

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF CREST HILL
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
November 6, 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, 20600 City Center Boulevard, 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: Police Chief Ed Clark, Assistant Public Work Director Blaine Kline, City Engineer Ron Wiedeman, Finance Director Lisa Banovetz, Interim Director of Community Development Ron Mentzer, City Attorney Mike Stiff, Administrative Clerk Samantha Tilley.

Absent were: Building Commissioner Don Seeman, Interim Planner Maura Rigoni.

PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Soliman asked for a motion to open the public hearing required by the IEPA with Respect to Alternative Water Source Distribution System Improvements and the Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination (PEID) per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

(#1) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderman Cipiti, to open a Public Hearing Required by the IEPA with Respect to Alternative Water Source Distribution System Improvements and the Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination (PEID) per the memo dated November 6, 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.

The public hearing was opened at 7:01 p.m.

City Engineer Ron Wiedeman commented that the Illinois procedure for issuing loans for the Public Water Supply Loan Program requires that the IEPA conducts an assessment of the environmental impacts of proposed improvements. As part of the process the city is required to solicit the public's comments regarding the environmental impacts of proposed improvements.

Corrina Petrou, the Project Manager with Strand & Associates approached the podium and introduced herself. Corrina commented that they have worked with the city back in November of 2022 to submit a Project Planning document for the Public Water Supply

Loan Program. There were several projects included in the Project Plan document, which are the lining of the water main along Route 30, Theodore, and Broadway Street. This is needed to reduce water loss once switched to Lake Michigan water and it needs to be reduced to less than ten percent per Lake Michigan Allocation. There is a storage tank and receiving/pumping station at the two Lake Michigan Water receiving sites along Caton Farm Road known as the East Pumping Station and the West Pumping Station. Since the city is going from a multi-point source distribution system where there are wells throughout the city and switching to a two-point source distribution system where we will receive water at two points. This will make a need for storage and adequate infrastructure to be able to distribute that water to the outskirts of the city. There is a new eight-inch water main along Caton Farm Road which is a multi-purpose project that will eventually get Well #14, which is designed but not needed before 2030 and will go in depending on the demands of the city. There will be an eight-inch water main going to the existing Well #10 which can be a raw water main or if Well #14 is not needed this can be used to take finished water and distribute it from the east to the west side of the system. There is also the retrofit of Well #10 site in the project planning document to treat raw Well #14 water if needed. Water main replacement in the project plan around Root Street and Sak Drive, which was originally proposed to help water travel from the east to the west side of the system. Now that they have worked Well #14 to be dual purpose, they no longer need the Root Street and Sak Drive water main.

There are three main phases for these projects to occur.

Phase One: Includes the Well #14 eight-inch water main along Caton Farm Road. This plan of construction starts the third quarter of 2024.

Phase Two: Includes the water main lining, the new storage tank, and the pumping/receiving stations. This plan of construction starts the first quarter of 2026.

Phase Three: Includes Well #10 retrofit if needed. This plan of construction starts the third quarter of 2025.

The Project Plan submittal process included several environmental steps. The following reviews from IDNR State Historic Preservation Office Section 106, IDNR EcoCAT Endangered Species Act, Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act, and the Illinois Wetlands Act concluded that the adverse effects were unlikely. The plan also included submittal to the IDNR water resources which resulted in IDNR confirmation that the proposed projects are exempt from needing an Office of Water Resources permit for construction. They will still go through permit process with IEPA which is typical, but IDNR stated they do not need their own permit for construction since effects are unlikely.

Lastly, the Project Plan included a submission to the United States Army Corps of Engineers for consultation under section 404 of the Clean Water Act which said any disturbance or placement of material in Wetlands or Rivers may require a permit but if all rivers and wetlands can be avoided during construction, which is anticipated, then no permit will be required.

City Engineer Ron Wiedeman announced that the hearing is open to the public for any comments regarding the environmental impacts of the projects listed regarding the raw

Water line, and the east and west station storage tank. He also mentioned that Root Street water main will not be needed.

Engineer Wiedeman stated that any comments received today will be recorded and sent to the IEPA. He also stated that the public has up until November 16, 2023 to submit comments to Corrina Petrou with Strand & Associate at 1170 Houboldt Road, Joliet, IL 60435. You may also email her at Corrina.Petrou@strand.com or you may call her at (815)744-4200 extension 3159. Engineer Wiedeman also commented that the city also has the reports and the Project Plan for viewing at the Clerk's Office until November 16, 2023.

Mayor Soliman asked if anyone in the audience would like to make a public comment with respect to the Alternative Water Source Distribution Improvements and the Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination.

