

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, 1601 Chicago Road, Cook County, Illinois held Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was conducted remotely by telephone conference pursuant to Governor Pritzker's Covid-19 Executive Order #8 dated March 9, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gonzalez called the regular meeting of the Chicago Heights City Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK LORI WILCOX

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Gonzalez reported that the City would continue with closure to April 30th in keeping with Governor Pritzker's order. The Mayor updated the city council on the operations of the City, on the effect of revenue shortfall on the coming fiscal year budget and on capital projects, on the successful purchase of PPE equipment, on the set-up of virus testing sites by Aunt Martha's Health, and on the pending municipal bond refunding matter. He reported that the City was working with the Chicago Heights Development Corporation to help the City's small businesses access federal assistance programs.

Alderman Smith—no report.

Alderman Perez—no report.

Alderman Rodgers announced the Fresh Produce Give-Away would be held on Friday, April 24th in the parking lot of the Chicago Heights Park District and Chicago Heights Library.

Alderman Baikauskas—no report.

Alderman Brassea—no report.

Alderman Zaranti announced that his April 30th ward meeting was cancelled due to the Governor's stay at home order.

Alderman Merrick announced that her ward meeting would be held digitally the following day on Facebook.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

(Corporation Counsel Somer was present in the council chambers for the purpose of entertaining any members of the public who wished to listen to the meeting or actively speak in public participation. He reported that there was no public in attendance at the meeting).

REPORT OF CHIEF OF STAFF – KAREN ZERANTE

COS Zerante informed the council that the IDOT construction project--Chicago Road from Parkside Avenue to Joe Orr Road--would begin soon. COS Zerante urged the city council to direct calls from residents seeking any assistance to the Mayor's Office. The city council asked questions to which COS Zerante responded.

REPORT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL—T.J. SOMER

No report.

1. MINUTES: MEETINGS OF APRIL 1, 2020.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

Motion to approve carried.

2. BILLS: APPROVAL OF FIRST RUN OF APRIL 2020.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

Motion to approve carried.

3. RESOLUTION #2020 - 27 : APPROVING A BID AWARD FOR THE CITY'S 2020 PAVEMENT RESTORATION PROJECT.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

Motion to approve carried.

Mayor Gonzalez stated that it was the recommendation of HBK Engineering, the City's engineering consultant, to award the bid to the lowest responsible bidder J. J. Newell.

MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION, USE/DISPOSITION OF CITY OWNED LAND OR PERSONNEL ISSUES (IF NECESSARY).

Corporation Counsel Somer reported that he polled the aldermen and there was no indication that an Executive Session would be necessary. He stated that the council was prepared to address Agenda Item 4.

4. RESOLUTION #2020 - 28 : APPROVING THE SETTLEMENT OF CERTAIN CIVIL LITIGATION (CASE # 2017 L 10895) AS PRESENTED FOR EXECUTIVE SESSISON (and by memorandum) FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THIS DATE.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

Motion to approve carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:31 p.m. Alderman Perez moved, and Alderman Rodgers seconded, a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

Motion to adjourn carried.

Lori Wilcox, City Clerk