

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Wednesday, June 1, 2022 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 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL BY DEPUTY CLERK RACHEL VEGA**

Mayor:	David Gonzalez	Present
Council:	1 <sup>st</sup> Ward Renee Smith	Present
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ward Sonia Perez	Absent
	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	Absent

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Alderman Smith announced that she would host her next ward meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at Barack Obama School. The alderman would host the 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Garage Sale/Give-away event immediately after the meeting. In addition, the alderman announced the Melodies from Heaven event on June 5<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Sesto Park.

Alderman Perez was absent.

Alderman Rodgers announced she would co-host the Melodies from Heaven event on June 5<sup>th</sup> with Alderman Smith. She announced that she would be working on a Music in the Park series to be held over the summer.

Alderman Baikauskas announced that he would host a joint ward meeting with Park Commissioner Michele Baikauskas on Monday, June 27 at 6:00 p.m. at Roosevelt School. He announced the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Garage Sale event on June 4<sup>th</sup> and the Music in the Park event on June 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at Landeen Park.

Alderman Brassea announced that he would host his next ward meeting on June 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at 222 Vollmer, Suite LC. He announced the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward Garage Sale event on June 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Alderman Zaranti announced that he would host his ward meeting with Park Commissioner Curtis Straczek on June 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Commissioners Park.

Alderman Merrick was absent.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Leticia Maldonado, a resident of the City, addressed the council on a police matter.

Charles Dieringer, a resident of the City, addressed the council on various matters amongst which were: Vision 2023 project, Bult Field, CERT Community Emergency Response Team, and the MWRD election.

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

COS Zerante reported on the following: the Memorial Day Parade; official signage recognizing the City's achievement of one hundred percent green energy; forestry consultants surveying neighborhoods for the City's tree inventory; an award through the Morton Arboretum for tree planting of an additional 150 trees; and a Town Hall meeting featuring Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle on June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Chicago Heights Middle School.

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

None

**1. MINUTES: MEETING OF MAY 18, 2022.**

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

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Merrick

Motion to approve carried.

**2. BILLS: APPROVAL OF SECOND RUN OF MAY 2022.**

Alderman Zaranti moved, and Alderman Rodgers seconded, a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$ 1,282,590.80.

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Merrick

Motion to approve carried.

**3. ORDINANCE #2022 -     15     : AMENDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES REGULATING APPOINTMENTS TO THE CITY BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE.**

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

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Merrick

Motion to approve carried.

Mayor Gonzalez stated that the amendment would reduce the number of committee members from fifteen to seven. The Mayor planned to submit the names of seven new members for appointment at the next council meeting.

4. **ORDINANCE #2022 - 16 : AMENDING CHAPTER 26 – 10 OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES REGULATING BUSINESS LICENSE COMPLIANCE.**

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

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Merrick

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel Somer stated that the ordinance created the mandate that a business license not be issued if a business could not show proof that its property taxes were not more than two years overdue, and that an occupancy certificate not be issued as well. A letter would be issued to businesses allowing them until May 1, 2023 to resolve the situation. The city council discussed the matter before the vote.

5. **RESOLUTION #2022 - 61 : APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS FOR THE PROVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION AND PARAMEDIC SERVICES.**

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

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Merrick

Motion to approve carried.

Mayor Gonzalez reported that renewal was for a five-year term. The annual payments to the City would be \$ 450,000 the first year, increasing each year, and reaching \$650, 000 plus the current CPI in the fourth and fifth years.

6. RESOLUTION #2022 - 62 : APPROVING A BID AWARD FOR THE CITY'S 2022 CDBG ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (16<sup>TH</sup> STREET FROM CHICAGO ROAD TO DIVISION STREET).

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

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Merrick

Motion to approve carried.

COS Zerante stated that the City engineer, upon analyses of the bids received, recommended awarding the bid to Gallagher Asphalt, lowest responsible bidder, for the bid amount of \$2,160,283.70. No discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:42 p.m. Alderman Smith moved, and Alderman Rodgers seconded, a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Merrick

Motion to adjourn carried.

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Lori Wilcox, City Clerk