

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF CREST HILL
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
June 6, 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.

Mayor Soliman asked that everyone remain standing for a moment of silence to remember those who have recently lost their lives to gun violence.

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, Alderperson Tina Oberlin, Alderman Mark Cipiti, Alderman Nate Albert, Alderman Joe Kubal.

Also present were: Director of Public Works Mark Siefert, City Engineer Ron Wiedeman, Police Chief Ed Clark, City Attorney Chris Spesia.

Absent were: Alderman Darrell Jefferson, City Administrator Jim Marino, Finance Director Lisa Banovetz, Interim Planner Maura Rigoni, Interim Economic Development Director Steve Gulden, Director of Information Technology Service Timothy Stinnett.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the regular meeting held on May 16, 2022 for Council approval.

(#1) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on May 16, 2022 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

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

(82)

(95) Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the public hearing held on May 16, 2022 for Council approval.

(#2) Motion by Alderman Vershay, seconded by Alderman Dyke, to approve the minutes from the public hearing held on May 16, 2022 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

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

(99)

(114) Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the work session held on May 16, 2022 for Council approval.

(#3) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to approve the minutes from the work session held on May 16, 2022 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

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

(116)

(130) Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the work session held on May 23, 2022 for Council approval.

(#4) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to approve the minutes from the work session held on May 23, 2022 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was;

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

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

(133)

(145) Mayor Soliman asked to deviate from the regular agenda for a presentation by representatives of the American Italian Cultural Society. Ali Brandolino addressed the Council. They are seeking a waiver of the permit fee for a three day liquor license for the annual Festa Italiana which will take place on August 12, 13, 14, 2022. They are also seeking the waiving of all permit fees pertaining to signage and for the use of the Police Department for the annual parade. Ms. Brandolino went over the activities that are scheduled for that weekend. This will be the 22nd annual festival. Members of the Council commended the club on the Festa. Alderman Dyke asked if Ms. Brandolino had met with the Police Chief. Chief Clark informed the Council that she had, and they are in the process of working out the details.

(#5) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve the waiver of the three day liquor license per the request of the American Italian Cultural Society for the three day Festa Italiana on August 12, 13, 14, 2022 per the memo dated May 17, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

ABSTAIN: Ald. Albert.

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

(268)

(#6) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Cipiti, to approve the waiving of all fees associated with signage per the request of the American Italian Cultural Society

for the three day Festa Italiana on August 12, 13, 14, 2022 per the memo dated May 17, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

ABSTAIN: Ald. Albert.

There being six (6) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.
(291)

(#7) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve the use of Police Officers and for the road closure for the annual Festa Italiana Parade to be held on August 14, 2022 at noon, per the memo dated May 17, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

ABSTAIN: Ald. Albert.

There being six (6) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.
(321)

CITY ATTORNEY: (360) City Attorney Chris Spesia had no agenda items for discussion.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: (367) Mayor Soliman presented a RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENT NO.2 TO RESIDENTIAL ELECTRICAL AGGREGATION AGREEMENT WITH MC SQUARED ENERGY SERVICES, LLC per the memo dated June 6, 2022. Dave Hoover from NIMEC gave a presentation on the electrical aggregation. Mr. Hoover also talked briefly about an upcoming solar energy program that he will present to the Council in the fall. Alderperson Oberlin commented that a number of homes in the City have solar panels. Alderman Cipiti asked if residents don't want to participate in the aggregation program can they opt out. They can. Alderwoman Gazal questioned the companies that solicit for electrical service door-to-door. Mr. Hoover explained that there is information on the website Plug in Illinois.org. Alderperson Oberlin reminded the residents that anyone who solicits door-to-door must carry a permit issued by the City on them at all times. Alderman Vershay asked about wind power. Mr. Hoover said that companies are still building wind turbines.

(#8) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderman Cipiti, to approve a RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENT NO.2 TO RESIDENTIAL ELECTRICAL AGGREGATION AGREEMENT WITH MC SQUARED ENERGY SERVICES, LLC per the memo dated June 6, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.
(1026)

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: (1051) Public Works Director Mark Siefert presented a request to waive competitive bidding due to an emergency purchase and approve a

contract with Layne Western for the pulling and replacement of Well #7 bowl and motor in an amount not to exceed \$46,027.00 per the memo dated May 24, 2022.

(#9) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Albert, to waive competitive bidding due to an emergency purchase and approve a contract with Layne Western for the pulling and replacement of Well #7 bowl and motor in an amount not to exceed \$46,027.00 per the memo dated May 24, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

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

(1070)

CITY ENGINEER: (1095) City Engineer Ron Weideman presented AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 15.20.170 (MAINTENANCE (STORMWATER DRAINAGE AND DETENTION) OF TITLE (BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION) AND ADDING A NEW SECTION 15.20.175 TO CHAPTER 15.20 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL, ILLINOIS per the memo dated June 6, 2022. Alderman Albert asked if we are going to get this implemented this year. Engineer Weideman would like to see the forms sent out and returned by July 1st if possible.

(#10) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to approve AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 15.20.170 (MAINTENANCE (STORMWATER DRAINAGE AND DETENTION) OF TITLE (BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION) AND ADDING A NEW SECTION 15.20.175 TO CHAPTER 15.20 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL, ILLINOIS per the memo dated June 6, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

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

Ordinance #1904

(1107)

(1151) Engineer Weideman presented a request for the approval of a proposal with Christopher B. Burke Engineering, LLC for design engineering services for two retaining walls (Highland/Cora) as part of a grant per the memo dated June 6, 2022. Alderman Vershay asked if we would get reimbursed for the work. Engineer Weideman explained that this is part of the Build Illinois fund. This would be a solid concrete wall versus the blocks that are currently in place. Alderwoman Gazal asked if we are going to do any sidewalk repair. We recently took bids for the project.

