

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF CREST HILL
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
June 17, 2024

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 Treasurer Glen Conklin, City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall, Alderman Scott Dyke, Alderman Darrell Jefferson, Alderwoman Claudia Gazal, Alderperson Tina Oberlin, Alderman Mark Cipiti, Alderman Nate Albert (7:04p), Alderman Joe Kubal.

Also present were: Interim City Administrator Tony Graff, Deputy Chief Jason Opiola, Interim Director of Finance Carron Johnson, City Engineer Ron Wiedeman, Interim Public Works Director Mike Eulitz, Interim Director of Community Development Ron Mentzer, Interim Human Resource Manager Dave Strahl, City Attorney Mike Stiff, Deputy Clerk Karen Kozerka.

Absent were: Police Chief Ed Clark, Interim City Planner Maura Rigoni, Building Commissioner Don Seeman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on June 3, 2024, for Council approval per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

(#1) Motion by Alderman Jefferson seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to Approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting Held on June 3, 2024, per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Albert

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

Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the Special Work Session Meeting held on June 4, 2024, for Council approval per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

(#2) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to Approve the Minutes from the Special Work Session Meeting Held on June 4, 2024, per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Albert.

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

Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the Work Session Meeting held on June 10, 2024, for Council approval per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

(#3) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to Approve the Minutes from the Work Session Held on June 10, 2024, per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Albert.

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

CITY ATTORNEY: There were no agenda items.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: Interim City Administrator Tony Graff commented that he emailed his report to the Council and went into detail on his report. He commented that he attended the Grand Prairie Water Commission meetings for the last two weeks and all the documents are before you tonight for final approval. He also attended the Stateville Correctional Center Closure Hearing on June 11, 2024. He mentioned that they will be discussing more about the job announcements in the executive session that Human Resources has been working on. He also mentioned that the Phase II City Hall study is completed and will be available at the July 8, 2024, Work Session meeting. He announced mosquito spraying has started.

Interim Administrator Graff commented that they are getting a quote for the mason to come in and shave it and once we have a quote and the location, we will have this at the work session to discuss where we will put that sign.

Public Works is starting to knock on doors to discuss with residents about replacing the meters since many residents are unsure and the letters are not working.

Interim Administrator Graff commented that the auditors are supposed to start their audit on July 8, 2024. He confirmed that date with the Interim Finance Director, but she stated she did not get that email.

Alderwoman Gazal commented that she contacted Interim Administrator Graff regarding the Lidice Ceremony where employees were not present but had put down that they were there for overtime. She commented that she was there and there was only one staff member for the entire event and no employees were present. She also commented that she has a problem with the overtime, that we paid six hours of overtime for five employees that were not present at the time of the event and wants to know how she can justify this to the residents for the thirty hours of overtime the city is paying.

Interim Administrator Graff commented that he talked to Interim Public Works Director Mike Eulitz and the staff was there and was told to leave the area and go back to Public Works once everything was set up. Alderwoman Gazal commented that they left because of direction from another employee and not a supervisor.

Alderpersion Oberlin commented that she did not see any staff members except for Tony Halaska, and he informed her he was going to work on another project but gave his phone number in case he was needed. She also commented at the end of the ceremony there were two summer help employees there.

Alderwoman Gazal commented that she is having a hard time understanding that we are paying overtime for staff that were not present at the event and that the direction for them to go to Public Works was given by another employee and not a supervisor. Alderwoman Gazal then commented that we have a lot of chiefs and not enough Indians.

Alderwoman Gazal also commented that the same person made the decision to have the Finance Director move offices instead of moving desks and we have an organization sheet to know which department goes where in the city and then a staff member decided who gets to move where.

Interim Administrator Graff commented that it was discussed with the Treasurer who is the Finance Director's Supervisor, and it was decided that it was easier to move the person then move the desk and it is only three rooms down from her office she had and is still close to her staff. Alderwoman Gazal commented that Section 2.2-30 in the handbook states that the administrator responds not only to the mayor but the elected officials as well and it seems like Interim Administrator Graff doesn't want to take direction from the Council and if that is how he wants to do it then to go right ahead.

