

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF CREST HILL
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
June 20, 2022

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.

Roll call indicated the following present: Mayor Raymond Soliman, City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall, City Treasurer Glen Conklin, Alderman Scott Dyke, Alderman John Vershay, Alderwoman Claudia Gazal, Alderman Darrell Jefferson, Alderperson Tina Oberlin, Alderman Mark Cipiti, Alderman Nate Albert, Alderman Joe Kubal.

Also present were: City Administrator Jim Marino, Director of Public Works Mark Siefert, City Engineer Ron Wiedeman, Economic Development Director Tony Budzikowski, Police Chief Ed Clark, Finance Director Lisa Banovetz, City Attorney Mike Stiff.

Absent were: Interim Planner Maura Rigoni, Director of Information Technology Service Timothy Stinnett.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the regular meeting held on June 6, 2022 for Council approval.

(#1) Motion by Alderman Jefferson, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on June 6, 2022 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Dyke, Vershay, Jefferson, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(31)

(44) Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the work session held on June 13, 2022 for Council approval.

(#2) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderman Albert, to approve the minutes from the work session held on June 13, 2022 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Vershay, Jefferson, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(47)

CITY ATTORNEY: (61) City Attorney Mike Stiff had no agenda items for discussion. Alderman Dyke asked for an update on 1723 Wilcox Street. Attorney Stiff informed the Council that he is with the understanding that they have moved to evict the rear tenant and we are waiting for the date that they will have for their hearing. Alderman Dyke asked if there is any type of penalty imposed. Attorney Stiff said that we are waiting to hear what is decided.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: (88) City Administrator Jim Marino presented a request for the approval of an Insurance Policy from Berkley Fire & Marine Underwriters which will Extend Insurance Coverage on the City Center Building from June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2023. Administrator Marino went over the background of the request. Alderperson Oberlin asked if there was a penalty imposed because the policy lapsed. The Administrator did not believe there was a penalty.

(#3) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve an Insurance Policy from Berkley Fire & Marine Underwriters which will Extend Insurance Coverage on the City Center Building from June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Jefferson, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(132)

(147) Administrator Marino presented a request for the Approval of an Agreement with Comcast for 60-Months for Ethernet Network Services at a cost of \$3,757.00 per month and a one-time installation construction fee of \$2,200.00 per the memo June 20, 2022. Our IT Director has been working on our internet system. This would be a more efficient program and we would see some cost savings.

(#4) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Albert, to approve a request for the Approval of an Agreement with Comcast for 60-Months for Ethernet Network Services at a cost of \$3,757.00 per month and a one-time installation construction fee of \$2,200.00 per the memo dated June 20, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Jefferson.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(230)

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: (251) Public Works Director Mark Siefert presented AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$49,500,000.00 WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE REVENUE BONDS, JUNIOR LIEN (IEPA), OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL, WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE PURPOSES OF PAYING THE COSTS OF IMPROVING THE COMBINED WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM OF THE CITY, PRESCRIBING ALL THE DETAILS OF SAID

BONDS, PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION, SEGREGATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE REVENUES OF THE WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM OF SAID CITY AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SAID BONDS TO THE ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY per the memo dated June 20, 2022. Director Siefert went over the background of the ordinance. He announced that we got our interest rate on the West Plant, and it is .68%, and we qualify for principal forgiveness. Once the bids are received and opened the Council will be updated.

(#5) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to approve AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$49,500,000.00 WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE REVENUE BONDS, JUNIOR LIEN (IEPA), OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL, WILL COUNTY, ILINOIS, FOR THE PURPOSES OF PAYING THE COSTS OF IMPROVING THE COMBINED WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM OF THE CITY, PRESCRIBING ALL THE DETAILS OF SAID BONDS, PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION, SEGREGATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE REVENUES OF THE WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM OF SAID CITY AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SAID BONDS TO THE ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY per the memo dated June 20, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Cipiti, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Jefferson, Gazal, Oberlin.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: Ald. Albert.

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

Ordinance #1906

(293)

(309) Director Siefert presented a request to Approve a Contract and Purchase of a 2023 Vactor Combination Sewer Jetting & Vactor Truck to Perform Sewer Rodding and Vacuum Excavation of Debris in the amount of \$487,410.00 per the memo dated June 20th, 2022. Director Siefert went over the background of the request.

