MONDAY
JULY 06, 2026
City of North Chicago
1850 Lewis Avenue, North Chicago, IL 60064
Following City Council Meeting

Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr. asked for a motion to amend the Committee of the Whole Agenda adding an item to discuss Community Days.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks to add the discussion of Community Days to the Committee of the Whole Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Jackson, Evans, Allen, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: Coleman, Wray

MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MONDAY
June 06, 2026
7:25 p.m.

Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: Wray

1. PRESENTATION FOR NORTH CHICAGO COMMUNITY DAYS 2026

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson introduced Carlos Smith as the lead coordinator of the North Chicago Community Days activities.

Carlos Smith was the 2026 North Chicago Community Days 20th Year Celebration Coordinator and noted that he was present at the first Community Days, and the event is very near and dear to him. Carlos shared an update on sponsors, vendors, financial commitments, invoices, events/activities, etc., stating that things were on track and he would continue to work to make the event great.

Denice Cooper, Owner of True Conglomerate, explained the marketing strategy and how social media had been an amazing source. Ms. Cooper explained the Facebook engagement and the analytics to give an idea of what participation would look like. She explained that numbers were trending with people liking, clicking, and sharing information on the page. Engagement on the city's page had increased by adding photos and videos from previous years and were shared. She also shared data to show that the efforts in place were working. There would be videos from interviews with the Mayor and Council also be shared.

Alderman Brooks gave kudos to True Conglomerate for their studio and the work that they did for the neighboring city.

Andrew Gadsden shared the details of the event and entertainment lineup:

Saturday

- Headliners- Park & Ride, De-Lo
- Band- Billy's Band of Brothers
- DJ X
- Ron Guterz (the Latin Luther)
- And more….

Sunday

- Headliner- Brandon P
- First Corinthians
- Vertical Encounter
- Kishi Johnson
- James Sission Tribute Choir

Mr. Smith listed some of the registered vendors. Mentioning that there would be an all-class reunion and a great parade.

Alderman Allen inquired about the money needed, the money currently revenue and where additional funds would come from. Reminding that the event was three weeks away, promises weren't guarantees and there was a need for almost an additional $80,000. Mr. Smith said he was working tirelessly to collect funds from those who made pledges and promises, any additional support would be appreciated.

Mayor Rockingham Jr. stated that Community Days was three weeks away and the desire was to make it bigger and better. Stating it was an opportunity to showcase our city. Indicating the importance of the event and giving thanks to those who are working to make it happen

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

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

PUBLIC WORKS
COMMITTEE MEETING

July 06, 2026
7:42 p.m.

Alderman Evans called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: Wray

1. **REVIEW AND APPROVE THE HACH SERVICE AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF $33,713.67**

   Interim Public Works Director Bob Miller explained that the agreement was for annual service maintenance agreement for all the equipment at the water treatment plant. The company comes three times a year for maintenance and when repairs were needed. The price increased since previous year because the amount of equipment increased.

2. **REVIEW AND APPROVE PURCHASE OF AN ATLAS COPCO XAS188 AIR COMPRESSOR**

   Mr. Miller explained that the purchase of an air compressor was through bids of Sourcewell which was 3.5% under the list price of other bids. He explained the plans for old equipment and the need for new equipment at the water plant in case of emergencies and the need for backup.

   Mayor Rockingham Jr. asked for clarification of the need to move the old air compressor from the water plant if it would be used in another location. If it was still in good condition to move, why not keep it where it was. Mr. Miller explained that there was enough CFM to produce enough air to power up the water plant. However, it didn't have enough continuous CFM to drive an air hammer or a piece of air equipment.

   Alderman Jackson expressed a similar curiousness as Mayor, questioning why keep an old air compressor that was 20 years old, that may or may not work when its needed. Why not get a new compressor for the water plant. He suggested research on how to budget for two new compressors.

   Mr. Miller suggestion was to keep the old compressor; keep it charged and check weekly to make sure it was operable such as the backup generator. Alderman Jackson asked who would check weekly.

   Mr. Miller responded that the Air Mechanic at the water plant would check, as part of his operational checklist and it would be documented. If during that weekly checklist the equipment was deemed unfunctional it would be replaced.

   Alderman Brooks agreed with Alderman Jackson on possibly getting two for cheaper as a better deal for purchasing multiples. Mr. Miller said it would be the same cost as the proposed 1.

   Mayor Rockingham Jr. questioned why not look for an additional one with less the specifics as the one being purchased for other operations. Directing Bob to investigate that as an option.

Alderman Murphy agreed with looking for a compressor with a lesser compacity for a cost savings.

Alderman Brooks asked if Bob could check on purchasing two so that the process of meeting and seeking approvals in the future could be avoided, to be proactive.

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson spoke about grants and city responsibility. Mentioning having the discussion with the Comptroller of what exactly is needed at this time.

