

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL OF CREST HILL
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
September 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 to honor our Police Officers who were lost in the line of duty, Officer James Nink in 1966 and Sergeant Timothy Simenson in 1994. He also asked that we keep the first responders in our thoughts.

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

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the regular meeting held on August 15, 2022 for Council approval.

(#1) Motion by Alderman Vershay, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on August 15, 2022 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(93)

(105) Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the work session held on August 22, 2022 for Council approval.

(#2) Motion by Alderman Jefferson, seconded by Alderman Vershay, to approve the minutes from the work session held on August 22, 2022 as presented.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(110)

(122) Mayor Soliman presented the minutes from the Special City Council meeting held on August 29, 2022 for Council approval. Treasurer Conklin asked that on page 26, Public Relations Manager should be Employee Relations Manager.

(#3) Motion by Alderwoman Gazal, seconded by Alderman Dyke, to approve the minutes from the Special City Council meeting held on August 29, 2022 with a correction to page 26 from Public Relations Manager to Employee Relations Manager.

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.

(126)

(149) Mayor Raymond Soliman presented a Proclamation for Constitution Week September 17-23, 2022 per the memo dated September 6, 2022. Council members from Ward I and Ward II read the proclamation.

(#4) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Cipiti, to approve a Proclamation for Constitution Week September 17-23, 2022 per the memo dated September 6, 2022.

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.

(222)

(235) Mayor Soliman gave a brief speech. Members of the DAR were in attendance to accept the proclamation. They thanked the Council for the honor.

(388) Mayor Soliman presented a Certificate of Recognition-Jordan Mae Kolaski per the memo dated August 22, 2022. Mayor Soliman congratulated Jordan on earning her Eagle Scout Award on July 12, 2022. Members of the Council commended Ms. Kolaski on her achievement.

CITY ATTORNEY: (670) Attorney Mike Stiff presented A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE PURCHASING POLICY FOR THE CITY OF CREST HILL per the memo from Spesia & Taylor dated September 6, 2022. This was discussed at a previous work session. Alderman Cipiti questioned section 3, the first paragraph, what is the Cable Department. Alderwoman Gazal explained that this is for emergency purchases for the Cable room.

(#5) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE PURCHASING POLICY FOR THE CITY OF CREST HILL per the memo from Spesia & Taylor dated September 6, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: Ald. Albert.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: Ald. Kubal.

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

Resolution #1155

(713)

CITY ADMINISTRATOR: (764) City Administrator Jim Marino had no agenda items for discussion. Administrator Marino informed the Council that he received some information from the Park District regarding the governmental agreement. This would be forwarded to the City Attorney for finalization.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: (784) Public Works Director Mark Siefert presented a request to Award the Contract to Patriot Pavement Maintenance for the 2022/2023 MFT City Wide Crack Filling Program in the amount of \$29,250.00 per the memo dated September 6, 2022. Alderperson Oberlin asked why there was such a big difference in the bids. Director Siefert was not sure but could look into it. Alderman Albert commented that the concrete work that was done on Lynwood damaged the street and tore up the crack filling that was done there last year. Director Siefert would look into the matter.

(#6) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to approve a request to Award the Contract to Patriot Pavement Maintenance for the 2022/2023 MFT City Wide Crack Filling Program in the amount of \$29,250.00 per the memo dated September 6, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

(814)

(859) Director Siefert presented a request to Approve an Easement Agreement with Menard Inc. for a Property Behind Menards for Installation of Well #14 per the memo dated September 6, 2022. Per Alderperson Oberlin's request Director Siefert explained that the City of Crest Hill would be the only entity allowed to use the proposed easement.

(#7) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to Approve an Easement Agreement with Menard Inc. for a Property Behind Menards for Installation of Well #14 per the memo dated September 6, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Ordinance #1923

(886)

(932) Director Siefert presented A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND APPROVING A GRANT OF WELL SITE EASEMENT (Menard, Inc. Well Site) per the memo dated September 6, 2022.

