

MINUTES

The City Council of North Chicago met in a Regular meeting, Monday, July 06, 2026, at 6:02 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 1850 Lewis Avenue with Mayor Rockingham Jr. presiding.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INVOCATION

IV. ROLL CALL

Upon the Roll Call being taken, the following members were present:

Present: Jackson, Evans, Allen, Murphy, Brooks

Absent: Coleman, Wray

Mayor Rockingham announced that Alderman Wray was ill and Alderman Coleman was unable to attend in person due to work and would like to join the meeting via Zoom. Mayor Rockingham asked if a motion could be entertained to allow Alderman Coleman to join virtually.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks to approve Alderman Coleman's participation via Zoom.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Evans, Allen, Murphy, Brooks

Nays: None

Non-Vote: Coleman

Absent: Wray

MOTION CARRIED

Alderman Coleman entered the Council meeting virtually at 6:03 pm.

4-1 PROMOTION OF BATTALION CHIEF THOMAS DEINKEN TO DEPUTY CHIEF

Mayor Rockingham, Jr. gave encouraging words and shared experiences. Reflected on personal memories and gave gratitude. Mayor Rockingham Jr. administered the oath. Deputy Chief Deinken expressed thanks.

4-2 PROMOTION OF LIEUTENANT MAMMOSER TO BATTALION CHIEF

Mayor Rockingham, Jr. offered kind words and thanked you for the work you did. He administered the oath and Battalion Chief Mammoser expressed gratitude.

4-3 PROMOTION OF FIREFIGHTER KLUCHKA TO LIEUTENANT

Mayor Rockingham, Jr. administered the oath; Lieutenant Kluchka thanked everyone and the City of North Chicago

4-4 PRESENTATION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE, LEGACY, AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF LAKE COUNTY BOARD VICE-CHAIR DR. MARY ROSS-CUNNINGHAM

City Clerk Lori Collins read the resolution.

Mayor Rockingham, Jr. shared memories and thanked Dr. Mary Ross-Cunningham and family for all the work she had done for the City of North Chicago. Mayor Rockingham Jr. stated that the resolution was presented at the funeral service.

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks, to approve the Resolutions, The Life, Legacy, and Public Service of Lake County Board Vice-Chair Dr. Mary Ross-Cunningham, as presented.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Wray

MOTION CARRIED

V. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA

- 5-1 Approval of Minutes for Regular Council Meeting, **June 15, 2026**
- 5-2 Approval of Standing Committee Meeting Minutes, **June 15, 2026**
- 5-3 Approval of An Ordinance Approving a Text Amendment to the North Chicago Zoning Ordinance Section 3.15 and Section 4.18 Regarding Non-Residential Appearance Code
- 5-4 Approval of an Ordinance of the City of North Chicago Creating Title 8, Chapter 24, Section 46 – Illegal Dumping on the Right of Way or Real Property and Amending Title 8, Chapter 24, Section 44, Impoundment
- 5-5 Approval of the Patrol Plan for the Summer of 2026
- 5-6 Approval and Authorization to Advertise for Bid - Comprehensive Leak Detection Services for Water Distribution System
- 5-7 Approval of a Contract Extension with Hydromax USA LLC in the **not-to-exceed amount of \$36,000** for the Water Distribution System - Valve Exercising and Hydrant Flushing Services.
- 5-8 Approval of Purchase of Equipment for Switch and Wireless Access Point Replacement **not-to-exceed \$36,346.37**
- 5-9 Approval of Replacement of End-of-Life Police Squad Laptops **not-to-exceed \$115,506.00**
- 5-10 Approval of Replacement Police Department Fingerprint System **not-to-exceed \$16,635.00**
- 5-11 Approval of a Resolution Honoring Elmer Gray for A Lifetime of Service, Faith, Family, And Community Contributions
- 5-12 Approval of a Resolution Honoring Merseal Swopes Bankston for A Lifetime of Faith, Service, Family Leadership, And Community Impact
- 5-13 Approval of a Resolution Honoring Mother Essie Geater for A Lifetime of Faith, Service, Resilience, And Community Leadership
- 5-14 Approval of a Resolution Honoring Chinester Sims for A Lifetime of Service, Faith, Family Commitment, And Community Dedication
- 5-15 Approval of a Presentation of a Resolution Honoring the Life of Ezzit Williams

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans, to approve the Omnibus Vote Agenda as presented.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Wray

MOTION CARRIED

City Clerk announced corrections that were made to the Omnibus Agenda

- Correction of Minute Approval Dates – July 06th to June 15th- indicating that the minutes being approved were from June 15, 2026
- Council Meeting Minutes corrections
Page 2- Chicago was misspelled and corrected
Page 6- Alderman Jackson gave kudos for Special Olympics, **not** Chief of Staff Jackson

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans, to amend the Omnibus Vote Agenda with corrections as presented.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Wray

MOTION CARRIED

Moment of Recognition

Alderman Allen explained the reason for the recognitions being presented. Stating that these residents were 90+ years old and have been pillars of the community.