Stuart Soifer, a resident, asked if proper notice was given for the public hearing. He commented that he knew it was posted on the city's website, but the address was not given for the meeting location. Engineer Wiedeman commented that it was published in the paper with the address, and we have confirmation of the publication. Stuart commented that the website did not indicate the location of the public hearing and if someone did not see the ad they would not know where it is being held. Engineer Wiedeman commented that all the city had to do was publish in the paper and the website was in addition to what we had to do. Stuart commented that it was put on the website without an address. Engineer Wiedeman commented that the publication was the only notification the city needed to do.

Mayor Soliman asked again if anyone in the audience or the Council would like to make a public comment. There were no other comments.

Mayor Soliman asked for a motion to close the public hearing required by the IEPA with Respect to Alternative Water Source Distribution System Improvements and the Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination (PEID).

(#2) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderman Cipiti, to close a Public Hearing Required by the IEPA with Respect to Alternative Water Source Distribution System Improvements and the Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination (PEID).

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

The public hearing was closed at 7:13 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the Regular meeting held on October 16, 2023 for Council approval per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

(#3) Motion by Alderman Jefferson seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to Approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting Held on October 16, 2023 per the memo dated November 6, 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.

Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the Work Session meeting held on October 23, 2023 for Council approval per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

(#4) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to Approve the Minutes from the Work Session Meeting Held on October 23, 2023 per the memo dated November 6, 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.

Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the Work Session meeting held on October 30, 2023 for Council approval per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

(#5) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to Approve the Minutes from the Work Session Meeting Held on October 30, 2023 per the memo dated November 6, 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.

CITY ATTORNEY: There were no agenda items for discussion.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: There were no agenda items for discussion.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: Assistant Public Works Director Blaine Kline requested Approval of Pay Request #9 from Vissering Construction Inc. with Direction to Send it to the IEPA for Approval and Disbursement for a total Amount of \$1,290,960.96 per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

(#6) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to Approve Pay Request #9 from Vissering Construction Inc. with Direction to Send it to the IEPA for Approval and Disbursement for a total Amount of \$1,290,960.96 per the memo dated November 6, 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.

Assistant Public Works Director Blaine Kline requested Approval of Pay Request #14 from Williams Brother Construction Inc. with Direction to Send it to the IEPA for Approval and Disbursement for Total Amount of \$810,652.02 per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

(#7) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderman Dyke, to Approve Pay Request #14 from Williams Brother Construction Inc. with Direction to Send it to the IEPA for Approval and Disbursement for Total Amount of \$810,652.02 per the memo dated November 6, 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.

Assistant Public Works Director Blaine Kline requested Approval of Pay Request #15 from Williams Brother Construction Inc. with Direction to Send it to the IEPA for Approval and Disbursement for Total Amount of \$171,381.03 per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

(#8) Motion by Alderman Dyke seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to Approve Pay Request #15 from Williams Brother Construction Inc. with Direction to Send it to the IEPA for Approval and Disbursement for Total Amount of \$171,381.03 per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

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.

Alderwoman Gazal asked Assistant Director Kline if he ever received an answer regarding yard waste pick up. Assistant Director Kline commented that he did ask for yard waste pick up to be extended one week but has not received an answer but will follow up.

Alderwoman Gazal thanked Assistant Director Kline for removing the benches on Theodore.

Mayor Soliman announced that as of now the last yard waste pick up is the week of November 27, 2023.

CITY ENGINEER: City Engineer Ron Wiedeman requested to Approve Change Order No. 1 for the City of Crest Hill Welcome Sign Project at the Location Originally Presented at Carillon Lakes for an Amount not to Exceed \$17,421.50 per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

Mayor Soliman asked for a motion.

Alderman Kubal commented that the program that Engineer Wiedeman put together with Carillon Lakes is fantastic, but we are still not enamored with the location and asked if there is an option to leave things as they are or put some flowers and improve the landscaping of that location. Engineer Wiedeman commented that he was informed that

they had tried to improve the landscaping a couple of years ago and the owner would not let anyone on the property to do any work. Engineer Wiedeman commented that there is no agreement for that sign and if the property owner wanted, he could remove that sign tomorrow. The sign is older and will need some work soon but without having any rights there is not a lot we can do at this point.

Alderwoman Gazal commented that she is not comfortable with spending all the money and in the end having the sign blocked by the cornfield. She also commented that she feels maybe we should stop or table this for now and she doesn't understand why there is a rush to decide. Engineer Wiedeman commented that the only reason for the rush is that we are under contract.