Alderman Jefferson asked if all five employees were at the event for the entire six hours and he was told they were not, that they had left and went back to Public Works Department to work. Alderman Jefferson commented that the overtime hours are being paid for that particular event and they should have been at that event. He understands they were given directions and followed but that incorrect direction could create a violation especially while on city time and time and a half. He also stated that we all know that the penalty is very stiff for a misuse of money.

Alderwoman Gazal asked again why one staff member can make all these decisions when they are not the manager or supervisor, and this is unacceptable, and no one is saying anything to this employee.

Mayor Soliman commented that these same comments were made after the Memorial Ceremony. He stated that the Lidice Ceremony has been done by the City of Crest Hill for eighty-two years and the Memorial Day Ceremony has been done by the City of Crest Hill for thirty-six years and that is something this city should be proud of every year, and it is a city event. If we cannot put people on overtime to help, then shame on the City of Crest Hill. Those employees were there for the Lidice Ceremony at 7:30 a.m. loading equipment and putting it up and they were there early on Memorial Day, as well. He stated that he could respect Alderwoman Gazal's comments but at the end of the day he hopes she respects his. This city should be proud of both of those events. The Lidice Event is one of only two in the entire United States. He commented that the city should maintain that garden and we should make sure that the Czechoslovakian people come every year and are taken care of just like the Veterans and the Police Officers on Memorial Day. Mayor Soliman commented that he has a right to his opinion as well and he felt both events were

well done, well respected, and very solemn and as long as he is mayor the City of Crest Hill will continue to have those programs.

Alderwoman Gazal commented that when did she ever say she was against those programs, in fact she is one of the board members. She commented that she is justifying when people are not working and getting paid, and it is her right to question. She also commented that the elected officials always ask to help and the mayor refuses, and the brochures were donated by the treasurer. Mayor Soliman commented that they had an opportunity to help. She then asked the question again why a staff member is making decisions and not the city administrator.

Alderman Cipiti commented that he felt we need to separate the ceremony and its importance from the affective use of city employee time and especially overtime and if they are asked to work that event, they should be at that event. He commented that they should not have been able to go back to Public Works and do something else when that overtime was designated for that event.

Alderman Jefferson commented that he did not see anywhere that the Lidice Ceremony is hosted or sponsored by the City of Crest Hill, and we cannot be using public dollars for private events. He understands that there are ethnic celebrations taking place all over the country and Wednesday is Juneteenth and that holiday has almost no recognition but if it is a private event and public dollars are used for this event then it needs to come before the Council.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: Interim Public Works Director Mike Eulitz commented that Alderwoman Gazal had brought the overtime to his attention, as well. He commented that he spoke to the employees working and they should not have left, and they were told they could leave, and it was wrong, but it has been dealt with and it would not happen again.

Alderman Dyke asked if we could clean up the weeds growing by the Public Works Department along the tracks and by the old City Hall by the creek. Interim Director Eulitz commented that it would have to be done by hand since we do not have the equipment with an arm to do something like that, although he would like to price that out. Alderman Dyke asked if we could rent the equipment. Mayor Soliman commented that in the past the Public Works Department had reached out to Lockport Township Highway Department, and they would come do it for us along the railroad tracks, as a courtesy.

Alderman Dyke also asked if we could put yellow flashing lights around the truck signs on Raynor to make it more visible, so trucks do not come down Raynor. Interim Director Eulitz commented that he would have to look at some type of solar alternative solutions to put a light on top of the sign.

Alderman Dyke mentioned that the weeds/grass are becoming overgrown off Broadway on each side of the viaduct.

CITY ENGINEER: City Engineer Ron Wiedeman requested to Approve an Ordinance to Establish the Grand Prairie Water Commission, Approve an Intergovernmental Agreement and a Water Supply Agreement, Appoint Representatives to the Commission, and Authorize Approval of Bylaws and a Program Management Agreement, and Other Related Matters per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

(#4) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to Approve an Ordinance to Establish the Grand Prairie Water Commission, Approve an Intergovernmental Agreement and a Water Supply Agreement, Appoint Representatives to the Commission, and Authorize Approval of Bylaws and a Program Management Agreement, and Other Related Matters per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.
Ordinance #1987

Mayor Soliman commented that this is the creation of the Grand Prairie Water Commission, and all the other communities will be voting on this in the next week. This will begin the process of the shovels in the ground to come out forty-four miles with a sixty-inch pipe to get to the border of Romeoville, and then Crest Hill will be next and continue south towards Joliet, Shorewood, Channahon, and Minooka. This will serve over 400,000 people with Lake Michigan Water and will be available in 2030.

