

MINUTES

The City Council of North Chicago met in a Regular meeting, Monday, May 16, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 1850 Lewis Avenue with Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr. presiding.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INVOCATION

III. ROLL CALL

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

Present: Jackson, Evans, Murphy, January

Absent: Allen, Smith

Mayor Rockingham stated that he was informed by Alderman Smith that he would be tardy.

IV. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA

4-1 Minutes of Regular Council Meeting, **May 02, 2022**

4-2 Minutes of Standing Committee Meetings, **May 02, 2022**

4-3 Treasurer's Report – **April 2022**

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Mayfield to approve Items 4-1 thru 4-3 of the Omnibus Vote Agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

Alderman January; Nay Vote

Alderman January moved, seconded by Alderman Jackson to allow Alderman Allen to participate via Zoom for the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

Alderman Smith was absent.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Leslie Torres

Ms. Torres explained this year her property tax would be a **119%** tax increase from last year. She resided in the First Ward. She heard multiple gunshots at the corner house; she questioned what services were being provided to justify the increase. Her home was worth **\$83,000**; taxes were **\$564.48 (2019)** vs. **\$4,000 (2022)**.

Attorney Simon provided property tax information; the tax rate applied to every property the same. Ms. Torres added the value of the home hadn't increased; homeowners were being forced out.

The Mayor directed her to contact Waukegan Township and Lake County for her taxing/valuation information; North Chicago had a nuisance policy; he provided examples of work in process of completion; some economic development would assist with property tax reduction.

Alderman January explained there were **10-11** taxing bodies included and the City had not raised taxes above the minimal in some years.

Betty Harris

Ms. Harris concerned with shootings. The youth needed activities to occupy their time to assist with redirecting the negative behavior. There was a great number of foster children in North Chicago; no

one to love them or guide them. The shootings were of frustration and they don't feel safe for their lives. She emphasized that everyday people needed to do something.

James Young - Real Men Work

Introduced the Real Men Work mission; to assist disabled men, all men in getting back to work after prison to build structure. He urged individuals to work overtime to do the mission for the youth and urged the community to volunteer. Mayor Rockingham looked forward to working with him. Mr. Young provided the contact#: **773-444-7406**.

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

6-1 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF THE REAPPOINTMENT OF TERESA MCSEE TO THE POLICE PENSION BOARD (BEGINNING APRIL FOR 2-YEAR TERM).

Alderman January moved, seconded by Alderman Evans to table Item 6-1 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

Alderman Smith was absent.

ROLL CALL TO TABLE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Smith

MOTION CARRIED

6-2 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL – REALLOCATION OF JUNETEENTH PAGEANT FUNDS OF \$1,000

Alderman Mayfield moved, seconded by Alderman January to approve the reallocation of Juneteenth Pageant funds; \$1,000.

Elroy Reed – **1501** Hervey Ave., Unit **6** explained his position as Executive Director of Lake County Juneteenth Commission and Melissa Hall was the Pageant Director. Mr. Reed listed the Juneteenth events, including the parade to be held in North Chicago. The previous requestor of the funds was no longer working with Juneteenth.

Alderman Allen clarified Juneteenth Events should be located in North Chicago because the City was providing funds. Mr. Reed explained that Ms. Juneteenth was a resident and additional items were needed to finalize the process; crown, gown, **\$200** scholarship, rental of venue among other things; **\$3,000** vested already

Alderman Allen noted that the Exchange Club presented the City with **6** students with above **4.0** grade averages and no reward or monies were provided. He felt that those students should receive some benefit.

Elroy Reed explained there were other events that included North Chicago residents/youth. Needed to recognize the youth and that Juneteenth was one avenue to do that.

Alderman Evans asked why the events weren't held in North Chicago. Mr. Reed explained that the parade and Gospel Fest were hosted in North Chicago. Alderman Evans voiced strongly there needed to be more investment in the City.

Alderman Jackson inquired if North Chicago donated previously; The Mayor stated it was the first time. Alderman Jackson asked amount Lake County and City of Waukegan

contributed; Mr. Reed said Lake County was not providing any financial support and it was in “the pipeline” with Waukegan.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Mayfield, Murphy, January

Nays: Evans, Allen

Absent: Smith

MOTION CARRIED

- 6-3 **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF FY 2023 MFT RESOLUTION IN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,800,000 ESTIMATE OF MAINTENANCE COSTS AND TAI MAINTENANCE ENGINEERING AGREEMENT IN AMOUNT OF \$159,500 FOR 2022 MFT ROAD PROGRAM**

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Allen to approve the 2023 MFT Resolution in amount not to exceed \$1,800,000; estimate of maintenance costs and TAI maintenance Engineering Agreement in amount of \$159,500 for 2022 MFT Road Program.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Smith

MOTION CARRIED

- 6-4 **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF SOURCEWELL JOINT PURCHASING CONTRACT**

Alderman Jackson moved, seconded by Alderman Allen to approve Sourcewell Joint Purchasing Contract.

Alderman January asked the purchasing amount. Interim Public Works Director Bob Miller explained that there was no purchase at the time; Sourcewell was a resource to purchasing equipment in lieu of bidding on every item.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Smith

MOTION CARRIED

- 6-5 **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF CITY BILLS**

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| General Corporate Fund | \$ | 208,254.22 |
| Motor Fuel Tax | \$ | 37,218.13 |
| Water Operations | \$ | 222,588.20 |
| Grant | \$ | 1,967.36 |
| TIF 2007A Debt Serv. | \$ | 237.50 |
| TIF 2007B Debt Service | \$ | 475.00 |
| TIF II Downtown/Industrial | \$ | 6,105.73 |
| Grant Place Operating Fund | \$ | 815.53 |
| <hr/> | | |
| TOTAL | \$ | 477,661.67 |

MOTION:

Alderman Mayfield moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy to pay the bills of Council Run 5/16/22 in the amount of \$477,661.67 when funds become available.

Alderman January asked if funds were available, next transfer including amount and balance in the Water Fund. Interim Comptroller Mike Peterson explained stated with exception of Sheridan Crossing TIF that would be addressed in **FY2023** shortfall; **\$561,896** (transfer in **2023**). There were no transfers in budget **FY2023** from the Water Sewer Fund to the General Fund. The amount in the Water Fund at end of close the previous Friday; Mr. Peterson said no less than **\$6,179,600**.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Mayfield, Evans, Allen, Murphy

Nays: January

Absent: Smith

MOTION CARRIED

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

VARIOUS

Alderman Evans stated concern with donating to certain things opposed to providing grass cutting and snow removal to citizens. Council Members should be mindful of spending and take care of home first.

Alderman Allen asked Treasurer to provide previous month report, with current report; also update of investments. Treasurer Wyatt explained the Treasurer's Report.

Mayor Rockingham announced 2 changes to Committee members.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Mayfield, Evans, Allen, Murphy

Nays: January

Absent: Smith

MOTION CARRIED

The Council Meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lori L. Collins, City Clerk