

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION
CITY COUNCIL OF CREST HILL
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS
September 28, 2026

The September 28, 2026, City Council Executive Session was called to order by Mayor Raymond R. Soliman at 6:30 p.m., citing authority under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(29) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), in the Council Chambers, 20600 City Center Blvd. Crest Hill, Will County, Illinois.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(29): Discussion between internal or external auditors and the City's audit committee, finance committee, or equivalent body concerning internal control weaknesses, potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected fraud, and fraud interviews conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.
2. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1): The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.

Alderdwoman Gazal made a motion to go into executive session for 5ILCS 120/2(c)(29) and 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Seconded by Alderman Deserio. Roll call: Ayes: Dyke, Deserio, Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert. Nays: None. Absent: Jefferson, Kubal. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Soliman noted for the record that Alderman Kubal would not be in attendance at tonight's meeting and that Alderman Jefferson was expected to arrive approximately 15 to 20 minutes late.

Before going to the executive board room, Mayor Soliman asked Attorney Jason Blumenthal if anyone is excused from this meeting. Attorney Blumenthal responded that Alderperson Oberlin was excused from Executive Session for 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(29) only.

Executive session: 6:32 p.m.

Alderman Deserio made a motion to reconvene from the executive session for 5ILCS 120/2(c)(29) and 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and to open the September 28, 2026, Work Session Meeting. Seconded by Alderman Jefferson. Roll call: Ayes: Gazal, Oberlin, Cipiti, Albert, Dyke, Deserio, Jefferson. Nays: None. Absent: Kubal. MOTION CARRIED.

Upon returning from Executive Session, City Attorney Mike Stiff confirmed that no additional action was necessary from Executive Session.

The September 28, 2026, City Council Work Session was formally opened at 7:19 PM.

The following Council members were present: Mayor Raymond Soliman, City Clerk Christine Vershay-Hall, City Treasurer Jamie Malloy, Alderman Scott Dyke, Alderman Angelo Deserio, Alderman Darrell Jefferson, Alderwoman Claudia Gazal, Alderperson Tina Oberlin, Alderman Mark Cipiti, and Alderman Nate Albert.

Also Present were: City Administrator Blaine Wing, Assistant City Administrator & HR Director Ashley Monroe, Public Works Director Gary Richardson, City Engineer Ron Wiedeman, City Planner Atefa Ghaznawi, and City Attorney Mike Stiff.

MAYOR

There were no agenda items.

CLERK

There were no agenda items.

TREASURER

There were no agenda items.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

City Administrator Blaine Wing stated that there are two items at the beginning that typically would be underneath “Engineering” so that our consultants wouldn’t need to stay for the whole meeting.

1. A Resolution for a Professional Services Agreement for Weber Road and City Center Area Median and Parkway Landscaping By and Between the City of Crest Hill, Will County, Illinois and RVI+ Planning and Landscaping in the Amount of \$55,400.00

City Engineer Ron Wiedeman presented a proposal from RVI+ Planning and Landscaping to develop concept plans and landscaping designs for the City Center Complex corridor. The scope encompassed the medians along Weber Road, parkways along City Center Boulevard, Len Kubinski Drive, and the north leg of Caton Farm Road. City Engineer Wiedeman explained that the intent was to create design continuity with the developing Crest Hill Commons, establish cost estimates for future budgeting, and work with the county on necessary right-of-way permits. The total cost of the proposal was \$55,400, against a budgeted amount of \$65,000 for this work.

Alderman Albert raised the possibility of adding a divided boulevard-style median to City Center Boulevard itself. City Engineer Wiedeman indicated this had not been included in the current scope but offered to approach RVI+ about incorporating that element. Council expressed general consensus in favor of requesting the expanded scope from RVI+. Alderman Albert also raised the question of whether the boulevard improvements should wait until commercial outlots in the area are developed, to ensure design requirements could be negotiated with incoming developers. City Engineer Wiedeman acknowledged this point, noting that having a concept plan in advance would allow Economic Development to establish right-of-way expectations during development negotiations, while median work along Weber Road could proceed independently.

