

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL OF CREST HILL  
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
May 1, 2023

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, Alderman Darrell Jefferson, Alderwoman Claudia Gazal, Alderperson Tina Oberlin, Alderman Mark Cipiti, Alderman Nate Albert, Alderman Joe Kubal.

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

Absent were: Interim Planner Maura Rigoni.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the regular meeting held on April 17, 2023 for Council approval per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

(#1) Motion by Alderman Albert seconded by Alderman Cipiti, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on April 17, 2023.

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.

Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the work session held on April 24, 2023 for Council approval per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

(#2) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to approve the minutes from the work session on April 24, 2023.

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.

CITY ATTORNEY: There were no agenda items for discussion.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: Administrator Jim Marino requested to Approve Change Order with Concrete by Wagner for Construction Work at the City Center in the Amount of \$2,500.00 per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

(#3) Motion by Alderman Albert seconded by Alderwoman Gazal to Approve Change Order with Concrete by Wagner for Construction Work at the City Center in the Amount of \$2,500.00 per the memo dated May 1, 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.

Administrator Marino requested to Approve Change Order with Cosgrove Construction, Inc. for Construction Work at the City Center in the Amount of \$10,418.00 per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

(#4) Motion by Alderman Albert seconded by Alderman Jefferson to Approve Change Order with Cosgrove Construction, Inc. for Construction Work at the City Center in the Amount of \$10,418.00 per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

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.

Administrator Marino requested to Approve Change Order with Cosgrove Construction, Inc. for Construction Work at the City Center in the Amount of (\$25,070.00) per the memo dated May 1, 2023. This is a credit for the work they performed as a result of the water damage in the Council Chambers which is being reimbursed to the city by the insurance company.

(#5) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderman Albert to Approve Change Order with Cosgrove Construction, Inc. for Construction Work at the City Center in the Amount of (\$25,070.00) per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

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.

Administrator Marino requested to Approve Change Order with Michael Hutchings, LLC. for Construction Work at the City Center in the Amount of \$6,989.00 per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

(#6) Motion by Alderman Kubal seconded by Alderwoman Gazal to Approve Change Order with Michael Hutchings, LLC. for Construction Work at the City Center in the Amount of \$6,989.00 per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: Ald. Oberlin, Cipiti.

ABSENT: None.

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

Administrator Marion requested to Approve Change Order with J.L. Alder Roofing and Sheet Metal, Inc. for Construction Work at the City Center in the Amount of \$1,620.00 per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

(#7) Motion by Alderman Jefferson seconded by Alderman Dyke to Approve Change Order with J.L. Alder Roofing and Sheet Metal, Inc. for Construction Work at the City Center in the Amount of \$1,620.00 per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

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.

Administrator Marino requested Approve Change Order with NuVeterans Construction Services for Construction Work at the City Center in the Amount of \$7,500.00 per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

(#8) Motion by Alderman Jefferson seconded by Alderman Albert to Approve Change Order with NuVeterans Construction Services for Construction Work at the City Center in the Amount of \$7,500.00 per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

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.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: Public Works Director Mark Siefert announced our Rain Barrel and Composting Program will begin this week and this year we have added compost barrels. The sales of these items have begun, and the information will be on our website and Facebook. Director Siefert announced that the water pledge competition has ended, and the City of Crest Hill is in the run for either second or third place and the results will be posted soon. Director Siefert thanked all Council members and residents who took the time to take the water pledge.

CITY ENGINEER: There were no agenda items for discussion. Alderman Dyke asked if we could get a sign put up for rough crossing or get the railroad crossing repaired at the Oakland crossing. City Engineer Ron Wiedeman stated he would find out the contact for the railroad and see what we can do.

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Police Chief Ed Clark announced that the fundraising event 'Cop on the Rooftop' will be held on May 19, 2023 from 5:00am until 12:00pm at Dunkin Donuts on Plainfield Road in Crest Hill. There will be t-shirts for sale and donations taken for the Special Olympics. Also, Chief Clark stated over the weekend we had an incident where the officers responded to a mental health crisis with a gentleman and the officers did a fantastic job with communicating and using their tactics to deescalate the situation. Chief Clark commended Officer Kaplar for his lead actions and Officer AJ Smith.

MAYOR: Mayor Raymond Soliman stated there is a vacancy on the Police Pension Board and presented a request for the appointment of Andy Womack to the Police Pension Board for a two-year term to expire on May 1, 2025 per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

(#9) Motion by Alderman Albert seconded by Alderman Jefferson for the appointment of Andy Womack to the Police Pension Board for a two-year term to expire on May 1, 2025 per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

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.