Alderman Albert asked what some of the other locations that we looked at but don't have approval for. Engineer Wiedeman commented that one location was on Larkin and the other location was on Gaylord. There is a second phase that this could be done in, but we will have to go back and revisit it. We could purchase the stone and have it installed later. Alderman Albert commented that he really wants there to be a sign on Renwick Road, but the location has some obstacles with the property to the west and there is nothing stopping the property owner now to put up landscaping to block the sign. Alderman Albert commented that he does not like the unknowns and that is why he would be voting against this.

Mayor Soliman asked for a motion for approval. He then asked a second and a third time for a motion for approval. There was no motion to approve. City Attorney Mike Stiff commented that it is then off the table. Engineer Wiedeman commented that he would let the contractor know and he will purchase the material and work with Public Works to store this somewhere.

Alderwoman Gazal asked since there was no action taken should this be tabled for future discussion. Attorney Stiff commented that it dies on the table, but it can be brought back at any time for a vote if there is a motion. He did state that there was an easement negotiated with Carillon Lakes and recorded. He also commented that Carillon Lakes might want that easement released at this point. Engineer Wiedeman commented that he will talk to Cindy at Carillon Lakes and inform her that the City Council does not want to move to that location and how they would like to handle the easement. Attorney Stiff commented that if there is any chance that this might come back for a motion then they should table this. He commented that you don't want to go through the trouble of releasing the easement and then bring it back and must negotiate the easement and have it recorded again.

(#9) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to Table the Change Order No. 1 for the City of Crest Hill Welcome Sign Project at the Location Originally Presented at Carillon Lakes for an Amount not to Exceed \$17,421.50 per the memo dated November 6, 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.

Alderwoman Gazal and Alderman Kubal thanked Engineer Wiedeman for doing all that work.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT: Interim Director of Community Development Ron Mentzer requested to Approve the Implementation of New Unconditional Agreement and Consent Requirements for Special Zoning Approvals as Outlined in the November 6, 2023, Memorandum from Acting Community and Economic Development Director Mentzer.

(#10) Motion by Alderman Dyke seconded by Alderperson Oberlin, to Approve the Implementation of New Unconditional Agreement and Consent Requirements for Special Zoning Approvals as Outlined in the November 6, 2023, Memorandum from Acting Community and Economic Development Director Mentzer.

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.

Interim Director of Community Development Ron Mentzer requested to Approve to Designate the Mayor and Alderwoman Gazal to Represent the City Council in Future Internal Economic Development Related Discussions with City Staff as Outlined in the November 6, 2023, Memorandum from Acting Community and Economic Development Director Mentzer per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

Director Mentzer commented that he asked Consultant Gulden on his last day if he had received any input from the Council regarding which alderperson they have chosen, and Consultant Gulden informed him that there were several emails from the elected officials that would give support for Alderwoman Gazal designation to the group.

Alderwoman Gazal thanked the Council for their confidence in her and she will do her best to work with Director Mentzer, the community, and the businesses.

(#11) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to Approve to Designate the Mayor and Alderwoman Gazal to Represent the City Council in Future Internal Economic Development Related Discussions with City Staff as Outlined in the November 6, 2023, Memorandum from Acting Community and Economic Development Director Mentzer per the memo dated November 6, 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.

Interim Director of Community Development Ron Mentzer requested Approval to Waive the Building Permit Fee for the Will County Child Advocacy Center in the Amount of \$21,430.00 per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

(#12) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderman Vershay, for Approval to Waive the Building Permit Fee for the Will County Child Advocacy Center in the Amount of \$21,430.00 per the memo dated November 6, 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.

Director Mentzer gave an update informing the Council that the Community Development Department issued the building permit for the foundation of the 577,000 square foot warehouse facility that Midwest Industrial Funds is developing on Lidice Parkway and in conjunction with the issuance of that permit the city collected just over \$80,000.00 in permit fees.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Police Chief Ed Clark reminded everyone that tomorrow, November 7, 2023 they are conducting training outside on Crest Hill Drive and will be closing the road from 12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. for mandatory training.

Alderwoman Gazal informed Chief Clark that she has received complaints of overnight parking in Remington. Chief Clark commented that he will look into it.

MAYOR: Mayor Raymond Soliman extended his gratitude to several individuals, groups, and vendors who helped the city with the open house. Some of the vendors were the Lockport Township Fire District, White Oak Crest Hill Library, Lockport Township Park District. He also thanked the Crest Hill Police Department, Officer Outlaw representing the D.A.R.E Program and the Special Olympics and Office Brian Barnes with Canine Dog, Wyatt.

Mayor Soliman also extended his gratitude to Will County Executive Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant, State Senator Meg Loughran Cappel and Rachel Ventura, State Representatives Natalie Manley, Dagmara Avelar, and Larry Walsh, Jr.

