

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Wednesday, November 2, 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 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, November 12th at 11:00 a.m. at Barack Obama School.

Alderman Perez - no announcements.

Alderman Rodgers announced that she would be partnering with Christ for Everyone Headquarters in hosting a Turkey Celebration. More information would follow.

Alderman Baikauskas announced that he would host a joint ward meeting with Park Commissioner Michele Baikauskas on Monday, November 28th at 6:00 p.m. at Roosevelt School.

Alderman Brassea announced that he would host his next ward meeting on Wednesday, November 30th at 6:00 p.m. at 222 Vollmer Road, Suite LC.

Alderman Zaranti announced that he would host a joint ward meeting with Park Commissioner Curtis Straczek on Monday, January 30, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at Commissioners Park.

Alderman Merrick thanked all the volunteers who helped make the Halloween Giveaway event such a great success. She proceeded to announce the student winners of the Halloween Art Contest and presented all recipients with gifts for their efforts.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chuck Dieringer, a resident of the City, addressed the council on two matters: the upcoming Little Calumet Watershed meeting scheduled for January 19, 2023, and efforts to increase recruitment of police officers.

REPORT OF CHIEF OF STAFF – KAREN ZERANTE

COS Zerante announced the Veterans Day Morning of Reflection scheduled for Friday, November 11th at 10:30 a.m. at the Veterans Mound. If there was inclement weather, the ceremony would be held at the Chicago Heights Recreation Center.

REPORT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL—T.J. SOMER

Corporation Counsel Somer shared some statistics on the City's Abandoned Property Acquisition Program (APAP), stating that 270 applications were received to date, 75 properties were closed on, and 194 were in process. He gave a slide presentation highlighting some of the properties, before and after rehab, some completed and some still in progress.

1. MINUTES: MEETING OF OCTOBER 19, 2022.

Alderman Smith 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 SECOND RUN OF OCTOBER 2022.

Alderman Zaranti moved, and Alderman Perez seconded, a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$ 3,062,318.10.

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: none

Motion to approve carried.

3. OMNIBUS RESOLUTION #2022 – 102 : APPROVING AGREEMENTS TO INDUCE THE SALE AND REDEVELOPMENT OF CERTAIN CITY OWNED SURPLUS RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES PURSUANT TO THE CITY'S APAP PROGRAM. (413 West 16th Place & 1104 Emerald Avenue).

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.

4. RESOLUTION #2022 – 103: APPROVING AN OPTION AGREEMENT FOR THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO PURCHASE THE CITY OWNED SURPLUS INDUSTRIAL LAND AT 2116 STATE STREET.

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 Magnum Freight, a trucking logistics company, proposed to purchase the twenty-acre parcel of vacant land for \$ 800,000, with the intention of constructing a 25,000 square foot operations hub. There was a brief question on the matter.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:38 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.

Lori Wilcox, City Clerk