

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Wednesday, January 6, 2021 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 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK LORI WILCOX

Mayor:	David Gonzalez	Present
Council:	1 st Ward Renee Smith	Present
	2 nd Ward Sonia Perez	Absent
	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 - no announcements

Alderman Perez - absent

Alderman Rodgers announced that the 3rd Ward event in partnership with Essential Home Health Care and Bishop Franklin on December 20th had benefited a hundred persons. Soup was served, and care packages and gift certificates were distributed.

Alderman Baikauskas - no announcements

Alderman Brassea announced that he would host a meeting on January 27th at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Alderman Zaranti stated that a 6th Ward meeting was not scheduled for the month of January.

Alderman Merrick - no announcements

Mayor Gonzalez announced that it was his pleasure to attend the Grand Opening for the Cube Smart Self Storage facility. Mayor Gonzalez also stated that the City was awarded another Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) grant under the Strong Community Program (SCP). The \$ 200,000 grant funds would be used towards demolition expenditures in 2021.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None-Corporation Counsel T. J. Somer stated that he was present in the council chambers and that there was no public in attendance.

REPORT OF CHIEF OF STAFF – KAREN ZERANTE

COS Zerante reported on several items: the completion of the 10th Street Culvert Project, temporary barricades on Joe Orr Road & West End Avenue due to a main break repair, the status of the Housing Authority of Cook County (HACC) VA Project, and the LED lighting conversion.

REPORT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL—T.J. SOMER

None

1. MINUTES: MEETING OF DECEMBER 16, 2020

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried.

2. BILLS: APPROVAL OF SECOND RUN OF DECEMBER 2020.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried.

3. RESOLUTION #2021 - 1: APPROVING AND RATIFYING A PROPOSAL FOR ROOF REPAIR ON THE BOOSTER STATION HOUSE AT THE CITY'S LANSING WATER PUMPING STATION.

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

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick
Nays: none
Abstain: none
Absent: Perez
Motion to approve carried.

Mayor Gonzalez stated that Christopher Burke Engineering, consultant to the City, recommended the project be awarded to low bidder Adler Roofing and Sheet Metal for bid of \$ 37,200. Corporation Counsel Somer made note that it was necessary to proceed on the repairs the week before, saying the aldermen had been polled and had given their approval to proceed.

4. RESOLUTION # 2021 - 2 : APPROVING AND RATIFYING A PROPOSAL FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF PUMP MOTOR #3 AT THE CITY'S LANSING WATER PUMPING STATION.

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

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick
Nays: none
Abstain: none
Absent: Perez
Motion to approve carried.

COS Zerante explained that the proposal from Metropolitan Pump Company was for \$ 36,334. The expenditure would be paid for from the Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) grant that the City received previously.

5. RESOLUTION #2021 - 3 : APPROVING A CONVEYANCE/DEED IN LIEU OF FORECLOSURE AGREEMENT AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION OF THE COMMERCIAL PROPERTY AT 1025 DIXIE HIGHWAY.

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

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick
Nays: none
Abstain: none
Absent: Perez
Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel Somer reported that this was the former Family Dollar Store. Owners were not interested in operating a business there any longer. Acquisition of the property would allow the City to eliminate any back taxes and market the property. There was brief discussion on the matter.

6. RESOLUTION # 2021 - 4 ; APPROVING A BID AWARD FOR A SEWER REPAIR PROJECT RELATED TO THE CITY'S WEST SIDE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT GRANT.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to TABLE carried.

Mayor Gonzalez asked for a motion to table, stating that the engineers reported they needed more time to review the amounts of the bids received from the different vendors.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:30 p.m. Alderman Zaranti moved, and Alderman Baikauskas seconded, a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to adjourn carried.

Lori Wilcox, City Clerk