

MINUTES

The City Council of North Chicago met in a Regular meeting, Monday, April 4, 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, Mayfield, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy, January

Absent: None

IV. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA

4-1 Minutes of Regular Council Meeting, **March 21, 2022**

4-2 Minutes of Standing Committee Meetings, **March 21, 2022**

4-3 Water Department Report – **February 2022**

4-4 Engagement Letter between the City of North Chicago and John Driscoll, et al. for Contingent Fee Legal Services Regarding Representation in National PFAS Litigation

4-5 CDBG/HOME Citizens Advisory Committee Appointment – Nicole Hartman

4-6 CDBG/HOME Citizens Advisory Committee Appointment – Stacy Wilcox

4-7 Ordinance Amending the City of North Chicago Municipal Code Enhance Cost Recovery for Property Maintenance Expenditures – Chapter 1 Plants & Weeds

4-8 Fiscal Year **2023** Public Works and Facilities Management Vendor List

4-9 Support for STP Grant Applications for the Resurfacing of **10th** St. (Glenn Dr. to Sheridan Rd.) and Jackson St. (Audrey Nixon Blvd. to Broadway Ave.)

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Mayfield to approve Items 4-1 thru 4-9 of the Omnibus Vote Agenda as presented.

Alderman January asked that items 4-4 thru 4-9 be moved to Regular Agenda for vote.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: January

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Angelo Kyle – Lake County

Mr. Kyle presented the Mayor and City with a check in the amount of **\$7,796,558** for North Chicago Storm Sewer and Prevention Flooding.

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

4-4 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL TO APPROVE ENGAGEMENT LETTER BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO AND JOHN DRISCOLL, ET AL. FOR CONTINGENT FEE LEGAL SERVICES REGARDING REPRESENTATION IN NATIONAL PFAS LITIGATION

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Mayfield to approve Engagement Letter between the City of North Chicago and John Driscoll, et al. for contingent fee legal services regarding representation in National PFAS Litigation.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

4-5 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF CDBG/HOME CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT – NICOLE HARTMAN

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans to approve the CDBG/HOME Citizens Advisory Committee appointment of Nicole Hartman.

Alderman January asked the term; City Planner Nimrod Warda said 2 years. Mayor Rockingham announced that Mrs. Hartman was not present because she gave birth over the weekend.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

4-6 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF CDBG/HOME CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT – STACY WILCOX

Alderman Mayfield moved, seconded by Alderman Jackson to approve the CDBG/HOME Citizens Advisory Committee appointment of Stacy Wilcox.

Alderman January asked the term; Mayor Rockingham replied 2 years.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

4-7 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO MUNICIPAL CODE ENHANCE COST RECOVERY FOR PROPERTY MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURES – CHAPTER 1 PLANTS & WEEDS

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Allen to approve the Ordinance Amending the City of North Chicago Municipal Code Enhance Cost Recovery for Property Maintenance Expenditures – Chapter 1 Plants & Weeds.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

4-8 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2023 PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES MANAGEMENT VENDOR LIST

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Allen to approve FY 2023 Public Works and Facilities Management Vendor List.

Alderman January asked for a brief overview to inform the citizens. Interim Public Works Director Bob Miller explained it was a list of vendors that were often used by the Public Works Department to purchase supplies and equipment.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

4-9 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF SUPPORT FOR STP GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR THE RESURFACING OF 10th ST (GLENN DR. TO SHERIDAN RD. TO SHERIDAN RD.) JACKSON ST. (AUDREY NIXON BLVD. TO BROADWAY AVE.)

Alderman Jackson moved, seconded by Alderman Mayfield to approve support for STP Grant applications for Resurfacing of 10th St. (Glenn Dr. to Sheridan Rd. and Jackson St.) (Audrey Nixon Blvd. to Broadway Ave.)

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

6-1 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO AND OLMOS LANDSCAPING INC – NOT TO EXCEED \$7,500

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy to approve a Resolution approving and authorizing execution of an agreement between the City of North Chicago and Olmos Landscaping Inc. – not to exceed \$7,500.

Alderman Jackson questioned if an extension was needed and if enough time to complete the paperwork. Economic Development Director Victor Barrera explained that it was not a final bid of work but an extension of current contract. Work pertained to City owned property only.

Alderman Smith asked why an extension if there was a deadline; Mr. Barrera said bidding had not taken place yet.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

6-2 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO AND TRI-STATE PLATINUM LANDSCAPING, LLC – NOT TO EXCEED \$3,000

Alderman Jackson moved, seconded by Alderman Smith to approve a Resolution approving and authorizing execution of an agreement between the City of North

Chicago and Tri-State Platinum Landscaping, LLC – not to exceed \$3,000 as presented.

Alderman Evans asked if same as Olmos Landscaping contract. Mr. Barrera said it was not; the work was different. The estimate of cost was based on ordinance change from 5" to 8" resulting in the possibility of less work before the new contract was approved.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

6-3 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO AND CRYSTAL MAINTENANCE (JANITORIAL SERVICES) – NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Allen to approve a Resolution approving and authorizing execution of an agreement between the City of North Chicago and Crystal Maintenance (Janitorial Services) – not to exceed \$75,000 as presented.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

6-4 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO AND THE DEIGAN GROUP (SHERIDAN CROSSING) – NOT TO EXCEED \$82,500

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Mayfield to approve a Resolution approving and authorizing execution of an agreement between the City of North Chicago and the Diegan Group (Sheridan Crossing) – not to exceed \$82,500 as presented.

Alderman January asked if the Diegan Group would be able to meet deadlines set forth by the state, as there were problems previously. Mayor Rockingham thought they would.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

6-5 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO AND INTEGRAL CONSTRUCTION, INC (N.C. TRAIN STATION) – NOT TO EXCEED \$7,450

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Mayfield to approve a Resolution approving and authorizing execution of an agreement between the City of North

Chicago and Integral Construction, Inc (N.C. Train Station) – not to exceed \$7,450 as presented.

