

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Wednesday, June 17, 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 6:15 p.m. following the adjournment of the preceding Public Hearing at 6:00.

**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**

Alderman Smith – no report.

Alderman Perez – no report.

Alderman Rodgers announced that she was planning to host a cleaning supply giveaway event on July 1<sup>st</sup> at Jones Community Center.

Alderman Baikauskas – no report.

Alderman Brassea announced that he would host a digital ward meeting on July 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. He would forward the link to the Mayor's Office.

Alderman Zaranti announced that he would wait to host a ward meeting till July, when most of the gathering restrictions would be lifted.

Alderman Merrick – no report.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

Corporation Counsel T. J. Somer announced that he was present in the council chambers, and he reported that there were no persons in attendance at the council meeting.

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

COS Zerante reported that the re-opening of City Hall had gone smoothly, and in a manner that ensured that conditions were safe for both employees and residents. COS Zerante announced that the City would host a PopUp Science @ Home Community Giveaway Event on June 27<sup>th</sup>. COS Zerante reported on the ongoing CDBG projects on Main Street and on 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, saying that 23<sup>rd</sup> Street was almost complete.

Mayor Gonzalez stated that in an effort to incentivize residents to complete the 2020 Census form, a line item for this purpose would be created in the budget and brought before the council at the next meeting. Mayor Gonzalez reported that the City's annual budget would be presented at the July 1<sup>st</sup> council meeting, and voted upon at the July 15<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

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

None

### **1. MINUTES: MEETINGS OF JUNE 3, 2020.**

Alderman Merrick moved, and Alderman Zaranti 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 JUNE 2020.**

Alderman Baikauskas moved, and Alderman Smith 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.

Alderman Baikauskas asked a question regarding the Christopher Burke Engineering invoice on page six of the list of bills.

**3. RESOLUTION #2020 - 35 : APPROVING THE CITY'S 2020 50/50 SIDEWALK PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO PUBLISH A NOTICE SEEKING BIDS FOR SAME.**

Alderman Perez moved, and Alderman Baikauskas 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.

Andrew Smith, City Engineer, reported that he would contact residents on the sidewalk repair list to confirm who desired to proceed with repairs, and based on his findings, he would prepare cost estimates of the project. The City's share of costs was estimated thus far at \$ 40,000, to be paid for by MFT funds.

**4. RESOLUTION #2020 - 36 : APPROVING A MAYORAL APPOINTMENT TO THE CITY'S 911 EMERGENCY TELEPHONE BOARD.**

Alderman Baikauskas 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 announced the appointment of Fire Department Lt. Lou Wortel, whom Fire Chief Springer recommended, and whom the Mayor believed would be a tremendous asset to the board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:35 p.m. Alderman Zaranti moved, and Alderman Smith 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