

MINUTES

The City Council of North Chicago met in a Regular meeting, Monday, December 19, 2022 at 6:05 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 1850 Lewis Avenue with Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr., presiding.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INVOCATION

IV. ROLL CALL

Upon roll call being taken, the following members were present:

Present: Jackson, Mayfield, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy, January

Absent: None

V. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA

5-1 Approval of Minutes of Regular Council Meetings, **December 05, 2022**

5-2 Approval of Minutes of Standing Committee Meetings, **December 05, 2022**

5-3 Approval of Investment Policy

5-4 Consideration/Approval of Treasurer's Report – **October 2022**

5-5 Approval of Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Agreement between the City of North Chicago and Carter Consulting, LLC (Summer Up)

5-6 Consideration/Approval of Tax Levy in the Amount of **\$11,086,775**

5-7 Consideration/Approval of Gaming Parlor Liquor License at Days Inn, 3000 N. Skokie Highway

5-8 Approval of Extension to AMM Enterprises, Inc. Existing Agreement with the City of North Chicago Public Works thru **March 2023; Not to Exceed 30 hrs. per week**

5-9 Resolution Approving and Authorizing Execution of an Agreement between the City of North Chicago and Emergency Management Company for Extrication Equipment Not to Exceed **\$41,960**, of which **\$6,960** will be paid by the Firefighters **2%** Fund

5-10 Consideration/Approval of Our Shining Star Foundation Donation of Not to Exceed **\$500**

5-11 Consideration/Approval to Purchase a new PW Unit #490 2022 Ford F550 Chassis and After Market Lift, Body, Mounting Not to Exceed **\$185,000** to Replace Old Unit #490 that will be disposed of by "Enterprise Sale"

5-12 Ordinance Declaring Surplus and Authorizing the Disposal or Sale of Certain Real Property; **1208 Victoria Ave., 1720 Lincoln St., 730 Broadway Ave., 0 Greenfield Ave.**

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans to approve the Omnibus Vote Agenda 5-1 thru 5-12 as presented.

Alderman Mayfield moved, seconded by Alderman Jackson to move item 5-6 to the Regular Agenda.

ROLL CALL TO MOVE 5-6 TO REGULAR AGENDA:

Ayes: Jackson, Mayfield, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy, January

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

Alderman January made motion to move Items 5-7 thru 5-11 to the Regular Agenda.

MOTION DIED DUE TO LACK OF SECOND

ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS 5-1 thru 5-5 & 5-7 thru 5-12:

Ayes: Jackson, Mayfield, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy

Nays: January

Absent: None

Alderman January stated that she was separating her vote, items 5-1 thru 5-4 was no and 5-7 thru 11 was yes. Attorney Simon explained that the motion was for one action.

MOTION CARRIED

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chuck Smith

Greeted the Council, Mayor and citizens; great to see the progress the City had made. Wished everyone a Happy Holiday. Mayor Rockingham explained that Judge Chuck Smith was the former City Attorney for many years and thanked him for what he did for North Chicago and as a Judge.

AMO Athletes

Mayor Rockingham introduced Amo Athletes and asked them to come up to be recognized. Mr. Bone and staff introduced several of the children and staff that played/coached and received trophies/metals and championship rings: **Arnold Shead Jr., Gavin, Bone, Darreal Crawford Jr. A'Mari Hudson, Aaeron Collins, Jhalil Banks, Nazir Irby, Trevondae Hood Jr., Damarion Proctor, Major Matthews, Adrian Broner, Charief Ford, Darius Furgerson, Darius Smith, Michael Taylor III, Jaiden Johnson, Camron Hibbler, Aiden Williams, Aiden Duncan Hill, Dominique Young Jr. Evan Foster, Gale Young III**

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

5-6 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF TAX LEVY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,086,775

Alderman Mayfield moved, seconded by Alderman Allen to approve the Property Tax Levy Ordinance; and further direct the Comptroller to “voluntarily” reduce the Tax Levy to 4.8107 in April 2023.

Interim Comptroller Mike Peterson explained the prior meeting a citizen inquired the dollar amount increase on tax bill of a \$100,000 home.

TAX LEVY AT RATE OF 4.8106

Mr. Peterson explained that the levy was based on the tax rate being flat or equal to prior year. The tax rate drove the dollar amount of \$11,086,775. The key to the tax rate is to fix at 4.810666.

NORTH CHICAGO'S TAX LEVY HISTORY

The debt service was 0 this year because there was sufficient funds to pay the debt service. The amount was reclassified to the General Corporate Account increased to \$5,430,415 from \$4,159,091. The Library IMRF & Social Security amount of \$40,661 was moved to the Corporate Library Account. The Corporate Library has a different Assessed Valuation than the City because of Social Security.

The Levy increase was actually 4.24%; strictly the City of North Chicago portion. The City represented about 36% of the tax bill.

TAX BREAKDOWN BY CLASS CODE

The residential tax values had increased, up 51%. There is shifting of tax burden.

