

Minutes of the Special City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Friday, September 18, 2020 at 2:00 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 special meeting of the Chicago Heights City Council to order at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY DEPUTY CLERK RACHEL VEGA

Mayor:	David Gonzalez	Present
Council:	1 st Ward Renee Smith	Absent
	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

Alderman Smith--absent

Alderman Perez--no announcements

Alderman Rodgers--no announcements

Alderman Baikauskas—no announcements

Alderman Brassea announced that his next ward meeting would be held on Wednesday, September 30th by Zoom. The alderman noted that the information was on the City's website.

Alderman Zaranti announced that his next ward meeting would be held in person in coordination with Park District Commissioner Straczek on September 24th at 7:00 p.m. at Commissioners Park. Face masks were required for the meeting.

Alderman Merrick—no announcements

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Charles Dieringer, a resident of the City, addressed the city council on various subjects, including the video taping of council meetings, the proposed constitutional amendment, Covid-19, cameras on Coolidge Avenue, and the cable television bulletin board.

REPORT OF CHIEF OF STAFF

COS Zerante reported on the Chicago Heights Development Corporation's outreach to businesses, the Cares Act & IEMA applications for Covid-19 related expenses, ongoing or upcoming public works improvement projects, the initial review of the 202nd Street storm water study, and the 2020 Census, noting the amended response deadline of September 30th.

REPORT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL

None

1. MINUTES: APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2020.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Smith

Motion to approve carried.

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

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Smith

Motion to approve carried.

3. RESOLUTION #2020 - 54 : APPROVING AN ASSIGNMENT OF THE CITY'S ECONOMIC INCENTIVE AGREEMENT WITH STNL CHICAGO HEIGHTS, LLC.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Smith

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel explained that STNL was selling its ownership and rights to the project, and seeking the City's consent to the assignment of benefits under the EIA, as was provided for in the agreement.

4. RESOLUTION #2020 - 55 : APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF THE CITY'S FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH COMCAST OF ILLINOIS, INC.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Smith

Motion to approve carried.

COS Zerante reported that the cable television renewal agreement contained the same terms and provisions as the expiring agreement.

5. RESOLUTION #2020 - 56 : APPROVING THE 2020 IDOT REPORT ON THE CITY'S MFT EXPENDITURES.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Smith

Motion to approve carried.

Andrew Smith, City Engineer, explained that the report included all payments made from the City's MFT Fund for fiscal year ended April 30, 2020. There was one question on the matter.

6. RESOLUTION #2020 - 57 : APPROVING A PROPOSAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF THREE "LUCAS 3" AUTOMATIC CHEST COMPRESSION SYSTEMS FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO A FEMA'S ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT (AFG).

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Smith

Motion to approve carried.

COS Zerante stated that the recommendation, after an analysis of the proposals received, was to award the purchase to Stryker Medical.

7. RESOLUTION #2020 - 58 : APPROVING THE SALE OF THE CITY OWNED SURPLUS RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY AT 359 W. 14TH STREET PURSUANT TO THE CITY'S APAP PROGRAM.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Smith

Motion to approve carried.

Jack Hynes, Economic Development Director, informed the council that the City acquired the property at no cost by a deed in lieu of foreclosure. Selling price was \$ 10,000, and the purchaser would bring the property up to code and operate it as a rental property.

8. RESOLUTION #2020 - 59 : APPROVING AN OPTION AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE THE CITY OWNED SURPLUS COMMERCIAL PROPERTY AT 10 EAST JOE ORR ROAD AND 412 W. 14TH STREET.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Smith

Motion to approve carried.

Jack Hynes, Economic Development Director, reported that the purchaser was interested in opening a Domino's Pizza at one location and a small training center at the other location.

9. RESOLUTION #2020 - 60 : AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A DEED IN LIEU OF FORECLOSURE AGREEMENT FOR ACQUISITION OF THE RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT 280 W. 15TH PLACE.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Smith

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel Somer stated that the property was acquired at no cost in a deed in lieu of foreclosure. Selling price was \$ 5,000 and the purchaser planned to rehab the property and operate it as a rental property.

10. RESOLUTION #2020 - 61 : APPROVING AN OPTION AGREEMENT FOR THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO PURCHASE THE CITY OWNED SURPLUS COMMERCIAL PROPERTY AT 2222 EAST END AVENUE.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Smith

Motion to approve carried.

Jack Hynes, Economic Development Director, reported that the City acquired the property at no cost. Under the ninety day agreement, the purchaser planned to rehab the property, and operate it as a warehouse for its operations.

11. RESOLUTION #2020 - 62 : APPROVING THE CITY'S PROPOSED MFT EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020 TO 2021.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Smith

Motion to approve carried.

Andrew Smith, City Engineer, explained that the resolution was based on the estimated expenditures foreseen for the current fiscal year. Mayor Gonzalez added that the estimated expenditures were at \$ 1,027,506.39, which included \$ 150,000 for tree trimming. There was a question on the matter before the vote.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2:44 p.m. Alderman Rodgers moved, and Alderman Merrick seconded, a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Smith

Motion to adjourn carried.

Lori Wilcox, City Clerk