Alderman Allen asked if Metra was to pay for the services. Mr. Barrera explained that the City would pay and once complete Metra would reimburse. The \$7,450 was for design and quotes of cost for interior upgrade.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

6-6 **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO AND B & F CONSTRUCTION CODE SERVICES INC (BUILDING INSPECTIONS) – NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000**

Alderman Mayfield moved, seconded by Alderman Allen to approve the Resolution approving and authorizing execution of an agreement between the City of North Chicago and B & F Construction Code Services Inc (Building Inspections) – not to exceed \$200,000 as presented.

Alderman Evans questioned the number of employees for the City of North Chicago. Mr. Barrera was not sure of the exact number, B&F were used as needed and he was hopeful in reducing their need of services. Mr. Barrera's request was for a one year contract in order to determine what direction he would like to continue code enforcement and inspections in the future.

Alderman Evans asked why the amount of **\$200,000**. Mr. Barrera explained that the fee included: sell inspections, rental inspections, plan reviews and permit inspections; permit inspections were reimbursed to the City. In year **2021** approximately **\$99,000** was reimbursed.

Alderman Evans asked if there had been a search for permanent employees; Mr. Barrera said no. Attorney Silverman noted that Section A of the agreement stated up to 2 full-time employees as needed.

Alderman January questioned the turn-around time for their work; Mr. Barrera said typically 24 hours, one individual was in the department full-time performing sell and rental inspections. Alderman January asked the quality of the report; Mr. Barrera explained there were some service level issues that was discussed regarding consistency. Alderman January asked if the current agreement was the same amount as previous; he said it was the same terms as previous years. The prior contract was 3 years.

Alderman Allen asked if there were 3 bids submitted; if not shouldn't vote on it currently. Mr. Barrera said there weren't. Alderman Jackson agreed with tabling because more information was needed.

Alderman Jackson moved, seconded by Alderman January to Table until bids were acquired.

ROLL CALL TO TABLE:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Rockingham asked if the contract could be extended until bids were obtained. Attorney Silverman explained that the existing agreement would need to be reviewed to determine if there could be an extension and possibly enter into a letter agreement to extend for a gap period.

Alderman Smith questioned the result if there were no agreement to extend; Attorney Silverman said there wouldn't be any inspection services. Typical reason to remain with a particular contractor is that they already were familiar with the codes and incidentals.

Alderman Smith questioned who was responsible for contracts that were expiring so there were no expired contracts on the books. Mayor Rockingham explained that the contracts were being reviewed to assure none were expired; the Chief of Staff oversaw the contract deadlines.

6-7 **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF ANCEL GLINK RATE INCREASE - \$210/H.R. (PARTNERS); \$200 (ASSOCIATES); \$130 (PARALEGAL)**

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Mayfield to approve Ancel Glink rate increases of \$210 (Partners); \$200 (Associates); \$130 (Paralegal).

Alderman Jackson stated that everyone received the survey of legal fees and there were no retainer fees. Alderman Allen agreed that because of the information provided he was able to make a better decision. He apologized to Alderman Evans who stated the attorney shouldn't have been present during discussion of their fees.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Mayfield, Allen, Smith, Murphy

Nays: Jackson, Evans, January

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

6-8 **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF CITY BILLS**

Grant	\$	17,018.33
TIF II Downtown/Industrial	\$	2,615.00
Skokie Highway TIF III	\$	2,021.75
Grant Place Operating Fund	\$	1,414.29
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Total	\$	546,235.33

ADDITIONS

General Corporate Fund	\$	687.50
Library	\$	999.00
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FINAL TOTAL **\$** **547,921.83**

MOTION:

Alderman Mayfield moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy to pay the bills of Council Run 04/04/22 in the amount of \$547,921.83 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 acknowledged that funds were available; the last transfer was **January 21, 2022**. The amount in the Water Fund

was **\$5,946,540.88** with 2 days remaining of receipts to post; the next transfer was **April 22, 2022**.

Alderman January questioned if the process of transferring funds would remain protocol or awaiting the budget. Mr. Peterson said awaiting the budget and transfers were not included.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: January

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

3rd WARD MEETING

Alderman Evans thanked all that attended the 3rd Ward Meeting. He explained that constituents questioned why he had not received **\$250** of his Holiday celebration expenses he hosted for the citizens. He followed the rules. There were several questionable purchases made by other aldermen and there was no debate. He was going to submit the bill again.

Alderman Smith asked why it was rejected; Alderman Evans did not know. Mayor Rockingham stated that it was held up. Alderman Mayfield stated that she can vote no if she would like. She referenced that several people told her that Alderman Evans state that he used personal funds to host the party and asked if he said that. Alderman Evans explained that the cash gifts was personal funds.

Mayor Rockingham asked legal opinion; Attorney Silverman thought it was tabled until policy was set that determined eligible aldermanic expenses and had not been resolved. Alderman Smith asked timeline of policy inception; Alderman Mayfield explained that the budget was priority and the policy would be written.

LOBBYIST DAY

Alderman Allen informed that during briefing with Brad Cole (Executive Director) the attendees learned of several new objections: trying to reach income tax collection of 8% LGDF (Local Government Distributive Funds); **\$50** million in grant funds available; **\$200k** to fight crime (possibly additional **\$100k**); School Board would be reversed back to local authority by **2025** (Bill **HB5099**).

Mayor Rockingham encouraged that the elected Officials write the Senators and Representatives to reject the State budget if there was not approval of the LGDF. Alderman Jackson suggested everyone to write State Representative Rita Mayfield.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lori L. Collins, City Clerk