Mayor Soliman thanked Prairie Bluff Golf Course for the food that was served and Beggars Pizza who made a very nice donation to our open house.

Mayor Soliman also thanked the Crest Hill Police Department, Deputy Chief Ryan Dobczyk and Deputy Chief Jason Opiola for giving tours, along with City Clerk Christine Vershay- Hall who gave tours of the City Hall side. He also thanked all the employees who helped and especially Marybel DeHaro, Assistant Director of Public Works Blaine Kline, and Tony Halaska from the Building & Grounds Department.

Mayor Soliman also extended his gratitude to the City Council and everyone else who played their part in the open house, it was a great event.

Mayor Soliman commented that there was a groundbreaking at Midwest Industrial Funds and stated that we are happy to have Midwest Industrial Funds in the City of Crest Hill.

Mayor Soliman thanked every veteran for their commitment and sacrifices for their dedication to our Country and our Community to allow us our freedom today. He announced there is a Veteran's Ceremony at Post #1080 at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 11, 2023.

Alderwoman Gazal commented that the Clerk is an elected official and not an employee. She also reminded the mayor that he forgot to mention our City Engineer Ron Wiedeman and Building Commissioner Don Seeman, Finance Director Lisa Banovetz, the treasurer, the elected officials, and our city attorney that were present. She didn't want to miss anyone, and it is only fair to mention everyone.

Alderman Oberlin thanked Assistant Director Blaine Kline for the beautiful display out front and stated that it was a nice touch. Director Kline commented that the credit would have to go to his wife, and he thanked Alderman Oberlin.

City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall thanked Engineer Wiedeman, Commissioner Seeman, and Director Banovetz for giving tours up front and helping her out.

Alderman Vershay commented that the Mayor of Joliet, Terry D'Arcy was at the open house, also.

Mayor Soliman also mentioned that Judy Batusich, who was the first female alderperson for the City of Crest Hill was here, along with other past officials and past employees.

CITY CLERK: City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall announced that all City of Crest Hill offices will be closed Friday, November 10, 2023 in honor of Veteran's Day. She also thanked all past, present, and future veterans for their services.

CITY TREASURER: City Treasurer Glen Conklin asked if we could take agenda item #12 and make it the last item. It was agreed that was fine and no motion was needed to do this.

City Treasurer Glen Conklin requested Approval of bills through November 7, 2023 in the amount of \$3,825,503.57 for Council approval per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

(#13) Motion by Alderman Oberlin seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to Approve the list of bills through November 7, 2023 in the amount of \$3,825,503.57 per the memo dated November 6, 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.

City Treasurer Glen Conklin presented the Quarterly Compensation Time Buy Back for the Period July 1, 2023 ~ September 30, 2023 in the Amount of \$28,905.47 per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

City Treasurer Glen Conklin presented the regular and overtime payroll from October 9, 2023 through October 22, 2023 in the amount of \$235,746.97 per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

City Treasurer Glen Conklin requested Approval to Ratify a Previous Employee Leasing Agreement Between GOVTEMPSUSA, LLC. And The City of Crest Hill per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

Alderwoman Gazal asked if a motion was needed. Treasurer Conklin stated that he does need a motion. Alderwoman Gazal makes a motion and Alderman Dyke makes a second motion. Alderman Kubal asked Treasurer Conklin for clarification if we are talking about a two-week extension. Treasurer Conklin commented that the three-month contract has been filled and now we are on a revolving two-week extension.

(#14) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal seconded by Alderman Dyke, to Approve to Ratify a Previous Employee Leasing Agreement Between GOVTEMPSUSA, LLC. And The City of Crest Hill per the memo dated November 6, 2023.

Mayor Soliman asked for any questions or comments.

Alderman Jefferson asked if this is a continuation (without naming anyone's name) from the contract we already had and is this just the extension. Treasurer Conklin said that is correct. Treasurer Conklin commented that the contract we have is with GovHR who provides us with a Human Resource Representative. He also asked after the vote he would ask that we go into executive session to have some dialogue and tighten up some loose ends in regard to a legal matter that has been requested by GovHR or he stated that we can enter executive session and finalize the vote after executive session, but he would like to go into executive session on a couple details relevant to this contract. Alderman Jefferson commented that he is looking for clarity that this contract with GovTemps is for the same individual. Treasurer Conklin commented that is correct.

Alderman Albert commented that he would feel more comfortable doing the executive session first before voting on this.

Alderwoman Gazal commented that that is totally different and there is a motion on the floor, and she is not changing.

Mayor Soliman commented that he thinks it would be best to go into executive session before the vote happens. Treasurer Conklin commented that he cannot make that motion.