(#6) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderperson Oberlin, to Approve a Contract and Purchase of a 2023 Vactor Combination Sewer Jetting & Vactor Truck to Perform Sewer Rodding and Vacuum Excavation of Debris in the amount of \$487,410.00 per the memo dated June 20th, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Jefferson, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None,

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

(329)

(345) Alderperson Oberlin commended Director Siefert for his work on the projects.

CITY ENGINEER: (357) City Engineer Ronald Wiedeman presented a request to Award the Contract with J.J. Newell Concrete Contractors Inc. for the 2022/2023 MFT Concrete Flatwork Contract in the amount of \$207,650.00 per the memo dated June 20, 2022.

(#7) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderman Cipiti, to approve a request to Award the Contract with J.J. Newell Concrete Contractors Inc. for the 2022/2023 MFT Concrete Flatwork Contract in the amount of \$207,650.00 per the memo dated June 20, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Jefferson, Gazal.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(373)

(390) Engineer Wiedeman presented a request to Approve Execution of the Proposal with Christopher B. Burke Engineering for Final Design Engineering Services for the City Center Roadway and Pedestrian Lighting in the Amount of \$31,900.00 per the memo dated June 20, 2022.

(#8) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to Approve Execution of the Proposal with Christopher B. Burke Engineering for Final Design Engineering Services for the City Center Roadway and Pedestrian Lighting in the Amount of \$31,900.00 per the memo dated June 20, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Jefferson, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(405)

(426) Engineer Wiedeman presented a request to Approve Execution of the Proposal with Hitchcock Design Group for Final Design Engineering Services for the City's New Welcome Signs in the amount of \$23,150.00 per the memo dated June 20, 2022.

(#9) Motion by Alderman Jefferson, seconded by Alderman Dyke, to Approve Execution of the Proposal with Hitchcock Design Group for Final Design Engineering Services for the City's New Welcome Signs in the amount of \$23,150.00 per the memo dated June 20, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

THE MOTION WAS WITHDRAWN.

(440)

(451) Alderwoman Gazal feels that we need to go over this project once more. She is concerned over the funding. Alderman Albert, and Alderperson Oberlin agreed. Alderman Jefferson withdrew his motion, Alderman Dyke withdrew his second to the motion.

(#10) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to table the request for the Execution of the Proposal with Hitchcock Design Group for Final Design Engineering Services for the City's New Welcome Signs in the amount of \$23,150.00 per the memo dated June 20, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Dyke, Vershay, Jefferson, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(485)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT: (507) Economic Development Director Tony Budzikowski informed the Council that the items that were on the agenda were put there in error. These were meant for an upcoming work session. Director Budzikowski informed the Council that he reached out to JJC. They have started up their Business and Resource Services Center. He read a post from the City's social media page regarding the program. He also forwarded the information to the Chamber. Director Budzikowski attended a ceremonial groundbreaking at Lucky Brothers at Rte. 53 and Caton Farm Road. Alderperson Oberlin asked if Director Budzikowski has met with the owner of Cheesecakes by James. He did. Alderwoman Gazal asked for an update on the sale of the current City Hall at the next work session. The reports were on file.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: (660) Police Chief Ed Clark presented a request from the American Italian Cultural Society-Approval of a Service Contract for Police Services for Festa Italiana per the memo dated June 20, 2022. This was discussed at a prior work session.

(#11) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Dyke, to approve a request from the American Italian Cultural Society-Approval of a Service Contract for Police Services for Festa Italiana per the memo dated June 20, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Vershay, Jefferson, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Kubal, Dyke.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: Ald. Albert.

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

(687)

(706) Alderperson Oberlin thanked the Chief and Deputy Chief for attending the Lidice ceremony. She informed the Council that the Deputy Chief went the extra mile that day by escorting some of the elderly residents to their cars.