Mayor Soliman announced that this was the last City Council meeting held in this building. He stated this building was purchased in 1978 and has served the City of Crest Hill for over forty years. Mayor Soliman stated that this building will be closed Thursday, May 4 and Friday, May 5 so that we can move into the new City Center. Mayor Soliman stated that there will be a skeleton crew to help with any questions or emergencies but would like you to take care of any business needed within the next two days. Our new City Hall address will be 20690 City Center Boulevard and will be open Monday, May 8, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. If anyone needs assistance the Police Department will be available. He stated for an emergency please call 911 but if non-emergency please call (815) 741-5111.

Mayor Soliman announced our Memorial Garden has been relocated to the new City Center and we will be rededicating the stones on May 29, 2023 at 2:00p.m. at the new City Center. The ceremony will begin at 1:40p.m. with a pre-concert by Frankfort Bass Band and the program will begin at 2:00p.m. Mayor Soliman announced that we are honored to have the Assistant Director of the Illinois Veteran's Affair, Anthony Vaughn, as a guest speaker. There will be light refreshments served after the ceremony.

Mayor Soliman announced the Veteran's and Police Memorial Committee will be having a meeting on May 12, 2023 at 11:00am at the new City Hall.

Alderwoman Gazal thanked the staff and department heads for all the extra work they are doing during this move.

CITY CLERK: City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall requested to Approve an Application for a Block Party for Joshua Resto at 20427 Essex Court on August 12, 2023 per the memo dated May 1, 2023. City Clerk Vershay-Hall stated that they would like Essex Court to Borio Drive to be closed off. She also stated they would like the Police and Fire Department to be there, as well.

(#10) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal seconded by Alderman Jefferson to Approve an Application for a Block Party for Joshua Resto at 20427 Essex Court per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

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.

City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall announced the Community Garage Sale is Thursday, May 18, 2023 through Sunday, May 21, 2023, and the deadline to register is May 16, 2023. Maps will be available online and at City Hall on May 17, 2023. City Clerk Vershay-Hall stated garage sale signs are allowed to be placed on city property only. The fee is \$5.00 and can be purchased at City Hall Monday through Friday from 8:00a.m. to 4:30p.m.

CITY TREASURER: City Treasurer Glen Conklin presented the list of bills through May 2, 2023 in the amount of \$1,006,886.68 for Council approval per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

(#11) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderman Jefferson to approve the list of bills through May 2, 2023 in the amount of \$1,006,886.68 for Council approval per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

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.

City Treasurer Glen Conklin presented the regular and overtime payroll from April 10, 2023 to April 23, 2023 in the Amount of \$256,602.17 per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

City Treasurer Glen Conklin presented the quarterly compensation buy back through April 27, 2023 in the amount of \$25,660.25 per the memo dated May 1, 2023.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no unfinished business on the agenda for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Soliman announced that we will begin swearing in the newly elected City Officials.

City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall swore in Joe Kubal as Alderperson in Ward IV. Alderperson Kubal gave a speech. He then took his place with the Council.

City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall swore in Tina Oberlin as Alderperson in Ward III. Alderperson Oberlin gave a speech. She then took her place with the Council.

City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall swore in Claudia Gazal as Alderwoman in Ward II. Alderwoman Gazal gave a speech. She then took her place with the Council.

City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall swore in John Vershay as Alderperson in Ward I. Alderperson Vershay gave a speech. He then took his place with the Council.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS: Alderperson Tina Oberlin announced that the annual Lidice Ceremony will be on Sunday, June 11, 2023 at 11:00a.m. However, if there is inclement weather, Alderperson Oberlin requested for the new City Center to be the backup location during inclement weather.

(#12) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal seconded by Alderman Cipiti for the City Center to be the backup location for the Lidice Ceremony.

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.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Many Council Members congratulated the re-elected officials and wished all mothers a Happy Mother's Day. Alderman Albert stated he was excited to be moving into the new City Center.

Alderwoman Gazal announced that the Pop-up Pantry will be held on Saturday, May 6, 2023 from 12:00p.m. to 2:00p.m. at the White Oak Library. Alderwoman Gazal also thanked the Aurora Food Pantry and the Calvary Church for their generous support. She also congratulated the Richland Symphonic Band and Choir who went to IGSM District Band Championships on Saturday April 29, 2023 and received excellent and superior ratings.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no public comments.

Mayor Soliman informed the Council that there was a need for an executive session on 5 ILCS 120/2(11) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

(#13) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderwoman Gazal to go into executive session on 5 ILCS 120/2(11) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

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.

Executive Session 7:40 p.m.

(#13) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderwoman Gazal to reconvene from the executive session on 5 ILCS 120/2(11) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

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.

Reconvened 8:57p.m.

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

(#14) Motion by Alderman Dyke seconded by Alderman Vershay to adjourn the City Council Meeting on May 1, 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.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Approved this 10 day of May, 2023

As presented ✓

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

  
CHRISTINE VERSHAY-HALL, CITY CLERK

  
RAYMOND R. SOLIMAN, MAYOR