Alderman Cipiti raised the importance of understanding projected maintenance costs before committing to the landscaping improvements. City Administrator Blaine Wing suggested obtaining maintenance cost data from the Village of Romeoville, which already maintains similar medians under a shared arrangement. City Engineer Wiedeman confirmed that the concept study would include cost estimates for each component, and that maintenance cost information could be extrapolated from the existing Romeoville contract. Alderwoman Gazal emphasized the long-term investment value of improving the corridor's appearance.

Mayor Soliman conducted an informal vote for a resolution for a Professional Services Agreement for Weber Road and City Center Area Median and Parkway landscaping by and between the City of Crest Hill, Will County, Illinois and RVI+ Planning and Landscaping in the Amount of \$55,400.00.

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal.

2. Crest Hill Commons Discussion on Park Plaza Modifications, Landscaping and Park Elements

City Engineer Wiedeman presented several discussion items related to the Crest Hill Commons development.

Plaza Layout Modifications and Park Signage

City Engineer Wiedeman proposed converting a large triangular landscaped area adjacent to the main plaza into flexible, programmable open space enclosed by a seat wall, with two six-foot-wide access points. He noted the space is roughly the size of the main plaza and could serve as a secondary gathering area, event staging zone, or ticketing point. Council expressed no objection to the modification and directed staff to incorporate it into Phase 1 plans in advance of contractor discussions.

Regarding park signage, City Engineer Wiedeman proposed integrating a rough-cut limestone monument sign into the seat wall, illuminated from below. Alderwoman Gazal suggested the name "City Commons" and Council reached consensus on that name rendered in the City's standard script font, consistent with existing City Hall signage. City Engineer Wiedeman noted a shop drawing would be brought before Council for final approval before fabrication.

A minor modification to the plaza layout was also presented, involving the rotation of the shelter footprint to avoid relocating existing underground communication utilities. This change widened the plaza entrance from approximately 10 feet to 18 feet. Council reviewed the revision without objection.

Shelter Concepts

City Engineer Wiedeman presented several conceptual shelter options for the plaza, ranging from standard open-air canopy structures estimated at \$80,000–\$120,000 to more elaborate designs in the \$120,000–\$250,000 range. City Administrator Wing noted the shelter could serve multiple functions, including accessibility viewing areas during events and potential integration of monitors or projectors. Council discussion reflected a preference for an open-air structure with a gable roof design that would allow visibility through to the park from City Hall, while still providing weather protection. Alderman Cipiti expressed fiscal caution and concern about potential public criticism given spending levels, though he acknowledged grant funding and naming rights as mitigating factors. Alderwoman Gazal noted that plans are being made to do things correctly from the beginning so there is quality work in the Crest Hill Commons. City Administrator Wing stated that there is a potential to get grant money in the amount of two millions dollars for the Commons project in the first three years, which will help ease the spending levels.

City Engineer Wiedeman confirmed that no budget currently exists for the shelter, which is anticipated as a Phase 2 element. He also stated that the City has to have some sort of design and plan for the grant to be considered. Staff was directed to return with additional concepts consistent with the open-air gable style for further discussion, expected following the start of the new year.

Bathroom Facilities

Staff recommended installing portable ADA-accessible restroom facilities upon completion of the playground as a pilot measure for the 2027 season, at an estimated cost of \$5,000–\$6,000 for a six-month period. This approach would allow staff to monitor usage and address unresolved operational questions—including hours, cleaning responsibilities, and security—before committing to a permanent structure. City Engineer Wiedeman noted a concrete pad, and utility stubs would be installed in advance to accommodate a future permanent prefabricated restroom facility, with estimated costs of \$175,000–\$300,000. City Administrator Wing confirmed that both the library district and the City had interest in ensuring restroom availability outside of City Hall operating hours. Council supported the phased approach without objection.

City Engineer Wiedeman also addressed security planning, confirming that staff had met with the Police Department to design a camera system combining movable and fixed cameras, a call box at the parking lot entrance, and integration with the City's existing security vendor. Future cameras at the band shell location were also planned.