MAYOR: (731) Mayor Raymond Soliman had no agenda items for discussion. He reminded the residents that fireworks are illegal. Please leave the shows to the professionals. Alderwoman Gazal asked when will we be getting an update on the Public Works facility being over budget and an answer as to why the Council was not notified. The Mayor explained that we will have the information for an upcoming work session once we get everything from Harbor. Administrator Marino said that Harbor did a walk-through of the City Center facility and provided a list of initial items that need correction. Alderwoman Gazal would like to know who found the expenditures

and what were they for regarding Public Works. The report the Council received has no explanation with it. Treasurer Conklin explained that we requested this information repeatedly and were not provided with it. When we began to go over the budget, the additional expenses were unauthorized. Why were we not made aware of this when it was happening. Alderwoman Gazal would like to know how we went over budget, why the Council was not informed and who is going to be held accountable for this overage that was approved. Administrator Marino explained that Harbor is compiling a list of all of the expenditures for the City Center. We also want them to do the same for the Public Works Facility once they are done with the City Center. Alderperson Oberlin said that if the additional expenditures were not presented to the Council, how were they approved, and who approved them. Alderwoman Oberlin explained that she had a lengthy walk through of the City Center. There are a number of items that need to be fixed. She would like to know how items were inspected and approved.

CITY CLERK: (1048) City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall congratulated the Crest Hill Police Department on the excellent job they did on the Torch Run for Special Olympics on Tuesday in the extreme heat. Clerk Vershay-Hall informed the Council that staff was in the parking lot to support the runners as they came past City Hall. Prior to leaving the building no customers were in the building, and no cars had entered the parking lot. Staff has been accused of ignoring a water customer. It was brought to her attention that the customer was fine with leaving her water payment in the white drop box. If staff had seen the customer enter the parking lot or building they would have gone in to wait on them. Clerk Vershay-Hall received an email stating that she gave approval to close the building on that day which she did not have the authority to do. She did not close the building and is not aware of any sign being posted stating the building was closed.

CITY TREASURER: (1129) City Treasurer Glen Conklin presented the regular and overtime payroll from May 23, 2022 to June 5, 2022 in the amount of \$253,457.06.

(1141) Treasurer Conklin presented the list of bills in the amount of \$789,205.99 for Council approval.

(#12) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to approve the list of bills in the amount of \$789,205.9 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Jefferson.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(1147)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (1169) There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS: (1171) There was no new business.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS: (1172) There were no committee/liason reports.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: (1174) Alderperson Oberlin thanked the Police Department, Public Works, and everyone who attended the Lidice ceremony. She also thanked St. Ambrose Church for allowing access to their facility in case of rain. She thanked Vicki Hackney for her donation of bakery and also her son for volunteering at the ceremony. Alderman Albert commended Alderperson Oberlin on the Lidice ceremony. Alderman Dyke wished everyone a safe and happy 4th of July. Alderman Vershay congratulated the Police on participating in the Torch Run. He commended all of the employees who went outside to show support for the Police and cheer them on. Alderman Jefferson reminded everyone that today is the celebration of Juneteenth. He congratulated the Police on the Torch Run. Alderwoman Gazal thanked the Chief for supporting the Meet and Greet in the park. She also thanked Public Works for being in attendance and all of the volunteers that cooked hot dogs and helped with the tents. The next event is scheduled for July 20th.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (1345) Mayor Soliman reminded the residents that this is the time in the meeting when they can make comments. If there are any questions that need to be answered, we can do that after the meeting or make an appointment. Each speaker has 3 minutes to address the Council. There were no citizens wishing to address the Council.

(1366) Mayor Soliman informed the Council that there was a need for an executive session on land acquisition (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)).

(#13) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal to go into an executive session on land acquisition (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)).

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Jefferson, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(1374)

Executive session 7:42 p.m.

(#14) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to reconvene from the executive session on executive session on land acquisition (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)).

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Jefferson, Gazal, Oberlin.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(1421)

Reconvened at 8:26 p.m.

(1443) There being no further business before the Council, and no action needed from the executive session a motion for adjournment was in order.

(#15) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to adjourn the June 20, 2022 City Council meeting.

On roll call, the vote was:

AYES: Ald. Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Kubal, Dyke, Vershay, Jefferson.

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

(1444)

Approved this 5th day of July, 2022

As presented ✓

As amended _____


CHRISTINE VERSHAY-HALL, CITY CLERK


RAYMOND R. SOLIMAN, MAYOR