Elmer Gray

Alderman Allen thanked him for being a pillar in North Chicago for over 60 years and presented him with a plaque.

City Clerk Lori L. Collins read the resolution.

Mayor Rockingham shared a memory of Mr. Gray and congratulated him.

Essie Geater- Church

Alderman Allen thanked her for her work in the community and presented her with a plaque.

City Clerk Lori L. Collins read the resolution.

Mayor Rockingham Jr. shared a memory and expressed appreciation for Mother Geater for her support over the years and congratulated her.

Chinester Sims

Alderman Allen thanked her for her work in the community and presented her with a plaque.

City Clerk Lori L. Collins read the resolution.

Chinester Sims' daughter accepted the award on her behalf and stated she was eternally thankful.

Marseal Swopes- Bankston

City Clerk Lori Collins read the resolution.

Alderman Allen thanked Mrs. Bankston for her work in the community and presented her with a plaque.

Pastor Anthory Morgan from Christian Valley Church in North Chicago congratulated the recipients.

Mayor Rockingham Jr. congratulated everyone.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Commissioner Carmecia Hawthorne announced upcoming events:

North Chicago Public Library

Ravinia - free tickets to selected musicals

Museum Pass, free tickets to the Botanic Gardens, and the zoo

**If you are a North Chicago Public Library cardholder*

Family Fun Day at the North Chicago Public Library- July 11th

North Chicago Foss Park District – presented by Commissioner Carmecia Hawthorne

Open Gym- Basketball for 6th -8th graders 6:30-8 pm every Tuesday starting June 28th

Annual Youth Symposium July 11th; 12 pm-2 pm

2026 Flames Unleash the Beast registration (see flyer)

She thanked everyone who attended the mural display.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

7-1 **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL TO WAIVE FIRST READING AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL SUPPORT AGREEMENT FOR INSTALLATION SUPPORT AND SERVICES**

Director of Economic & Community Development Taylor Wegrzyn explained that this was an intergovernmental agreement with the Department of Defense. He noted this was a collaborative agreement between the City of North Chicago and Naval Station Great Lakes.

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson announced on July 13th at 10 am a press conference and signing for the demolition of Halsey Village.

Mayor Rockingham, Jr. clarified the purpose of the event.

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Allen, to approve Agenda Item 7-1 as presented.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Wray

MOTION CARRIED

7-2 **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL TO WAIVE THE FIRST READING OF AND AWARD J & M DISPLAYS FOR COMMUNITY DAYS FIREWORKS DISPLAY SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$27,500.00.**

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Allen, to approve Agenda Item 7-2 as presented.

Alderman Allen asked about the previous contract terms and the purpose. Mayor Rockingham, Jr. explained that this was being presented, in celebration of the City's 20th anniversary of Community Days, it was decided to display more fireworks. It would be part of the raised funds

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Wray

MOTION CARRIED

7-3 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF THE CITY BILLS

General Fund	\$ 632,530.35
General Grants Fund	\$ 50,170.00
Motor Fuel Tax Fund	\$ 16,690.61
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 81,714.55
Water, Sewer & Refuse Fund	\$ 452,189.92
Retiree Premium Fund	\$ 17,685.59
Library Fund	\$ <u>7,484.31</u>
TOTAL	\$ 1,258,465.33
SPECIAL 1	\$5,950.00
TOTAL	\$1,264,415.33

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans, to pay the Regular City Bills and 1 SPECIAL bill run of 07/06/26 in the amount of **\$1,264,415.33 when funds become available.**

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Wray

MOTION CARRIED

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

- Alderman Brooks gave kudos for Community Day of Service, Foss Park and State's Attorney and expressed that mural was great.
 - The funeral of Mary Ross Cunningham was amazing; he noted that various Council members attended. The overwhelming number in attendance showed the life lived.
 - Asked Council to respond to the email from True Conglomerate to partake in a video for

Community Days

- Alderman Evans announced July 25, 2026, a Township Meeting at 11 am with Waukegan and Lake Bluff at North Chicago City Hall.
- Alderman Allen mentioned that the committee for Community Days was present and asked if they could present an update on the event.
- Mayor Rockingham, Jr. wanted Council and residents to be aware that SWALCO (Solid Waste Agency of Lake County) would be working with the Division of Transportation/IEPA for a tire collection day located at the salt dome at 600 West Winchester Road, up to 12 tires on Monday, July 13th 7 am-2 pm, appointments required.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

11-1 EXECUTIVE SESSION- 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(5) THE PURCHASE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY FOR THE USE OF THE PUBLIC BODY, INCLUDING MEETINGS HELD FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING WHETHER A PARTICULAR PARCEL SHOULD BE ACQUIRED.

Alderman Murphy moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks to suspend the Regular Order of Business and enter Executive Session at 7:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Wray

MOTION CARRIED

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans to resume the Regular Order of Business at 7:23 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made by Alderman Murphy, seconded by Alderman Brooks, that the meeting stand adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lori L. Collins, City Clerk