Playground Shade Structures

Council reviewed conceptual shade structure options for the playground seating area, with a general preference expressed for a moderate cantilever-style shade structure rather than larger, more imposing pergola-type structures. Alderwoman Gazal requested that warranty information and

durability data be provided in any future presentation given the area's wind conditions. Staff was directed to return with additional concepts similar to the cantilever style.

Alderman Cipiti inquired about ADA compliance for the playground. City Engineer Wiedeman confirmed the playground meets ADA accessibility standards for the majority of users, with City Administrator Wing noting that full compliance is evaluated across multiple levels (mobility, sensory, autism spectrum, etc.) and that the planned turf surface supports individuals with mobility challenges.

Landscaping Plan

Landscape consultant Lacey Lawrence, of RVI Solutions, presented the Phase 1 landscaping plan, including proposed ornamental fencing and column extensions along the west, north, and east edges of the playground to protect children from adjacent parking areas. Columns were designed to match existing City Hall stonework, with decorative black ornamental fencing between them at a height of three to four feet.

The planting palette was presented in detail, featuring predominantly native species including shade trees (Tupelo, Hackberry, Elm), ornamental understory trees (Redbud, Hornbeam), native shrubs (Arctic Fire Dogwood, native Arborvitae, Inkberry, Coralberry), native grasses (Switchgrass, Big Bluestem, Little Bluestem), and perennials (Liatris, Echinacea, Butterfly Weed, Amsonia). Alderwoman Gazal confirmed that no silver maple species were included due to root concerns. Alderman Cipiti commended the emphasis on native plantings for their ecological benefits and lower maintenance requirements.

Alderwoman Gazal asked if there was enough public works staff to take care of the proposed landscaping. City Administrator Wing confirmed that maintenance of the landscaped areas would be contracted out rather than handled by public works staff, consistent with the approach used for existing plantings. AI-generated renderings of the above-grade planters, including the planned holiday tree installation, were also reviewed.

Council expressed general support for the landscaping plan and directed staff to proceed with finalizing plans for a spring bid.

3. Draft 2026 City of Crest Hill Employee Handbook Updates

Assistant City Administrator/HR Director Ashley Monroe, accompanied by labor attorney Melissa Wolf, presented the finalized comprehensive redline of the 2026 Employee Handbook updates following two prior work sessions. The presentation provided an overview of all substantive changes and sought Council direction to proceed with a resolution adopting the handbook.

Key updates summarized by HR Director Ashley Monroe included:
Section 3.9: Resolved a recurring conflict by clarifying that City Ordinance makes staff appointments.

Section 4.2 and 4.8 (Workday and Meal/Break Periods): Clarified break durations and removed ambiguity, ensuring departments maintain sufficient staffing during operating hours. These provisions apply to non-union employees only, as union contracts supersede the handbook language.

Section 4.3: Clarified the timing and process for merit and performance evaluations.

Overtime Examples: Updated with clarifying language and added charts to illustrate weekly overtime scenarios.

Section 5.2 (Code of Conduct): Expanded behavior and conduct standards.

Section 5.7 (Confidentiality): Added a provision mirroring the Council's confidentiality policy adopted earlier in the year.

Section 9.9 (Personal Electric Devices): Added a policy requiring employees to verify that personal appliances meet building safety standards prior to use.

Artificial Intelligence Policy: Established a new guideline for responsible use of AI tools.

Performance Evaluation Form: Added an updated evaluation tool as an appendix.

Section 7.12 (Insurance Opt-Out Incentive): A new provision allowing non-union employees to receive a monetary stipend for opting out of City health insurance coverage, provided they demonstrate enrollment in a qualifying plan on an annual basis. Proposed stipend amounts ranged from \$2,500 (employee only) to \$3,500 (employee plus family). The incentive would be paid out on a bimonthly basis and was benchmarked against 20 comparable communities, where average incentives ranged from approximately \$2,023 to \$3,630. City Administrator Wing noted that the program is designed to reduce insurance premium costs while guarding against abuse through monthly disbursement rather than a lump sum.

Mayor Soliman conducted an informal vote for adding the Insurance Opt-Out Incentive to the Employee handbook.

