman Convery commended the Richland basketball team. Alderman Dyke and Alderwoman Lelis commended the Richland basketball team. Alderwoman Gazal also commended the Richland basketball team.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (3306) Don Randich 1720 Highland Avenue commended the Mayor, Fire Department and Police Department on a job well done during the blizzard. He also thanked the six young men in his neighborhood who went around and helped remove snow from their neighbors driveways. Mayor Soliman thanked Mr. Randich for his comments. The Mayor said that former Mayor Randich and former Mayor Churnovic are always welcome at the city hall.

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

(#15) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderman Vershay to adjourn the February 22, 2011 City Council meeting.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Oberlin, Sternisha, Vershay, Dyke, Gazal, Lelis, Convery, Inman.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(3619)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Approved this 7th day of March, 2011

As presented _____

As amended _____

CHRISTINE VERSHAY-HALL, CITY CLERK

RAYMOND R. SOLIMAN, MAYOR