MONDAY
October 19, 2026
City of North Chicago
1850 Lewis Avenue, North Chicago, IL 60064

Following City Council Meeting

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

7:13 p.m.

Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr., called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: None

1. **DISCUSSION OF DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS:**

   - Economic and Community Development
   - Engineering
   - Finance Budget Report
   - Fire
   - Human Resources
   - Police
   - Public Works

   There was no discussion or questions concerning the reports.

2. **DISCUSSION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO SUPPORTING THE TRANSFER OF THE HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER AND PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMS FROM THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF LAKE AND DESIGNATION OF TWO COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENTS TO THE PROPOSED SEVEN-MEMBER GOVERNING BOARD**

   Mayor Rockingham, Jr. explained that the North Chicago Housing Authority Board was in the process of joining the Lake County Housing Authority. The North Chicago Housing Authority was going to be dissolved, and Lake County Housing Authority would be taken over.

   He wanted to ensure representation of North Chicago on the Board therefore wished to have 2 members on the Lake County Board. Alderman Evans questioned who the 2 members would be. Mayor Rockinghan, Jr. said the possibility of 2 of the current members. Alderman Coleman would like to discuss with members the current housing vouchers.

Alderman Coleman suggested at least 1 resident Board member; verbally nominated Kajuan Hodge. Mayor Rockingham, Jr. agreed with the possibility and suggested he contact Lorraine Hocker with questions about the Lake County Housing Board.

Mayor Rockingham said that Lake County was spending more funds to better the living situation of residents. Alderman Coleman was concerned with the lack of programs and activities for the residents; a resident member would assist with ensuring that activities commence.

Alderman Jackson asked if 3 members were possible; if there was an urgency to vote. Chief of Staff Greg Jackson stated that the Resolution would have to reflect the change and then be approved by Lake County. Mayor Rockingham, Jr., explained that it was a seven-member Board, representing all of Lake County. There were other cities with needed representation.

Alderman Coleman addressed concerns about outside landlords, citing previous problems in some housing complexes. Stating that two members would be good, but we members would have a bigger voice. Mayor Rockingham, Jr., explained that there were housing units in various cities and that representation is needed to make the best choices for their residents. Alderman Evans asked whether it was up to the council to decide whether North Chicago Housing would remain in North Chicago or be transferred to Lake County. Mayor Rockingham, Jr., said yes. Stated that North Chicago, however, was a small agency and did not have the funding for housing as Lake County Housing Authority does and ensured that state-mandated requirements were being met. Alderman Evans inquired about staffing for current employees. Mayor Rockingham Jr. stated that those who were currently employed should remain. Mentioning that Lake County was supportive of North Chicago, the move was now being made official.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans that the Committee of the Whole Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:
Ayes: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY
October 19, 2026
7:29 p.m.

Alderman Allen called the meeting to order. ROLL CALL:
Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: None

1. **DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION OF A $1000 COMMUNITY GRANT AWARD APPLIED FOR BY THE NON-PROFIT SYNERGIZED COMMUNITIES THRIVE, INC**

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson explained the process and purpose for distributing the grant funds. Synergized 1st application was from Kaneicia Brown, Synergized Communities Thrive, Inc. he expressed her level of professionalism and effort in completing the application. Ms. Brown explained details of the program, including health supplement solutions, services and educational classes for residents. The Chief of Staff gave his recommendation to move forward for approval.

Alderman Coleman asked who qualified for the program. Chief of Staff responded that any organization that was recognized by the state, certified as nonprofit, had an IRS exemption for a 501 (c) (3) organization, and provided services to North Chicago.

Kaneicia Brown shared information about the program, benefits, various facts, experiences, and successful goals.

Alderman Brooks mentioned that Kaneicia Brown was a good friend of his. He was pleased with her initiative and would share the information with his church. Alderman Coleman said he would be interested in Ms. Brown speaking to the residents at the Thompson Manor and Kulka Towers; Ms. Brown acknowledged.

2. **DISCUSSION TO CANCEL THE WINTER PACKS**

Jacalyn Ramdin-Johnson introduced her team. Shelley Murray, Reggie / Cristy Boyson. Sharing each person's professional and community involvement. Jacalyn stated that her team consisted entirely of residents of the city and desired to invest in North Chicago. She explained their purpose of support children from 3 years old through 8th grade by providing clean, appropriately fitting clothing. Ms. Ramdin-Johnson explained what would be in the Winter Packs, exactly what they were asking the city for, and the other entities, organizations and individuals that were supporting the program. The timeline would be presented in November to Sheilds Township and would include additional steps they have taken to complete before the holidays.