AYES: Ald. Dyke, Deserio, Jefferson, Oberlin, Albert.

NAYES: None.

ABSTAIN: Ald. Gazal, Cipiti.

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal.

Discussion arose regarding the personal appliance section, with Alderwoman Gazal raising concerns about the fairness of a policy that could restrict certain employees from using space heaters or fans due to shared electrical circuits, while others in separately circuited offices face no such restriction. She emphasized that the root problem is the building's electrical infrastructure and called for a comprehensive assessment and remediation. City Administrator Wing acknowledged the building's electrical limitations and explained the policy's intent as a fair, interim framework while those issues are addressed. Public Works Director Richardson stated that Superintendent Robinson set up Elliot Electric to come out and once the report is back, he will come back and report to Council. Labor Attorney Melissa Wolf stated that this policy was put in to determine whether or not that electrical device creates a safety hazard or concern. She stated that this

practice is standard and will apply across the board to all employees. Alderman Jefferson noted that modern circuit breakers reduce fire risk from overloaded circuits and expressed the view that the policy may become unnecessary as infrastructure is corrected. HR Director Ashley Monroe clarified that the policy is not intended to prohibit devices but to create a consistent, written process for their approval.

Alderman Dyke raised the December 2025 memo from City Administrator Wing addressing toy and replica guns on City property. City Administrator Wing confirmed the matter was investigated with the Police Department, that one employee has since left City employment, and that the word “gun” in the existing handbook language was deemed sufficient by legal counsel to cover replica and novelty items. Signage prohibiting weapons has been affixed to all City buildings.

Mayor Soliman conducted an informal vote for all other changes to draft items for the 2026 City of Crest Hill Employee Handbook Updates.

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

1. Plan Commission Recommendation for Preliminary and Final Plat of Subdivision, Rezoning, Special Use Permit for a Contractor-Based Business Known as Reasonable Tree Experts, and Requested Variation from the Crest Hill Zoning Ordinance with Respect to Certain Real Property Located at 1618-1626 N. Broadway Street in Crest Hill, Illinois (Application of Kurt Fife – Extreme 2017 LLC)

City Planner Atefa Ghaznawi presented a Plan Commission recommendation involving four petitions for the property located at 1618–1626 N. Broadway Street. The applicant, Kurt Fife, owner of Extreme 2017 LLC and operator of Expert Tree Services, is a long-term Crest Hill resident and business owner who has operated since 1976. Mr. Fife recently purchased two southern parcels on which a dilapidated structure was demolished, and he intends to consolidate all five parcels to expand his tree service business.

The application included: (1) rezoning of the two southern parcels from B-2 to B-3; (2) a Special Use Permit for a contractor-based business; (3) a Preliminary and Final Plat of Subdivision consolidating all five parcels into one; and (4) a variation from the required 10-foot side yard setback to 5 feet to preserve access to an existing overhead door essential to the business’s operations.

City Planner Ghaznawi noted that proposed site improvements include removal of excess pavement, new landscaping and sidewalks along the Broadway frontage, dedication of a 10-foot utility and sidewalk easement in connection with the City’s planned water main extension, and connection

to City water and sewer (with existing septic and wells to be discontinued). An above-ground, double-walled 1,000-gallon fuel storage tank is also proposed on the northern portion of the property to fuel fleet vehicles on-site, subject to approval by the State Fire Marshal and Lockport Fire Protection District.

Mr. Fife addressed the Council, explaining the operational necessity of the fuel tank and acknowledging the considerable process involved in bringing the application forward. He expressed his intent to create a high-quality facility and noted the business would be carried forward by his son, a certified arborist with 17–18 years of experience.

Council discussion touched on parcel consolidation into a single PIN, specifics of the fuel tank approval process, the timeline for City water main extension (anticipated spring/early summer 2027 as part of the water main lining contract), and the sequencing of paving and curbing improvements relative to utility connection. City Planner Ghaznawi confirmed that the applicant had agreed in writing to all nine conditions for approval, including site paving as shown on the submitted site plan, and that the Plan Commission unanimously approved all four petitions at its September 10, 2026, public hearing.