City Engineer Ron Wiedeman requested to Approve a Resolution Approving an Agreement for Circle and Green Water Main Replacement and Road Reconstruction Improvement by and between the City of Crest Hill, Will County, Illinois and Austin Tyler Construction, Inc. for an Amount of \$1,582,230.63 per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

(#5) Motion by Alderman Albert seconded by Alderperson Oberlin, to Approve a Resolution Approving an Agreement for Circle and Green Water Main Replacement and Road Reconstruction Improvement by and between the City of Crest Hill, Will County, Illinois and Austin Tyler Construction, Inc. for an Amount of \$1,582,230.63 per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.
Resolution #1237

City Engineer Ron Wiedeman requested to Approve a Resolution Approving an Agreement for Professional Engineering Services for 2024 Sanitary Sewer Cleaning and Televising Bid and Oversight Services (From Rich Products to Oakland Avenue) by and between the City of Crest Hill, Will County, Illinois and Robinson Engineering, Ltd. for an Amount of \$26,750.00 per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

(#6) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal seconded by Alderman Dyke, to Approve a Resolution Approving an Agreement for Professional Engineering Services for 2024 Sanitary Sewer Cleaning and Televising Bid and Oversight Services (From Rich Products to Oakland Avenue) by and between the City of Crest Hill, Will County, Illinois and Robinson Engineering, Ltd. for an Amount of \$26,750.00 per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Resolution #1238

City Engineer Ron Wiedeman requested to Approve a Resolution Approving an Agreement for Weber Road Traffic Signals Improvement (Ryan and McGilvray) by and between the City of Crest Hill, Will County, Illinois and Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. for an Amount of \$128,000.00 per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

(#7) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal seconded by Alderman Dyke, to Approve a Resolution Approving an Agreement for Weber Road Traffic Signals Improvement (Ryan and McGilvray) by and between the City of Crest Hill, Will County, Illinois and Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. for an Amount of \$128,000.00 per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Resolution #1239

Alderman Kubal asked for the City Engineer to give a little history about why we are making this change since it is quite a bit of money that we are spending.

Engineer Wiedeman commented that they have looked at traffic flow and traffic patterns and based on the traffic data, number of accidents, and the amount of traffic, it was decided that McGilvray has more use for the traffic signal than Ryan. Also, from the city's interest it is better for us to have a traffic signal to get traffic out of the back of Renwick and this would serve two purposes.

City Engineer Ron Wiedeman requested to Award the Contract to Austin Tyler Construction, Inc. for the Public Works Facility Rear Yard Re-Grading Improvement in the Amount of \$92,665.00 per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

(#8) Motion by Alderman Dyke seconded by Alderman Albert, to Award the Contract to Austin Tyler Construction, Inc. for the Public Works Facility Rear Yard Re-Grading Improvement in the Amount of \$92,665.00 per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Engineer Wiedeman gave a brief update regarding the road construction on Knapp Road. He commented that they have moved traffic over but have not actually started the traffic yet. He also commented that it would be any day now that they will start the dig up on the east side to start the widening.

Alderman Albert commented that everyone is still going at the same speed there and wondered if we can put any flashing lights or something for vehicles to slow down. Engineer Wiedeman commented that we can request to have the speed limit reduced by ten miles an hour and have the police department out there writing tickets.

Alderwoman Gazal thanked Engineer Wiedeman for overseeing the McGilvrey traffic signal project. Alderman Albert thanked him as well.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT: Interim Community Development Director Ron Mentzer requested to Approve an Ordinance Extending Ordinance 1959, an Ordinance Granting a Special Use Permit with Respect to Certain Real Property Located within the Corporate Boundaries of the City of Crest Hill (Application of A & D Storage, LLC) per the memo dated June 17, 2024. This is regarding a Special Use that the city approved August of 2023 for a new self-storage facility on the vacant property at the southwest corner of Borio and Renwick Road. This was discussed at the last work session meeting. This would extend this Special Use for one year.