3. **REVIEW AND APPROVE THE FY 2027 MFT MAINTENANCE RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,515,000, THE ESTIMATE OF MAINTENANCE COSTS AND TAI MAINTENANCE ENGINEERING AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF $165,000 FOR THE 2026 STREET RESURFACING PROGRAM**

Engineer Steve Cieslica shared the plan and costs for snow and ice control, street resurfacing, streetlights and repairs. Cost of engineering programs, inspections and materials testing; he was seeking support

4. **REVIEW AND DISCUSS WALLACE AVENUE WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT WORK ORDER FROM TROTTER AND ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR DESIGN AND BIDDING SERVICES IN THE NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT OF $89,000**

Mr. Cieslica mentioned the multiple water breaks in May. The watermain Wallace Ave. was built in the 1960s; seven breaks in 2 weeks. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. 14 breaks within a 2 blk stretch down 24th St. After meeting with the Chief of Staff, $720k was found to support the project if several other projects were delayed.

He mentioned a few projects that were identified and could be delayed. IEPA said after 7 breaks in 2 weeks there was an Emergency Watermain Permit for Replacements issued. Mr. Cieslica briefly explained the process of replacing watermains. With that being said, the proposal was to gain approval for an emergency watermain replacement. Hopeful to bid in August prior to winter.

Alderman Murphy asked if it would be bid through a preferred vendors list. Mr. Cieslica said yes.

Alderman Allen thanked Mr. Cieslica for efforts to delay some things to get this important project complete.

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

<u>ROLL CALL:</u>

Ayes: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Murphy, Brooks

Nays: None
Absent: Wray

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING/ZONING
COMMITTEE MEETING

July 06, 2026
8:02 p.m.

Alderman Brooks called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Jackson. Coleman, Evans, Allen, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: Wray

1. PRESENTATION OF SHERIDAN CROSSING MARKET OPPORTUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK REPORT

Director of Economic and Community Development Taylor Wegrzyn explained that discussions were had with engaging partners for the Sheridan Road Crossing site; the work that had been done to obtain data/market study of that property.

The market study showed that there could be several uses for that property such as an upper/midscale hotel, a mixed dining facility, a retail center, small entertainment center, or small rental residential units. Also, sharing options that would not be the best choices for that area were identified. With information from the data, it would allow conversations with developers to gauge interests for the site.

This was not the complete development, just a picture of options. Using this data and diagrams, gain RFPs (Request for Proposal) to submit specific proposals of development with hope to move forward to develop.

Alderman Evans asked if the building across from Sheridan Crossing was to be demolished before new development took place. Mr. Wegrzyn stated that building was owned by a private owner and he was not at liberty to discuss those plans at the time, so he could not matter-of-factly say it would be gone or if it was going to be done within the city's ideal timeframe for the new project.

Alderman Evans asked about the effects of the city if not demolished. Mr. Wegrzyn indicated there had been communication and efforts being made by the city. At the time there was no definite date communicated but owner was aware that the building needed to be demolished.

Mayor Rockingham, Jr. asked whether the City should participate in the ICSC conference to advertise the site. Mr. Wegrzyn gave ideas of things that could be done at the end of the project, also noting that it was discussed to attend the conference and said it could be beneficial.

Mr. Wegrzyn acknowledged the need for a driver interested in the property like a stadium, a dining/entertainment facility, etc.

Alderman Brooks mentioned North Chicago was home to Naval Base, Rosalind Franklin University, Abbott and Abbive all which consisted of individuals that don't reside here and needed somewhere to stay while in town. Stated the thoughts should be grand and scale down if needed.

Mayor Rockingham, Jr. stated that he agreed with the sentiments of the council but shared the Sheridan Road timeline of events. These were steps in developing our city and there were current opportunities available that weren't years ago. There was a need to discover how to make North Chicago more attractive to develop and become a destination point.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans, that the Economic Development / Planning / Zoning Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Murphy, Brooks

Nays: None

Absent: Wray

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY,
July 06, 2026
8:27 p.m.

Alderman Evans called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: Wray

1. **DISCUSSION OF LETTER OF GRANT AWARD BY THE ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR $23,000.**

Police Chief Perez stated there was an opportunity to receive a grant for $23,000 from the Attorney General’s Office. Specifically, to deal with crime in retail business and retail theft. Explaining how the monies could be used and that it was a reimbursable grant for license plate readers in the amount of $18,000 and the remainder used as needed.

Alderman Evans asked how license plates readers were maintained after the grant. Chief Perez stated the city would need to pay out of general funds.

Mayor Rockingham, Jr. asked Chief Perez if he noticed the license plate readers being a benefit to the city. Chief Perez said absolutely and shared an incident, the license plate reader made for a rapid response.

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

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.