Alderwoman Gazal commented that she already made a motion, and she is not changing it. Alderman Dyke commented that he has seconded the motion.

Mayor Soliman commented that he feels it is important that we hear everything before the vote is taken.

Alderwoman Gazal stated to the mayor that she made a motion, and she is not changing her motion.

Mayor Soliman began to speak but it was unclear since Treasurer Conklin commented we have Robert's Rule at the same time. Also, at the same time Alderwoman Gazal commented she has a motion, and she is not changing her motion.

Treasurer Conklin commented that Robert's Rule would dictate that we call the roll.

Alderwoman Gazal commented to the mayor that he is not going to tell her how she needs to vote.

City Attorney Mike Stiff commented that there is a motion and a second motion.

Mayor Soliman asked if there were any other questions or comments before roll call.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: Ald. Albert

ABSENT: None.

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

Resolution #1190

Treasurer Conklin requested someone to make a motion to go into executive session. Alderwoman Gazal commented that not right now, we still have a meeting to conduct, and we will make that motion at that time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

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

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Many Council members thanked the veteran's and their families for their sacrifices made for our Country.

Alderwoman Gazal thanked the Seigel Family for donating 400 pumpkins on Halloween day and appreciated their support for our community and the families were very happy to receive them. She also thanked the Crest Hill Lion's Club for hosting the Halloweenie Roast.

Alderwoman Gazal commented that everyone needs to speak even if your voice shakes and not to let anyone control you.

Aldersperson Oberlin commented that there is a program that every year places wreaths at the veteran's graves at Abraham Lincoln Cemetery and it is a wonderful thing to see and participate. She also commented that they take donations for this, and NuMark Credit Union will match any donation made up to a certain dollar amount and this is a nice thing to do for a person who might not have family to remember them.

Alderman Albert thanked everyone who played a part in the open house/ribbon cutting ceremony. He commented that it was very nice, and he and his family enjoyed the tours of the Police Department.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Linda Dyke, a resident at 1700 Kelly, thanked the Crest Hill Police Chief, Will County Sheriff's Department, ISP, and the attorney for a job well done.

Stuart Soifer, a resident at 21526 Gray Wing Drive, asked if the Council approved new signs for the front of the dais. Mayor Soliman commented that he believed they did. Stuart asked what the status was. Mayor Soliman commented that he does not believe they are in yet.

Stuart also commented that he appreciated the publication for the public hearing going on the website, but it should have been indicated where the hearing would be, and he commented that you always talk about transparency and that was not transparent.

Stuart asked when we would paint the rest of Gaylord since only the west side of the road is painted and none of the stripes are painted on the east side of the road. He stated that he was at the meeting and understood that Crest Hill is responsible for both sides of the road. City Engineer Ron Wiedeman commented that Water Commission will be tearing that road up in the next year to install a new water main and after this project the road will be resurfaced and restriped. Stuart commented that it is a year away. Engineer Wiedeman commented that there was not any money in the budget to do all the striping, so we replaced what was disturbed. Stuart asked Chief Clark if there are any legal issues regarding traffic when the road is not painted. Chief Clark commented that there are no legal issues since traffic is regulated by the IVC whether there are markings or not.

Stuart asked the mayor if he issued a license to a business who did not pay their Places for Eating Taxes. Mayor Soliman commented that he did. Stuart asked if that was against the ordinance. Mayor Soliman commented that he was trying to be business friendly and help the business establishment. Stuart asked what about the gentleman from the cheesecake place. Mayor Soliman commented that he was doing what he thought was in the best interest of the city and has rectified the situation and they are brought up to date and paid in full. Stuart commented that he doesn't think that matters. Mayor Soliman stated that Stuart's comments are well taken. Stuart stated that based upon that action, where you violated a city ordinance and how you treated a gentleman from the cheesecake factory, you should step down as mayor.

Mayor Soliman asked if there was anybody else who had comments.

Mayor Soliman asked Attorney Stiff if there was a need for an executive session. Attorney Stiff commented that to his understanding there will be a motion. Alderwoman Gazal stated there is for (c)(1) and (c)(11) and makes a motion.

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

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.

Executive Session 7:53 p.m.

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

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.

Reconvened 8:52 p.m.

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

(#17) Motion by Alderman Dyke seconded by Alderman Vershay, to adjourn the November 6, 2023 Council meeting.

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 8:53 p.m.

Approved this 20 day of NOVEMBER, 2023

As presented ✓

As amended _____


CHRISTINE VERSHAY-HALL, CITY CLERK


RAYMOND R. SOLIMAN, MAYOR