Alderwoman Gazal asked if we could put in the paperwork that they will notify the city if they sell the property as a courtesy. Attorney Stiff commented that they already indicated that they would, and he did not feel it is something that we should put in the ordinance.

Mayor Soliman asked if anyone in the audience would like to approach the podium and speak for or against Mr. Rudy Dixon, owner of A&D Storage extending the Special Use located at the southwest corner of Borio and Renwick Rd. No one approached the podium to speak for or against Mr. Rudy Dixon, owner of A & D Storage.

(#9) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to Approve an Ordinance Extending Ordinance 1959, an Ordinance Granting a Special Use Permit with Respect to Certain Real Property Located within the Corporate Boundaries of the City of Crest Hill (Application of A & D Storage, LLC) per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being seven (7) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.
Ordinance #1988

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Deputy Chief Jason Opiola commented that he has no agenda items, but he would like to mention that every year he applies for a grant with IDOT for traffic enforcement and there is a grant coming up that would begin June 21st and run

through July 8, 2024, and he can direct the officers to patrol Weber Road. That overtime is paid for through the grant and no cost to the city.

Alderwoman Gazal thanked the police and Chief Clark for the traffic detail that was done on Weber Road. They had thirteen traffic stops which consisted of ten verbal warnings, two written warnings, and one citation all within four hours.

Alderman Cipiti shared a message he received from a resident. He stated that the resident was not home at the time and his ring doorbell picked up an officer at his door and then seen the police officer go to his mailbox and put something in it. When the resident returned home, he found his flag properly folded in the mailbox. It had turned out that it was windy, and the flag had fallen to the ground; the officer saw this and pulled over, picked up the flag and properly folded the flag and placed it in the owner's mailbox. The resident was very touched by this and called the city to let them know. The officer was a veteran and has the upmost respect for the American Flag and even though it was not city property, the officer did the right thing. Deputy Chief Opiola commented that they love to hear stories like this about their officers and he commented that we have great officers here in the City of Crest Hill.

MAYOR: Mayor Raymond Soliman requested to Approve a Resolution Honoring John S. Vershay for His 45 Years of Service to the City of Crest Hill per the memo dated June 17, 2024. Mayor Soliman asked for the Council to read the resolution for Alderman John Vershay.

(#10) Motion by Alderman Dyke seconded by Alderman Albert, to Approve a Resolution Honoring John S. Vershay for His 45 Years of Service to the City of Crest Hill per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Resolution #1236

Mayor Soliman offered condolences to the Vershay Family and commented that for forty-five years Alderman John Vershay sat at the dais and made tough decisions and we are grateful for his years of service. He also commented that John Vershay improved the quality of life for the residents in the City of Crest Hill. We honor him tonight for his service and would like to present a copy of Resolution #1236 to each family member, beginning with our City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall, Tammy Wisnewski, and John Vershay Jr.

City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall thanked Alderman Dyke for bringing this to the attention of the Council and making the resolution happen. She then thanked the Council and commented that this means a lot to the family, he is deeply missed.

John Vershay, Jr. approached the podium, thanked everyone, and commented that his dad, John Vershay, loved what he did.

Alderwoman Gazal commented that she misses John Vershay telling them they are all crazy. She also wanted to comment that John loved his granddaughter Molly very much and he would always show pictures of her to them.

Alderman Albert commented that we miss him dearly and wanted to mention his commitment to Saints Anne and St. Ambrose Church.

Alderman Dyke commented that he will miss John Vershay and all their good times together kidding around and talking about cars.

Mayor Raymond Soliman requested to Approve the Ward I Alderman Appointment of Angelo Deserio per the memo dated June 17, 2024. Mayor Soliman commented that it is the mayor's responsibility to bring before the Council a qualified individual to fill the vacancy of Ward I due to the passing of John Vershay. The vacancy was posted, applications and resumes were accepted, and interviews were conducted of three candidates. Mayor Soliman introduced Mr. Angelo Deserio who is more than qualified to sit as a replacement in the vacant seat of Ward I. Angelo has four years of service on the Plan Commission and has been a well-respected citizen of Crest Hill for many years. Mayor Soliman asked for the City Council's support for the appointment of Angelo Deserio.