RESPONSE TO RESIDENT INQUIRY

\$100,000 home value tax burden was no easy answer. He explained the formula of Rate = Total Extension / EAV x \$100 EAV to get the 4.8351207. The Library EAV is the reason the amount seemed to be incorrect.

EAV DISCUSSION

The County determines the Levy based on EAV and was only an estimate. He explained the different possibilities of increase/decrease of \$100,000 home tax.

TAX BILL ESTIMATES

The voluntary reduction period is only a 2 days and that is why the clause of voluntary reduction was included. It will resolve for the Library EAV and any other adjustments.

SEEKING A MOTION

QUESTIONS

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Mayfield, Allen, Smith, Murphy

Nays: None

Absent: Evans, January

MOTION CARRIED

7-1 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF NINA CHALMERS APPOINTMENT TO THE POLICE PENSION BOARD, REPLACING TERESA MCSEE FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM

Alderman Mayfield moved, seconded by Alderman January to approve the Nina Chalmers appointment to the Police Pension Board, replacing Teresa McSee for a two-year term.

Alderman Allen questioned residency. Ms. Chalmers explained that she no longer lived in Wisconsin and currently resides in North Chicago. Mayor Rockingham also noted there being a question of conflict of interest because she was Director of the Housing Authority. Attorney Simon explained there was no overlap or matter that would affect her duties in judgement as Director or member of the Police Pension Board.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Mayfield, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy

Nays: None

Absent: Jackson, January

MOTION CARRIED

7-2 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF B-W LIQUOR LICENSE FROM M. CARRETO CORPORATION (DBA SPEEDY TACO) AT 2272 MLK DR.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Smith to approve the B-W Liquor License from M. Carreto Corporation (DBA Speedy Taco) at 2272 MLK Dr.

Attorney Simon explained that the previous approval of B-W(2) was in error and this was the correction. Alderman January questioned; Attorney Simon said that future ordinances will include the number of additional or reduction of license.

Alderman January asked why the agenda does not indicate there was an ordinance to be approved. Attorney Simon explained that it was on the agenda with the understanding of the topic that was to be approved.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Mayfield, Allen, Smith, Murphy

Nays: None

Absent: Evans, January

MOTION CARRIED**7-3 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF CITY BILLS**

General Corporate Fund	\$ 264,573.65
Motor Fuel Tax	\$ 36,289.75
Water Operations	\$ 888,125.48
TIF Debt Service 2007B	\$ 4,783,069.78
Dental and Vision	\$ 168.00
TIF II Downtown/Industrial	\$ 3,987.50
	\$ 5,976,214.16

General Corporate Fund (Insurance)	\$ 831,615.00
Library (Insurance)	\$ 17,800.00
Water Operations (Insurance)	\$ 273,000.00
	\$ 1,122,415.00

TOTAL APPROVED \$ 7,098,629.16

MOTION:

Alderman Mayfield moved, seconded by Alderman Allen to pay the bills of Council Run 12/19/22 the amount of \$7,098,629.16 when funds become available.

Alderman January asked if there were sufficient funds and amount of funds as of close on Friday. Mr. Peterson said there were funds available with the exception of shortfall of grant monies in the amount of \$935,949.34 and he was not aware of closing funds as of Friday.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Mayfield, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy

Nays: None

Absent: January

MOTION CARRIED**VIII. MISCELLANEOUS****VARIOUS CONCERNS AND COMMENTS**

- Alderman Allen questioned notice of checking for lead and unsure of how to check. Mayor Rockingham directed to contact the Comptroller's Office.
- Mayor Rockingham noted the last Council meeting of the year. He wished everyone a safe and Happy New Year and Merry Christmas.
- Alderman Evans announced Annual Christmas Celebration, December 20th at Foss Park Golf Course 5-9 p.m. He thanked all that contributed to the celebration.
- Alderman Smith explained excitement of 2023 for the City, 5th Ward and working together as team.

- Alderman January said she was called about not participating in Committee Meetings. She explained that she was not assigned Chair or Co-Chair of any committee, they were not part of Council meetings. There was also supposed to be time allotted for citizen comments in Committee Meeting to give guidance. She chose to leave the Committee Meetings. She does her best to be available but her job as RN was demanding. She wished all who celebrate variously a Happy Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanza.

Mayor Rockingham explained that Committee was for discussion amongst the aldermen; public comment was held in City Council Meetings. Items on Omnibus have previously been discussed and there is opportunity to vote items from the Omnibus.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9-1 EXECUTIVE SESSION 5 ILCS 2 (C)(2) – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING & 5 ILCS 120 2(C)(12) – ESTABLISHMENT OF RESERVES AND SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Smith to go Suspend the Regular Order of Business and enter into Executive Session at 6:55 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Mayfield, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy

Nays: None

Absent: January

MOTION CARRIED

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Mayfield to Reconvene the Regular Order of Business at 7:26 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Mayfield, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy

Nays: None

Absent: January

MOTION CARRIED

9-2 POSSIBLE ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS (OPEN SESSION)

NONE

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lori L. Collins, City Clerk