(#11) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve a proposal with Christopher B. Burke Engineering, LLC for design engineering services for two retaining walls (Highland/Cora) as part of a grant per the memo dated June 6, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.
(1171)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT: (1317) There were no agenda items for discussion. The reports were on file.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: (1325) Police Chief Ed Clark presented AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 10.01.10-618 (SPECIAL PARKING PROHIBITIONS) OF DIVISION VI (PARKING REGULATIONS), ARTICLE 10 (SPECIAL PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO THE CITY OF CREST HILL), CHAPTER 10.01 (CREST HILL VEHICLE CODE), TITLE 10 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC) OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL CODE OF ORDINANCES per the memo dated May 31, 2022.

(#12) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Albert, to approve AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 10.01.10-618 (SPECIAL PARKING PROHIBITIONS) OF DIVISION VI (PARKING REGULATIONS), ARTICLE 10 (SPECIAL PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO THE CITY OF CREST HILL), CHAPTER 10.01 (CREST HILL VEHICLE CODE), TITLE 10 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC) OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL CODE OF ORDINANCES per the memo dated May 31, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.
Ordinance #1905
(1356)

(1373) Alderperson Oberlin asked how this can be enforced so that we don't have an Officer sitting on site all day. Cameras could be installed to monitor the area. The Chief isn't sure that this will be necessary. He felt that once a few tickets are issued the parking situation will stop.

MAYOR: (1414) Mayor Raymond Soliman attended the Will County Police Memorial along with several of our Police Officers. He attended the graduation ceremonies at the area schools. The Mayor participated in the Carillon Lakes Memorial Day parade. The Mayor thanked everyone who attended the recent Memorial Day ceremony at City Hall.

(1533) Alderwoman Gazal expressed a concern over the lack of communication. We have very professional department heads who answer to the Council when they are addressing concerns of the residents. She does not feel that the Council should have to go through the Administrator to get an answer and should be able to go to the department heads on their own. It is the Council's duty to represent the residents and get answers for them. We should not have to wait an extended period of time to get an answer. Some issues need to be handled right away. Alderwoman Gazal said that the Administrator needs to be informed, but the Council should not have to get permission to speak with City staff. Mayor Soliman said that this will be addressed at a future work session. Alderperson Oberlin agrees that it is not right to tell employees that we hire that they cannot communicate with the Council.

CITY CLERK: (1689) City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall presented a request for the approval of the closure of Loch Lane to Abbey Lane and Abbe Lane to Prestwick Drive for a block party/movie night on Friday June 10, 2022 from 7:00 p.m. per the memo dated June 6, 2022.

(#13) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderman Kubal, to approve a request for the approval of the closure of Loch Lane to Abbey Lane and Abbe Lane to Prestwick Drive for a block party/movie night on Friday June 10, 2022 from 7:00 p.m. per the memo dated June 6, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

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

(1706)

(1724) Alderwoman Gazal asked if we have started the hiring process for the Clerk's Office. Clerk Vershay-Hall explained that she will be addressing the Council in regard to the hiring of a full time employee from the Civil Service list to replace an upcoming retirement. Alderman Cipiti asked if this is the only position that needs to be filled. Clerk Vershay-Hall explained that we are still short a part time person from when the secretary moved into the position of Deputy Clerk.

CITY TREASURER: (1764) City Treasurer Glen Conklin presented the regular and overtime payroll from May 9, 2022 to May 22, 2022 in the amount of \$247,645.49.

(1775) Treasurer Conklin presented the list of bills in the amount of \$1,735,518.39 for Council approval.

(#14) Motion by Alderwoman Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to approve the list of bills in the amount of \$1,735,518.39 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

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

(1782)

(1797) Treasurer Conklin is requesting time in a work session to go over the expenses for the Public Works facility and a progress report on the City Center.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (1820) There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS: (1940) Alderman Cipiti asked if there is a way to get updates to the budget every for months for the Council. Treasurer Conklin thought this was something that we could get on the agenda on either a monthly or quarterly basis. Members of the Council suggested on a quarterly basis. We would work on how to best present this to the Council.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS: (1948) There were no committee/liaison reports.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: (1951) Alderwoman Gazal announced that June 15th will be the meet in the park. She went over the activities that will take place during this time. Alderperson Oberlin announced that the Lidice ceremony will take place on Sunday June 12, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. She thanked everyone who helped with the cleanup of the park. Alderperson Oberlin explained that the only thing that was left standing at the original Village of Lidice was a pear tree. She mentioned this when she spoke about the ceremony on a local radio station. Joliet Pride contacted her and offered to fund the tree to be placed at the memorial. She wished Jeannie Juricic a happy 90th birthday. Alderman Kubal informed the Council that the Park District is looking for feedback from the residents as to what improvements can be made to Memorial Park in Crest Hill.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (2120) There were no citizens wishing to address the Council.

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 June 6, 2022 City Council meeting.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Jefferson.

There being affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.

(2132

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Approved this 20 day of JUNE, 2022

As presented ✓

As amended _____


CHRISTINE VERSHAY-HALL, CITY CLERK


RAYMOND R. SOLIMAN, MAYOR