

**MINUTES OF REGULAR HARVEY CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY – September 26, 2022 – 7:00 P.M**

Mayor Christopher J. Clark called the City of Harvey Regular Council Meeting to order Monday – September 26, 2022, at 7:19 p.m.

Mayor Clark asked City Clerk Rosa M. Arambula to call the roll of Council members.

Present: Alderwoman Shirley Drewenski, Alderwoman Telanee Smith, Alderman Tracy Key, Alderman Tyrone Rogers, and Mayor Christopher J. Clark.

Absent: Alderman Marshun Tolbert, Alderman Dominique Randle-El,

Alderman Rogers gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked for prayers for his sister who was having surgery.

Alderman Tolbert appeared at 7:21 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED: September 12, 2022 - Regular City Council Meeting Minutes**

Alderwoman Drewenski made the motion to approve the Minutes dated September 12, 2022. The motion was seconded by Alderman Rogers.

Voting Aye: Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Rogers.

Voting Nay: Aldermen Key, Tolbert.

Abstain: Alderwoman Drewenski.

Absent: Alderman Randle-El.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Alderman Tolbert mentioned to City Clerk Arambula that the minutes dated September 12, 2022, were incorrect. He mentioned that for the vote on Ordinance 3462, his vote was marked as absent when it should have been no.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT: September 26, 2022**

Alderman Rogers mentioned that he did not have an opportunity to have a Finance Committee Meeting due to uncontrollable circumstances.

Mayor Clark stated that the bills for payment would be tabled.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS FOR THE CITY OF HARVEY**

### **Old Business- None**

### **New Business**

#### **Mayoral Appointment of Newly Created Planning & Zoning Commission Members**

Alderman Key asked the Mayor how the members were selected for the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Mayor mentioned that these members have been already in existence for 3 years. They have been serving our City for years now and they also had submitted recommendations to the Council.

Alderman Tolbert had an issue with a reappointing of a member that a resident had mentioned to him.

The Mayor asked Alderman Tolbert to bring the issue to the Mayor's office attention. He continued to say that if there is someone that disqualifies themselves according to the City's rules, that they had to follow the rules as adopted.

Mayor mentioned that this has already been approved 2 weeks ago so that there is no need to vote.

Alderman Rogers stated that basically, the Planning and Zoning was combined into one and that it went from a 9-member to a 7-member board.

#### **Resolution – # 3019 – A Resolution Awarding a Professional Services Contract, to The Gemini Group (TGG) for Communications, Media, and Community Relations Services.t**

The President of the Gemini Group, Glenn Harston II, made a presentation to the Council. He mentioned that they believe that businesses are based on relationships.

Alderman Tolbert asked what other municipalities they currently represent.

The Mr. Harston said that at this moment they currently don't represent any other municipalities.

Alderwoman Drewenski asked what skills they were going to bring to the City that would be beneficial to the City of Harvey.

He mentioned that they have worked with the City of Chicago and East St, Louis as well as Gary, Indiana, and all over the country.

Alderwoman Drewenski asked Mr. Harston that he does have experience with municipalities but that he currently is not servicing any municipality?

The President answered, "Correct".

Alderman Rogers asked the mayor why we needed Gemini Group.

Mayor Clark mentioned an incident had happened in Chicago where the news media was reporting false news. He stated that we could have used someone that had the knowledge and experience to deal with crisis management with this particular issue. He went on to mention all the great things that have come to the City and many more that are to come. He said City residents need to know what is going on in their City and bringing in Gemini Group will help with the communication part of it.

Alderman Tolbert asked about the 30-day notice of cancellation.

Mr. Halston explained that at any time if the City is not happy with them, the City can give a 30-day written notice to get out of the contract.

Alderman Drewenski explained how it would be helpful to know what is going on in the City for not only the residents but also the City elected officials and its employees.

Alderman Key asked Mr. Halston what would happen if they would post something that wasn't true. Would the City be liable?

Mr. Halston said that they do not put out any information until they speak to their client, and it is approved by the client.

Alderman Smith mentioned that it was about time to convey accurate information. The effectiveness of communicating with others is greatly needed. She also mentioned the human trafficking incident. This was only mentioned on Facebook and if people knew more about this, they may start to report things that we are not aware of. So the communication part of it is needed.

Mayor stated that what the City spent on one communication person, we now have a team that would be taking over.

Alderman Drewenski made the motion to approve Resolution.  
The motion was seconded by Alderman Smith.

Voting Aye: Aldermen Smith, Drewenski, Alderman Rogers.

Voting Nay: Aldermen Tolbert, Key.

Abstain: None.

Absent Alderman Randle-El.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Ordinance # 3463** – An Ordinance Terminating the Designation of the Cresco Business Park Tax Increment Financing District as a Redevelopment Project Area Under the Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act and Dissolving the Special Tax Allocation Fund for the Cresco Business Park Tax Increment Financing District.

Nick Greifer, economic developer, stated that in the State statutes a TIF district is limited to 23 years, and this was established in 1997. The City is now obligated to terminate this TIF through this Ordinance.

Alderman Tolbert made the motion to approve the Ordinance.  
The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Drewenski.

Voting Aye: Aldermen Key, Rogers, Alderwomen Smith, Drewenski, Alderman Tolbert.

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Alderman Randle-El.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion to Approve and Publish FY '23 Annual Budget Proposal – Final Adoption  
Pending**

Alderman Rogers made the motion to Approve and Publish FY'23 Annual Budget Proposal-  
Final Adoption Pending.

The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Smith.

Voting Aye: Alderman Key, Alderwomen Smith, Drewenski, Alderman Rogers.

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: Alderman Tolbert

Absent: Alderman Randle-El.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

Mayor Clark mentioned that Alderman Rogers's sister would be in our prayers.

**ADJOURNMENT: 8:25 p.m.**

Alderman Rogers made the motion to adjourn meeting.  
The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Drewenski.


Voting Aye: Alderwomen Drewenski, Smith, Aldermen Key, Rogers Tolbert.

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Alderman Randle-El.

**MOTION CARRIED**

  
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Rosa M. Arambula – City Clerk