

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Wednesday, August 2, 2023 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 6:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK RACHEL VEGA

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

Alderman Smith announced that she would host her next ward meeting on Saturday, August 12th at 11:00 a.m. at Barack Obama School.

Alderman Perez announced that she would host her next ward meeting on Monday, August 28th at 7:00 p.m. at Garfield School.

Alderman Rodgers announced the Back to School Rally on Saturday, August 5th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Alex Lopez Park, and the finale of her Music in the Park series for August 19th at King Park from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Alderman Baikauskas announced that he would host his next ward meeting along with Park Commissioner Michele Baikauskas on Monday, August 28th, at 6:00 p.m. at Roosevelt School.

Alderman Brassea announced that he would host his next ward meeting on August 23rd at 6:00 p. m. at the Police Training Center.

Alderman Zaranti announced that he would host his next ward meeting along with Park Commissioner Curtis Straczek on August 28th.

Alderman Merrick - no announcements.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

REPORT OF CHIEF OF STAFF – KAREN ZERANTE

COS Zerante announced the Fiesta Chicago Heights festival to be held on Saturday and Sunday, September 16th & 17th, with a parade stepping off on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. from Joe Orr and Chicago Road. The community cultural event would include food, games, and entertainment.

REPORT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL—T.J. SOMER

None

MINUTES: MEETING OF JULY 19, 2023

Alderman Smith 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.

BILLS: APPROVAL OF SECOND RUN OF JULY, 2023

Alderman Rodgers moved, and Alderman Perez seconded, a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$1,886,400.09.

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

Motion to approve carried.

- 1. RESOLUTION #2023 - 84: APPROVING THE CLOSURE OF CERTAIN STATE ROADWAYS FOR THE CHICAGO HEIGHTS PARADE & FESTIVAL EVENT ON SEPTEMBER 16, 2023.**

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.

COS Zerante stated that the resolution was required to be submitted to the State for its approval of the road closures.

2. RESOLUTION #2023 - 85: APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH “FUSUS” TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY INTEGRATED SOFTWARE SYSTEMS FOR THE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Alderman Smith 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.

Police Superintendent Matthew Gainer reported that the system would allow police to correlate video from multiple points throughout the City to improve response time and communication. The system would give police real time visibility with video systems already in place in local school districts. Cost of system was \$150,000 per year. Discussion on the matter took place.

3. RESOLUTION #2023 - 86: APPROVING A BID AWARD FOR THE CITY’S 2023 50/50 SIDEWALK PROGRAM.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

Motion to TABLE carried.

Mayor Gonzalez asked for a motion to TABLE the resolution to allow the City engineer additional time to review the bids. The matter would come before the council at the next council meeting.

4. OMNIBUS RESOLUTION #2023 - 87: APPROVING AGREEMENTS TO INDUCE THE SALE & RE-DEVELOPMENT OF CERTAIN CITY-OWNED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES, PURSUANT TO THE CITY’S APAP PROGRAM.

Alderman Rodgers 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.

Corporation Counsel Somer reported that another four properties were ready to go to closing and asked for the council’s support.

5. RESOLUTION #2023 - 88: APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF FIVE VEHICLES FOR THE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Alderman Zaranti moved, and Alderman Perez 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.

Corporation Counsel Somer explained that this purchase would replace the purchase of other vehicles that were previously approved for purchase, but that were not currently available for delivery. Supt. Matthew Gainer also gave further details on the matter. Discussion was held.

MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION TO DISCUSS IMMINENT OR PENDING LITIGATION, USE OR DISPOSITION OF CITY LAND, AND / OR PERSONNEL ISSUES.

6. RESOLUTION #2023 - 89: APPROVING THE SETTLEMENT OF CERTAIN IMMINENT CIVIL LITIGATION, AS PRESENTED FOR EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION, AND BY MEMORANDUM OF THIS DATE.

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.

Corporation Counsel Somer stated that he communicated with the aldermen and there was no request for executive session, therefore, the council could move directly to take action on the matter.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:32 p.m. Alderman Smith 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.

Rachel Vega, City Clerk