

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at 1601 Chicago Road, Chicago Heights, IL.

\*To be conducted remotely by telephone conference pursuant to Governor Pritzker's Covid-19 Executive Order #8 dated March 9, 2020 and extension thereof set forth in Executive Order 2020-39. Meeting to be broadcast at City Hall with opportunity made available for public attendance and/or participation subject to social distancing regulations. Attendees must be attired in mask and gloves and may not be experiencing any symptoms of the COVID virus, i.e., fever, cough, sore throat, or uncommon fatigue.

**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 <sup>st</sup> Ward Renee Smith	Present
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ward Sonia Perez	Present
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward Wanda Rodgers	Present
	4 <sup>th</sup> Ward Christopher Baikauskas	Present
	5 <sup>th</sup> Ward George Brassea	Present
	6 <sup>th</sup> Ward Vincent Zaranti	Present
	7 <sup>th</sup> Ward Kelli Merrick	Present

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Gonzalez stated that the City had been in communication with businesses in the City regarding re-opening guidelines under Restore Illinois Phase 3. He stated that the City was also in communication with mayors of surrounding communities regarding public gatherings taking place in the area.

Alderman Smith reported that she was in communication with her ward residents by telephone.

Alderman Perez – no report.

Alderman Rodgers reported that a board-up was needed at 1615 Union Avenue.

Alderman Baikauskas – no report.

Alderman Brassea reported that his next ward meeting would be held on June 10<sup>th</sup> via Zoom.

Alderman Zaranti said he hoped to hold his next ward meeting on June 25<sup>th</sup>, as long as health safety requirements could be worked out. The meeting would be held in coordination with Park District Commissioner Straczek.

Alderman Merrick said that she would host a give-away event of medical masks for seniors.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

Corporation Counsel was present in the council chambers and reported that there were no persons in attendance of the council meeting.

**REPORT OF CHIEF OF STAFF – KAREN ZERANTE**

COS Zerante announced that the planned re-opening date for City Hall was Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, contingent upon all of the materials being put in place in accordance with the state's re-opening guidelines.

**REPORT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL—T.J. SOMER**

None

**1. MINUTES: MEETINGS OF MAY 6, 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 AND SECOND RUN OF MAY 2020.**

Alderman Brassea moved, and Alderman Zaranti 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 - 32 : APPROVING BID AWARD FOR THE CITY'S 2020 CDBG ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (Project # 1906-007).**

Alderman Perez moved, and Alderman Merrick 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 the low bidder was Gallagher Asphalt for \$ 643,269.00. The roadway improvement would be on 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and on Main Street, both between East End Avenue and Chicago Road.

**4. RESOLUTION #2020 - 33 : APPROVING A PUBLIC HEARING DATE AND LOCAL MATCH FUNDING FOR THE CITY'S 2020 REBUILD ILLINOIS PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT APPLICATION.**

Alderman Zaranti moved, and Alderman Merrick 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 the City would submit an application for \$ 2,500,000, which would be used to fix and paint the City's two water towers on State Street. If the City was awarded the grant, its share of the expenditure would be \$ 250,000. Brief discussion on the matter was held.

**5. RESOLUTION #2020 - 34 : APPROVING AND RATIFYING AN EMERGENCY SANITARY SEWER REPAIR IN THE 1500 BLOCK OF EUCLID AVNEUE.**

Alderman Brassea moved, and Alderman Merrick 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.**

COS Zerante reported that Christopher Burke Engineering, consultant to the City, secured several proposals on the emergency project before recommending M&J Underground for \$ 92,000. Project was completed.

**6. ORDINANCE #2020 - 14 : APPROVING A PETITION FOR VACATION OF CERTAIN STREETS AND ALLEYS LOCATED WEST OF PORTLAND AVENUE AT APPROXIMATELY 25<sup>TH</sup> STREET.**

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel explained that the matter was approved by the Plan Commission and by the Zoning Board of Appeals. The City previously approved a redevelopment agreement with Ziron Environmental, and the vacation in the ordinance was one of the terms in the agreement.

**7. ORDINANCE #2020 - 15 : APPROVING A CITY ZONING MAP AMENDMENT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED WEST OF PORTLAND AVENUE AT APPROXIMATELY 25<sup>TH</sup> STREET.**

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

Motion to approve carried.

Discussion for the ordinance was included in the discussion of the previous agenda item.

**8. ORDINANCE #2020 - 16 : AMENDING CHAPTER 5 AND 26 OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES REGULATING CERTAIN LICENSE FEES RELATIVE TO VIDEO GAMING TERMINALS.**

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel stated that the ordinance set the fee to a business establishment in the City at \$ 250 per video gaming terminal, and the fee to a terminal operator (owner of the terminal) at \$1000 per video gaming terminal. There was brief discussion on the matter.

**9. ORDINANCE #2020 - 17 : RATIFYING PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED ORDINANCE #2019-20 WHICH ESTABLISHED THE CITY'S LOCAL MOTOR FUEL TAX.**

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

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

**Nays: none**

**Abstain: none**

**Absent: none**

**Motion to approve carried.**

Mayor Gonzalez explained that the ordinance was to comply with the State's requirement that the City re-certify the ordinance that originally established the tax, to enable the State to continue to collect the tax from the gas station owners on behalf of the City.

Mayor Gonzalez reported that the City closed on the re-funding of the City's 2011 bond issue; the re-funding was approved by the city council at a previous council meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:55 p.m. Alderman Zaranti moved, and Alderman Merrick 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.**

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Lori Wilcox, City Clerk