(#8) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to approve A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND APPROVING A GRANT OF WELL SITE EASEMENT (Menard, Inc. Well Site) per the memo dated September 6, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Resolution ##1156

(936)

(955) Director Siefert explained that some of the manholes have other municipalities names on them. This is only temporary until ours come in from the foundry. In order to keep the project moving the contractor used ones that they had in house.

(994) Director Siefert informed the public that the annual Christmas parade will be December 4, 2022. As soon as we have more information, we will post it on our social media. Alderman Vershay asked if we could take a look at Gaylord and Theodore. There are a large number of potholes. Director Siefert explained that we will be out patching this week.

CITY ENGINEER: (1025) There were no agenda items for discussion.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT: (1029) Director Budzikowski had no agenda items for discussion. The reports were on file.

(1036) Director Budzikowski went over the agenda for the upcoming Plan Commission meeting to be held on September 14, 2022.

(1086) Director Budzikowski announced that White Smoke and Ash recently had their grand opening.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: (1101) Police Chief Ed Clark presented AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 9.42.040 AND 7.32.50 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL, ILLINOIS per the memo dated September 6, 2022. This would raise the fine to a minimum of \$250.00 and require the offender to attend an Administration hearing. Alderman Dyke thanked the Chief for his input in the ordinance.

(#9) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 9.42.040 AND 7.32.50 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CREST HILL, ILLINOIS per the memo dated September 6, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

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

Ordinance #1924

(1129)

(178) The reports were on file.

MAYOR: (1185) Mayor Soliman presented a request for the approval of the Police Pension Board Appointment-John Smith per the memo dated August 22, 2022. Mayor Soliman went over Mr. Smith's background and qualifications.

(#10) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderman Kubal, to approve a request for the Police Pension Board Appointment-John Smith per the memo dated August 22, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: Ald. Jefferson.

ABSENT: None.

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

(1214)

(1238) Mayor Soliman presented reconsideration of Amended Ordinance #1918, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 2 (ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL), CHAPTER 26 (FINANCE DIRECTOR) OF THE CREST HILL CITY CODE per the memo dated September 6, 2022. This ordinance was passed in August and the Mayor brought it back up for veto. Alderperson Oberlin asked the Attorney, in order to pass what we previously passed, how do we make the motion. Attorney Stiff explained that someone would make a motion to over ride the veto of amended ordinance #1918. Alderman Cipiti asked to verify that a "yes" vote is to over ride the veto and to retain the original vote that was taken. Attorney Stiff explained that a "yes" vote would over ride the veto and make the amended Ordinance #1918 the official law. Alderman Albert felt that this ordinance is a step backwards by making a Finance Director report to a part time official versus the City Administrator who is there full time and has the education and background to run the City. Alderman Jefferson said that our original vote was six to two. He has researched this and six votes out of eight is considered veto proof. Why are we revisiting this if we had the majority of the votes. Attorney Stiff explained that his interpretation is that any ordinance can be vetoed by the Mayor. Alderwoman Gazal hopes that tonight's vote will end the discussion and time spent on this ordinance. Mayor Soliman said that he has the authority to veto an ordinance. He feels that this ordinance is not in the best interest of the City. Alderwoman Gazal does not feel we are going backwards. If the Council received the information they requested, we would not be discussing this. Every official is part time including the Mayor. Many years ago the Treasurer used to be in charge of the office.

(#11) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to override the veto to ordinance #1918 and to approve AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 2 (ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL), CHAPTER 26 (FINANCE DIRECTOR) OF THE CREST HILL CITY CODE per the memo dated September 6, 2022

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: Ald. Albert, Kubal.

ABSENT: None.

There being six (6) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.
(1294)

(1529) Mayor Soliman commended White Smoke and Ash on their grand opening and the improvements that have been done to the property.

CITY CLERK: (1588) City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall presented a request for the closure of Laurel Oak Drive for a block party on Saturday September 10, 2022 per the memo dated September 6, 2022.