Mayor Soliman conducted an informal vote to approve the application of Kurt Fife – Extreme 2017 LLC.

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal.

2. Approve Participation of the City of Crest Hill in the Fifth Cohort of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus EV Readiness Program

City Planner Atefa Ghaznawi presented an overview of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus EV Readiness Program, a nine-month cohort program co-sponsored by ComEd and the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, now entering its fifth cohort. The program provides free technical assistance, training, and resources to participating communities to help prepare for growing demand for electric vehicles and EV charging infrastructure. There is no cost to participate beyond staff time.

City Planner Ghaznawi noted that she had previously participated in this program while employed with the City of Aurora, where Aurora received a Bronze designation. She expressed confidence in her ability to manage the program's requirements given that prior experience. Crest Hill would be joining the cohort alongside the Village of Homer Glen, as the first Will County communities to participate.

Program components include analysis of permitting processes and zoning codes, public engagement and resident education, safety and technical training for first responders and inspectors, and a free municipal fleet

assessment by ComEd. Participating communities can earn points toward Bronze (100 points), Silver (200 points), or Gold (300 points) designations.

City Planner Ghaznawi presented data showing a rising trend of registered EVs in Crest Hill (127 as of September 15, 2026) and a current gap in publicly accessible EV charging infrastructure, with no public charging stations located within City limits. She noted that any future policy or purchasing decisions arising from program participation would return to Council for separate approval.

Alderperson Oberlin asked if the City of Aurora charged a fee for residents to charge their EV vehicles, as she sees the charging stations at Kohl's and they charge a fee. City Planner Ghaznawi responded that Aurora had an EV charging station for City vehicle charging only, but normally there is a third party that takes care of the installation, payment, fees, maintenance and operation of EV charging stations.

City Administrator Wing expressed support for the program, as did Public Works Director Gary Richardson and Economic Development Director Dan Ritter (in absentia).

Mayor Soliman conducted an informal vote to approve participation of the City of Crest Hill in the Fifth Cohort of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus EV Readiness Program.

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal.

3. Approve a Resolution Endorsing the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' Greenest Region Compact

City Planner Atefa Ghaznawi presented the Greenest Region Compact (GRC), a regional sustainability initiative coordinated by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus spanning 166 communities across the Chicagoland area. Membership requires only the adoption of an endorsing resolution, and carries no reporting requirements or costs. GRC membership is a prerequisite for eligibility to participate in the EV Readiness Program.

City Planner Ghaznawi noted that the GRC's sustainability goals align with the City's comprehensive plan and existing initiatives, including the Crest Hill Commons development, the bike and pedestrian plan, recycling services, and shredding events. A resolution template had already been prepared. No additional staff burden beyond the resolution process itself was anticipated.

Mayor Soliman conducted an informal vote to approve a resolution endorsing the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' Greenest Region Compact.

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

1. Approve an Ordinance Amending Section 10-01-10-501-Size Restrictions Eastbound McGilvray Drive

City Engineer Ron Wiedeman presented a previously discussed ordinance amendment that would restrict truck traffic on the first 300 feet of eastbound McGilvray Drive. This restriction is a condition required by Will County to approve a variance allowing the intersection radius at McGilvray and Weber Road to be designed for box trucks rather than full semi-tractor-trailers. The reduced radius avoids the need to relocate underground utilities and acquire additional right-of-way, with prior estimates placing those costs between \$300,000 and \$500,000.

City Engineer Wiedeman noted that construction plans for the McGilvray Drive improvements are finalized, and staff is awaiting the county permit. The project includes installation of a barrier median and reconfiguration of the existing right-in/right-out driveway. Alderman Albert and Alderwoman Gazal expressed frustration with the county's requirements, particularly given the existing "No U-Turn" restriction at Ryan Road without comparable data to justify it. City Engineer Wiedeman confirmed that county staff had indicated they would not support signage changes without accident data, and that any further relief would require a variance request to the county board.

Mayor Soliman conducted an informal vote to approve an Ordinance Amending Section 10-01-10-501-Size Restrictions Eastbound McGilvray Drive.