Alderman Coleman asked Chief of Staff Greg whether the city could award more than 1 grant. Mr. Jackson stated there were additional grants to distribute; however, only 1 grant per organization. Alderman Brooks asked that they share the distribution date so he could volunteer. Alderman Murphy stated she was in support of the grant and mission and was willing to volunteer.

Jacalyn Ramdin-Johnson stated that Christy and Reggie Boyson were spearheading that distributio

Alderman Evan moved, seconded by Alderman Coleman that the Finance/Audit Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:
Ayes: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

MONDAY
October 19, 2026
7:53 p.m.

Alderman Evans called the meeting to order. ROLL CALL:
Present: Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: Jackson

1. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (IDOT) FOR THE ARGONNE DRIVE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF $25,663,395.60**

   Interim City Engineer Steve Cieslica explained details of the complete reconstruction of Argonne Drive, from Natoma to Sheridan Road. Stating that the final engineering plans had been submitted to Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). Sharing next steps of the projects and indicating that the estimated cost of construction would be about **$3 million**, and the engineering portion for the project contract would bring the total to **$25,663,000**.

   Alderman Jackson returned at 7:55 p.m.

   Alderman Coleman asked about the additional area. Interim City Engineer Steve Cieslica provided an explanation for why the construction was within a certain radius. Stating that, technically, it was supposed to stop at the intersection of Green Bay Road because federal funding goes from the FAU route to the FAU route. Back one block was considered part of the intersection. Indicating that would require modifications to that intersection. Mr. Cieslica explained the estimated total cost of **$25.66 million**, including approximately **$18.28 million** in federal funding, **$7.0 million** in State funding, and an estimated local funding obligation of **$383,457.60.**

2. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GFT INFRASTRUCTURE, INC. FOR THE ARGONNE DRIVE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN THE NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF $2,433,327.00**

   Discussion was in conjunction with Public Works Agenda item #1.

3. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING $1,000,000 IN LOCAL FUNDS FOR THE ARGONNE DRIVE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

   Discussion was in conjunction with Public Works Agenda item #1.

   Interim City Engineer Steve Cieslica indicated that the city would agree to cover any additional funds and other details.

   Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks that the Public Works Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

   ROLL CALL:
   Ayes: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
   Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

MONDAY
October 19, 2026
8:01 p.m.

Alderman Jackson called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: None

1. **DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION FOR THE CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO, BY AND THROUGH ITS FIRE DEPARTMENT, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH NORTHWESTERN LAKE FOREST HOSPITAL FOR STUDENT FIELD INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE**

   Fire Chief John Umek explained that this was a Paramedic ride-along that had been reviewed by the attorney and both parties to the agreement; the request was for approval of this experience by the council.

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Allen that the Public Safety Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:
Ayes: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY
October 19, 2026
8:02 p.m.

Alderman Murphy called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: None

1. **DISCUSSION OF THE AGREEMENT FOR THIRD PARTY CLAIMS ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES WITH PMA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (LODESTAR)**

   Director of Human Resources Elizabeth Black stated that the staff's recommendation would be to continue with services provided by PMA. Explaining the claims and their importance ensures continuity of services with them for another year at a cost of $40,000. Stating that there were currently 7 claims ongoing, and there had been no new claims.

2. **DISCUSSION OF INSURANCE RISK MANAGEMENT RENEWAL FOR IML RMA RISK MANAGEMENT**

   Director of Human Resources Elizabeth Black explained the reason for the increase was due to administration fees. Stating that if the premium was paid by November 13th, it would save the city over **$10,000**. Mrs. Black made a small correction, stating that we did not have **$31 million** dollars in workers' comp claims from 2023 to 2025; it was **$688,000**.

   Representative from IML shared highlights, stating that costs remained nearly the same since 2023. He thanked the City for remaining a member.

   Alderman Jackson moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks that the Human Resources Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

   ROLL CALL:
   Ayes: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
   Nays: None
   Absent: None

   MOTION CARRIED

   The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

BUILDING/LICENSE COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY
October 19, 2026
8:06 p.m.

Alderman Allen called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: None

1. **DISCUSSION OF THE TRUCK AND TREAT EVENT AT PARIS BANQUET HALL, 1492 LEWIS AVE.**

There was no discussion. Informational purposes.

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks that the Building/License Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:
Ayes: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.