

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at 1601 Chicago Road, Chicago Heights, IL.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gonzalez called the regular meeting of the Chicago Heights City Council to order at 6:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY DEPUTY CLERK RACHEL VEGA

Mayor:	David Gonzalez	Present
Council:	1st Ward Renee Smith	Present
	2nd Ward Sonia Perez	Absent
	3rd Ward Wanda Rodgers	Present
	4th Ward Christopher Baikauskas	Present*
	5th Ward George Brassea	Present
	6th Ward Vincent Zaranti	Present
	7th Ward Kelli Merrick	Present

*Alderman Baikauskas entered the council chambers at 6:05 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS

Alderman Smith announced that her next ward meeting would be on April 6 at 6:00 p.m. at Barack Obama School.

Alderman Perez - absent

Alderman Rodgers announced that her next ward meeting would be on Thursday, March 19 at 6:00 p.m. at the Chicago Heights Park District.

Alderman Baikauskas announced that his next ward meeting would be on Monday, March 30 at 7:00 p.m. at Roosevelt School.

Alderman Brassea announced that his next ward meeting would be on March 25 at 7:00 p.m. at the Greenbrier School.

Alderman Zaranti announced that his next ward meeting would be in coordination with Commissioner Straczek on Thursday, March 26 at 7:00 p.m. at the Commissioners Park.

Alderman Merrick announced that her ward meeting was to be determined.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

REPORT OF CHIEF OF STAFF – KAREN ZERANTE

COS Zerante reported on the ongoing outreach for Census 2020, that included informational packets for the Aldermen and Census Sunday events at local parishes.

REPORT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL—T.J. SOMER

None

1. MINUTES: MEETINGS OF FEBRUARY 19, 2020 AND FEBRUARY 26, 2020.

Alderman Rodgers moved, and Alderman Smith seconded, a motion to approve the minutes.

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried.

2. BILLS: APPROVAL OF SECOND RUN OF FEBRUARY 2020.

Alderman Zaranti moved, and Alderman Rodgers seconded, a motion to approve the bills.

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried.

3. ORDINANCE #2020 - 8 : AMENDING ORDINANCE #2019-13 MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CORPORATE AND SPECIAL PURPOSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING MAY 1, 2019 AND ENDING APRIL 30, 2020 OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO HEIGHTS, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Alderman Rodgers moved, and Alderman Smith seconded, a motion to approve the ordinance.

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried.

Mayor Gonzalez explained that the budget amendment reflected a total property tax revenue calculation of \$ 20,043.646.

4. ORDINANCE #2020 - 9 : AMENDING CHAPTER 39 OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES REGULATING VIDEO GAMING.

Alderman Rodgers moved, and Alderman Smith seconded, a motion to approve the ordinance.

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel Somer explained that the proposed tax of \$.01 per play could be significant source of revenue for the City.

5. ORDINANCE #2020 - 10 : AMENDING THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES REGULATING CERTAIN PERMIT AND LICENSE FEES.

Alderman Zaranti moved, and Alderman Brassea seconded, a motion to approve the ordinance.

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel Somer reported that the real estate transfer tax rate was increased to \$ 6 per \$1,000 of for sale price. The Residential Rental Operator License fee was increased by \$ 100 for each classification. Other fees that were increased were for false fire alarms, ambulance, and engineering consulting.

6. ORDINANCE #2020 - 11 : APPROVING A ZONING VARIANCE FOR AN APPROXIMATE TWO ACRE PARCEL OF VACANT LAND LOCATED AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF 15TH STREET & OTTO BOULEVARD.

Alderman Smith moved, and Alderman Merrick seconded, a motion to approve the ordinance.

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel Somer explained that the zoning variances were for the property and proposed Veterans' residential development at the site. The City's Zoning Board of Appeals held a meeting and held a Public Hearing on the matter, and recommended that the variances be approved. The city council discussed the matter at length before the vote.

7. RESOLUTION #2020 - 12 : APPROVING A PROPOSAL FROM M.E. SIMPSON CO., INC. FOR THE CITY'S 2020 WATER LINE LEAK DETECTION SURVEY.

Alderman Zaranti moved, and Alderman Brassea seconded, a motion to approve the resolution.

- Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick
- Nays: none
- Abstain: none
- Absent: Perez
- Motion to approve carried.

COS Zerante stated that M. E. Simpson Co. was a company that the City historically worked with and used for its leak detection surveys.

8. RESOLUTION #2020 - 13 : AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO PUBLISH A NOTICE SEEKING BIDS FOR THE CITY'S 2020 SPRING RESTORATION PROJECT.

Alderman Rodgers moved, and Alderman Merrick seconded, a motion to approve the resolution.

- Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick
- Nays: none
- Abstain: none
- Absent: Perez
- Motion to approve carried.

COS Zerante reported that there were 167 locations to be done as part of the restoration project.

9. RESOLUTION #2020 - 14 : APPROVING AN EXTENSION AGREEMENT WITH AIS, INC., FOR THE CITY'S INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT SERVICES.

Alderman Zaranti moved, and Alderman Merrick seconded, a motion to approve the resolution.

- Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick
- Nays: none
- Abstain: none
- Absent: Perez
- Motion to approve carried.

COS Zerante explained that the extension would carry the same rate and term as the original agreement. John Licar of AIS gave the council an overview of the significant improvements that his company had brought to the City in the area of information technology. The council posed questions to Mr. Licar to which he responded.

10. RESOLUTION #2020 - 15 : AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO PUBLISH A NOTICE SEEKING BIDS FOR THE CITY'S 2020 CDBG ROADWAY RESTORATION PROJECT (23rd Street and Main Street between Euclid Avenue & Chicago Road).

Alderman Rodgers moved, and Alderman Merrick seconded, a motion to approve the resolution.

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried.

COS Zerante reported that \$ 670,000 estimate covered pavement, apron, and sidewalk repairs in the project area.

11. RESOLUTION #2020 - 16 : APPROVING AND RATIFYING AN EMERGENCY SEWER REPAIR BY CALUMET CITY PLUMBING IN THE VICINITY OF 39 PARKSIDE LANE.

Alderman Baikauskas moved, and Alderman Brassea seconded, a motion to approve the resolution.

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried.

COS Karen Zerante stated that the emergency repairs included the installation of eight feet of sewer pipe, and thirty-two feet of clay tile pipe. The City planned to televise the rest of the sewer line as it appeared to be deteriorated.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:50 p.m. Alderman Rodgers moved, and Alderman Smith seconded, a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to adjourn carried

Rachel Vega, Deputy Clerk