(#12) Motion by Alderman Jefferson, seconded by Alderwoman Gazal, to approve a request for the closure of Laurel Oak Drive for a block party on Saturday September 10, 2022 per the memo dated September 6, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being eight (8) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.
(1603)

(1636) Clerk Vershay Hall presented a request for the closure of Abbey/Prestwick for a block party on Saturday September 24, 2022 per the memo dated September 6, 2022.

(#13) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderperson Oberlin, to approve a request for the closure of Abbey/Prestwick for a block party on Saturday September 24, 2022 per the memo dated September 6, 2022.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being eight (8) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.
(1642)

CITY TREASURER: (1685) City Treasurer Glen Conklin presented the regular and overtime payroll from August 1, 2022 to August 14, 2022 in the amount of \$251,276.37.

(1698) Treasurer Conklin presented the regular and overtime payroll from August 15, 2022 to August 28, 2022 in the amount of \$241,735.46.

(1707) Finance Director Lisa Banovetz presented A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION AND BUDGET AMENDMENT ORDINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING MAY 1, 2022 AND ENDING APRIL 30, 2023, FOR THE CITY OF CREST HILL, WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS per the memo dated September 6, 2022. This was discussed at a previous meeting.

(#14) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Albert, to approve A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION AND BUDGET AMENDMENT ORDINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING MAY 1, 2022 AND ENDING APRIL 30, 2023,

FOR THE CITY OF CREST HILL, WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS per the memo dated September 6, 2022.

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.

Ordinance # 1925

(1734)

(1759) Finance Director Banovetz presented a request for the Approval to Hire an Accounts Disbursement Clerk per the memo dated August 29, 2022.

(#15) Motion by Alderman Albert, seconded by Alderperson Oberlin, to approve a request for the Approval to Hire an Accounts Disbursement Clerk per the memo dated August 29, 2022.

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.

(1772)

(1791) Treasurer Conklin presented the list of bills in the amount of \$828,725.08 for Council approval.

(#16) Motion by Alderperson Oberlin, seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to approve the list of bills in the amount of \$828,725.08.

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.

(1802)

(1822) Alderperson Oberlin thanked the Treasurer and Finance Director for their work on the Account Disbursement Clerk position.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (1838) There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS: (1840) There was no new business.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS: (1841) There were no committee/liaison reports.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: (1843) Alderman Albert thanked everyone who attended the Crest Hill Lions Club annual luau. Alderperson Oberlin offered her condolences to the family of Betty Pavlich. Alderwoman Gazal commended Jordan Kolaski and offered her condolences to the Pavlich family. Alderman Jefferson thanked all of the residents who

have reached out to him. He also wished Treasurer Conklin a Happy Birthday. Alderman Dyke also wished Treasurer Conklin a Happy Birthday.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (1919) Theo Bellos addressed the Council. He thanked City staff for their help. He explained that he has been to court three times to fight a City issued ticket. Mr. Bellos went to court and the Judge told him he needed to go to a hearing at the City. He complained that a notice was placed in his mailbox, not mailed to him. In speaking with an Officer, they discussed that in regard to measuring the snow during a storm, it is hard because one side of the City might get two inches, but the other side may not get as much. Mr. Bellos has to go back to court in November. The judge told Mr. Bellos that the City has the ability to drop the ticket if they wish. He was not happy with the response he received from the Attorneys Office. He contacted the Weather Service and was told we don't have a weather watcher. Mayor Soliman explained that he has never gone to the Attorney or Chief to clear a ticket. He has relied on the staff to make decisions for the City. The Mayor explained that unfortunately, because this case has gone to court, he does not feel that it is proper to discuss it on television. If Mr. Bellos would like to stay after the close of the meeting, he is welcome to speak with the Chief and Attorney.

There being no further business before the Council, a motion for adjournment was in order.

(#17) Motion by Alderman Dyke, seconded by Alderman Jefferson, to adjourn the September 6, 2022 City Council meeting.

On roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: None.

There being eight (8) affirmative votes, the MOTION CARRIED.
(2285)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2022

As presented _____

As amended _____

CHRISTINE VERSHAY-HALL, CITY CLERK

RAYMOND R. SOLIMAN, MAYOR