Angelo Deserio approached the podium and thanked the mayor and Council for the consideration of the appointment. Angelo commented that he is a proud twenty-one-year resident of Crest Hill and supported events, city organizations, churches, and has worked with many members of the City Council. He also commented that he has worked in the construction field for many years and wanted everyone to know he is not afraid to roll up his sleeves and get down in the trenches and do the work that needs to be done to help this city and the residents of this city.

(#11) Motion by Alderman Albert seconded by Alderman Kubal, to Approve the Ward I Alderman Appointment of Angelo Deserio per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the votes was:

AYES: Ald. Albert, Kubal.

NAYES: Ald. Oberlin, Cipiti, Dyke, Jefferson, Gazal.

ABSENT: None.

There being five (5) negative votes, the MOTION FAILED.

Mayor Soliman apologized to Angelo and stated that the majority does rule but wanted to thank Angelo for his interest in the City of Crest Hill and he hoped he would keep his interest in the City of Crest Hill going forward.

Attorney Stiff commented that the mayor has thirty days to bring another candidate to City Council. Alderman Cipiti asked if the second individual that the mayor brings forward must be from the original three candidates. Attorney Stiff stated that there is no requirement that you post, there is no requirement that you accept applications and resumes, and no requirement that you interview anyone. He then commented that it is the mayor's appointment, and he could choose someone else if he wanted to.

Alderwoman Gazal commented that we are in this situation because of the mayor due to transparency. She also commented that it would have been easy for the mayor to come to

a work session and discuss with the Council the applicants and the resumes but did not. Alderwoman Gazal commented again that it is not against Angelo but the process of how the mayor does things. She commented that we are \$7 Million in deficit and have six (6) interim employees. She then commented that it is not fair for Angelo to stand here like he did, it is embarrassing because she knows since she has been in the same position when the mayor voted against her at a work session.

Alderwoman Gazal commented that she found out that there were two women who applied for the position, but you chose Angelo, but she has seen what the other female applicant has done for the city who sits here in the audience. It is the mayor's right to decide who he appoints but it is the Council's vote.

Mayor Soliman answered Alderwoman Gazal by stating that he did not write the state statute and the state statute states it is the mayor's appointment and the mayor does not have to advertise for the vacancy, but he chose to. The mayor does not have to ask for applications or resumes, but he chose to. The mayor does not have to interview anybody for that position but he chose to interview all three and at the end of the day you may not like the state statute or like the rules but those are the rules. Mayor Soliman commented that he kept the same process to fill this seat with the same process he has always kept from Day one when he became the mayor in 2009. He has followed the same policy for sixteen years for the Plan Commission, Civil Service, Pension Board, and now this vacancy due to a death.

Mayor Soliman commented that at the end of the day this City Council has spoken, and the state statute will still be followed going forward and he will bring the next candidate for this board to a work session in the next thirty days and to be voted on.

Alderwoman Gazal commented that she agrees with what the State Statute states but it also states that it is with the Council approval, and they are just asking for transparency and communication.

Mayor Soliman commented that his wife, Vicky, and himself attended the grand opening for Schoolhouse Antique & Collectives on Saturday, June 15, 2024. This is a consignment shop that is run by John Heavrin located at 2110 Plainfield Road. There were over one hundred people that attended the grand opening. There were many vendors, and it was a fantastic grand opening.

Alderman Cipiti asked the mayor if he purchased anything. Mayor Soliman commented that he did not, but his wife did.

Mayor Soliman commented that with the Fourth of July approaching he would ask that we leave the fireworks to the professionals. The grass, trees, and rooftops have been very dry and hot and if a hot ember falls there could be a possibility of a fire.

Alderwoman Gazal commented that the mayor had challenged her regarding overtime with her community outreach in the park and she wanted on record that she pays for those events, and they do use Public Works and the Police Department, but she also stated that since they live in a private community and the only services they receive from the city is the Police Department services.

CITY CLERK: City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall requested to Approve an Application for a Block Party for Clement St. – Kim Frederick per the memo dated June 17, 2024. This would be for a block party on July 27, 2024. They are requesting the 1700 block of Clement Street to be closed from Stern to Ludwig from 2:00 p.m. until 10:30 p.m.