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

There were no agenda items.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

1. Approval of the purchase of a Dur-A-Lift DTAX2-39FP Insulated Aerial Bucket Truck Mounted on a 2027 Ford F-600 4x4 Chassis with a Knapheide Steel Service Body from Runnion Equipment Company in the Amount of \$169,239.00

Public Works Director Gary Richardson presented a request for the unbudgeted purchase of an aerial lift truck to support a broad range of public works functions, including hanging and removing banners and wreaths, trimming trees, maintaining signage, and performing maintenance on building-mounted lighting and fixtures. Director Richardson noted that current practice—renting equipment or standing on ladders in truck beds—

presents serious safety concerns and results in significant ongoing expenditure for tasks that City staff should be able to perform independently.

Two quotes were presented: a Sourcewell cooperative purchasing contract quote and a quote from Runnion Equipment Company of Alsip, with the Runnion quote approximately \$1,000 higher. However, Director Richardson recommended the Runnion quote because the truck is available for delivery in Q1 2027, compared to an 8-month lead time under the Sourcewell option. Additionally, Runnion offered complimentary use of the truck for three weeks during the holiday season to assist with banner and light installation at no charge—a value estimated at approximately \$5,700–\$6,000 in avoided rental costs.

City Administrator Wing confirmed that funds are available in the vehicle replacement fund, supplemented by over \$45,000 in proceeds from the sale of retired vehicles during the current fiscal year. Operator training and certification are included with the purchase. Director Richardson noted that the truck reaches 47 feet in height and would enable staff to perform work currently contracted out for safety reasons.

Mayor Soliman conducted an informal vote for approval of the purchase of a Dur-A-Lift DTAX2-39FP Insulated Aerial Bucket Truck Mounted on a 2027 Ford F-600 4x4 Chassis with a Knapheide Steel Service Body from Runnion Equipment Company in the Amount of \$169,239.00.

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

NAYES: None.

ABSENT: Ald. Kubal.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

4. Audio/Visual Project Status and Recommended Next Steps

City Administrator Blaine Wing reported that staff had issued a Request for Proposal to 12 firms in early September for the City's audio/visual broadcast and streaming systems. Responses indicated that the RFP scope was insufficiently detailed to allow vendors to respond fully. Vendors recommended that the City either engage a firm to develop the scope and design specifications first, or pursue a design-build option. Staff subsequently narrowed the field to three interested vendors.

City Administrator Wing noted that existing equipment in the broadcast room is largely obsolete and no longer manufactured or supported. He identified the value of a design-build-and-support model to ensure accountability and avoid conflict between designers and installers. Staff was actively working to obtain design proposals and anticipated returning to Council with options, potentially including a presentation from two or three competing vendors. No action was requested at this time.

5. Winter Lighted Decoration Discussion

City Administrator Wing and Alderwoman Gazal presented a proposal to purchase twelve lighted snowflake decorations for the City's light poles. The decorations were sourced through a vendor contacted at the Illinois Municipal League (IML) conference, and an IML conference discount was applied. Alderwoman Gazal noted that the 60-inch (5-foot) size was recommended by the vendor as appropriate for the height of the City's poles, and that a larger size raised structural concerns regarding wind torque, as noted by City Engineer Wiedeman.

The final cost, including shipping, was \$7,972.75. Council members were invited to select three preferred designs from the available options (with seven styles already eliminated), to be distributed in a repeating pattern along the poles. Warm-toned LED lights were specified to complement the building's aesthetic. City Administrator Wing confirmed that the purchase would be funded from the City's winter sponsorship donation fund, with anticipated donations in the range of \$20,000–\$30,000. Alderwoman Gazal noted that Public Works Director Richardson could install the decorations using the aerial lift truck being considered for purchase, eliminating the need for outside contractors.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

There were no agenda items.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No members of the public came forward to address the Council.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting is adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 10:57 p.m.

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2026.

As presented _____

As amended _____

CHRISTINE VERSHAY-HALL, CITY CLERK

RAYMOND R. SOLIMAN, MAYOR