(#12) Motion by Alderman Dyke seconded by Alderman Albert, to Approve an Application for a Block Party for Clement St. – Kim Frederick per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

CITY TREASURER: City Treasurer Glen Conklin requested to Approve a Resolution Amending Sections 4.3, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, and 6.4 of the Crest Hill Employee Handbook and Adopting a Revised Employee Performance Evaluation Program per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

Interim Human Resources Manager Dave Strahl commented that there are areas in the manual that need updated. He then explained the updated sections:

- Section 4.3 – Allows the Council maximum flexibility to consider wage/merit increases based on budget availability.
- Section 6.1 – 6.4 – Replaces the language that coincides with Evaluation Program put together. This program is more comprehensive and will require more action between supervisors and employees going forward. This will help employees with supervisor interaction and hold employees accountable but most importantly it will allow employees to understand their responsibilities in dialogue with their supervisors. Supervisors will need training to administer the program.

(#13) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to Approve a Resolution Amending Sections 4.3, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, and 6.4 of the Crest Hill Employee Handbook and Adopting a Revised Employee Performance Evaluation Program per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Resolution #1240

City Treasurer Glen Conklin requested to Approve the list of bills issued through June 18, 2024, in the Amount of \$741,120.90 per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

(#14) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to Approve the list of bills issued through June 18, 2024, in the amount of \$741,120.90 for Council approval per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

City Treasurer Glen Conklin presented the regular and overtime payroll from May 20, 2024, through June 2, 2024, in the amount of \$260,658.42 per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

Alderwoman Gazal asked when they will be posting the Finance Director position online. Interim Human Resources Manager Dave Strahl commented that that is something the city administrator needs to talk to the Council about and he has not been directed to post anything. Interim Administrator Graff commented that he will not be posting it at this time but there will be discussion in the executive session regarding this.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Alderman Dyke commented that he was at Theodore and Cedarwood early in the day and the streetlights were on when they should have been off. Engineer Wiedeman commented that he already called, and the company will be inspecting the lights shortly.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS: There were no agenda items.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Alderman Albert thanked John Vershay's family for sharing their father with the City of Crest Hill.

Alderman Cipiti extended his condolences again to the Vershay family and stated he will be missed.

Alderman Oberlin echoed prior sentiments and stated that John Vershay always made himself known whenever he was in the room, and we do not hear that anymore.

Alderwoman Gazal reminded everyone that on June 26, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Fields of Long Meadow Park off Borio is the Meet at the Park Event. The Police Department and Touch-a-Truck will be there, and hotdogs will be served and there will be many giveaways.

Alderman Dyke commented that he is very thankful for all the years he was able to be in Ward I with Alderman John Vershay and it was a real pleasure.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Linda Dyke, a resident on Kelly Avenue, approached the podium and mentioned that there were three cars in the front yard at 1805 Kelly Avenue from Thursday to Sunday and 1806 Kelly Avenue there was a van in the front yard and is still there. She also mentioned that at 1919 Kelly Avenue there were over fifteen cars there and

some cars are parked in the neighbor's yard or blocking the street, and a few are not registered.

Linda also asked if the Council Chambers are cleaned by a cleaning service because she has noticed there is dust along the dais in the past year she has been coming to the meetings. She also commented that if someone is paying to clean, they are not doing it.

Stuart Soifer, a resident, approached the podium and asked if the overtime is actual overtime or is it because every department is short staffed. He also commented that the mayor stated the statute of the vacant Council seat and nowhere in the statute does it state that the mayor cannot share who he is considering.

Mayor Soliman informed the Council that there was a need for an executive session on 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

(#15) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to go into executive session on 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Executive Session 8:24 p.m.

(#16) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to reconvene from the executive session on 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) per the memo dated June 17, 2024.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Reconvened 10:03 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 Albert, to adjourn the June 17, 2024, Council meeting.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Approved this 1 day of July, 2024
As presented _____
As amended ✓


CHRISTINE VERSHAY-HALL, CITY CLERK


RAYMOND R. SOLIMAN, MAYOR