

MINUTES

The City Council of North Chicago met in a Regular meeting, Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.in the City Council Chambers at 1850 Lewis Avenue with Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr., presiding.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Alderman Mayfield called the meeting to order in the physical absence of Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INVOCATION

IV. ROLL CALL

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

Present: Jackson, Mayfield, Evans, Smith, Murphy

Absent: Allen, January

Alderman Jackson moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy to allow remote participation of Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr. due to City business.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Allen, January

MOTION CARRIED

Alderman Mayfield moved, seconded by Alderman Smith to allow remote participation of Alderman Allen due to illness.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Allen, January

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Rockingham noted that Alderman January was absent due to illness.

V. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA

5-1 Approval of Minutes of Regular Council Meetings, **January 3, 2023**

5-2 Approval of Minutes of Standing Committee Meetings, **January 3, 2023**

5-3 Resolution Approving and Authorizing Execution of Agreement between the City of North Chicago and CDBG in the Amount Not to Exceed **\$11,235.00**

5-4 Resolution Approving and Authorizing Execution of Agreement between the City of North Chicago and Konica Minolta Business Solutions in the Amount Not to Exceed **\$2,225.38/month**

5-5 Resolution Approving and Authorizing Execution of an Agreement between the City of North Chicago and Lakota Group Not to Exceed Amount of **\$158,640.00**

- 5-6 Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Personal Property Owned by the City of North Chicago

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy to approve the Omnibus Vote Agenda 5-1 thru 5-6 as presented.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: January

MOTION CARRIED

Alderman Jackson requested the items be read; City Clerk Lori L. Collins read the items.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Anthony Coleman – left the Council Chambers momentarily.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

- 7-1 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD CONTRACT TO HOERR CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR THE 2022 CDBG SANITARY SEWER LINING IN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$512,352.20; CHANGE ORDER #1; \$151,008.00

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Jackson to approve the Authorization to Award Contract to Hoerr Construction, Inc. for the 2022 CDBG Sanitary Sewer Lining in Amount Not to Exceed \$512,352.20; Change Order #1; \$151,008.00

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: January

MOTION CARRIED

- 7-2 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD CONTRACT TO HOERR CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR THE FY 2023 SANITARY SEWER CLEANING AND TELEVISIONING PROJECT IN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Mayfield to approve Authorization to Award Contract to Hoerr Construction, Inc. for the FY 2023 Sanitary Sewer Cleaning and Televisioning Project in Amount Not to Exceed \$150,000

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: January

MOTION CARRIED

- 7-1 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD CONTRACT TO HOERR CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR THE FY 2023 STORM SEWER CLEANING AND TELEVISIONING PROJECT IN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Mayfield to approve Authorization to Award Contract to Hoerr Construction, Inc. for the FY 2023 Storm Sewer Cleaning and Televising Project in Amount Not to Exceed \$150,000.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: January

MOTION CARRIED

7-4 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF CITY BILLS

General Corporate Fund	\$	410,435.41
Library	\$	8,704.65
Water Operations	\$	130,986.70
Grant	\$	1,435.50
Dental and Vision	\$	1,322.64
Retiree's Insurance Prem	\$	18,132.17
Capital Project	\$	19,354.81
	\$	590,371.88

MOTION:

Alderman Mayfield moved, seconded by Alderman Evans to pay the bills of Council Run 01/17/23 the amount of **\$590,371.88 when funds become available.**

Alderman Mayfield questioned bills of Alderman Smith. Interim Comptroller Mike Peterson stated that the bills were for approximately \$170; the Attorney's previously stated that expenditures of funds for food was not incidental to Ward Meetings.

Attorney Simon explained that Alderman Smith's Ward Meeting included a Fish Fry for those in attendance; the interpretation of Attorneys and Staff was that the emphasis of the event was on the food and beverages. The cost of the event was predominately for food and beverages; not incidental to operation of the event. Interpretation was partly Ward Meeting, but also Political Event.

Alderman Evans clarified; Attorney Simon suggested that Aldermen speak to staff prior to having event to assist maintaining scope of event. Alderman Evans questioned what incidental food was; Attorney Simon explained bottles of water, juice and snacks.

Alderman Evans did not agree with explanation; the amount of each alderman for expenses was only \$6,000 to host Ward Meetings. He would like to see the itemized Attorney bills also. There were other City expenses that needed addressing.

Mayor Rockingham reiterated that the question was to remove the bill or accept it; suggested that allowable expenses be addressed by the State's Attorney. He would invite the State's Attorney in to speak concerning those expenses.

Alderman Allen agreed with the State's Attorney addressing the Council and also getting itemized bills of Attorneys; be fair across the board. The City spends over \$300,000 in attorney fees and aldermen have \$6,000 in their budget.

Alderman Smith explained that bills were from November; he was not contacted or questioned about the bills, just removed and thought that was wrong. It was the Attorneys "opinion," the main emphasis was not the food.

Mayor Rockingham suggested it be returned to Committee and he would contact the State's Attorney Office to discuss allowable expenses

Alderman Murphy moved to amend current motion of total City Bills minus pg.4 Kenneth Smith Reimb. 5th Ward Mtg. (Fishery \$150, Kitkat \$13.43 and RaguSau \$7.63 - \$171.12 total) reimbursement request, seconded by Alderman Jackson.

ROLL CALL – AMEND THE BILLS:

Ayes: Jackson, Mayfield, Murphy, Mayor Rockingham

Nays: Evans, Allen, Smith

Absent: January

MOTION CARRIED

Alderman Evans stated his disappointment for those that voted not to approve \$171 yet City spends \$100,000+ for things unknown. Mayor Rockingham said he would like clarification from State's Attorney. Alderman Smith also noted disappointment; over 100 people attended and the cost was only \$171.

ROLL CALL – APPROVAL WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE 3 REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST:

Ayes: Jackson, Mayfield, Murphy, Mayor Rockingham

Nays: Evans, Allen, Smith

Absent: January

MOTION CARRIED

Anthony Coleman was allowed his public comments. Mr. Coleman agreed with State's Attorney approach. Staff recommendations should not include family members nor should they be allowed to hire family.

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

VARIOUS CONCERNS AND COMMENTS

- Alderman Evans announced 3rd Ward Meeting, February 11 at Foss Park Community Center 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. including a Fashion Show
- Mayor Rockingham congratulated Alderman Smith for his award in photography at Waukegan Township Martin Luther King Celebration

Alderman Mayfield moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy to Suspend the Regular Order of Business to go into Executive Session under 5 ILCS 120 2 (c)(1) at 6:36 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: January

MOTION CARRIED

ROLL CALL TO RECONVENE THE REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS AT 8:21 P.M.:

Ayes: Jackson, Mayfield, Evans, Smith, Murphy

Nays: None
Absent: Allen, January

MOTION CARRIED

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

Alderman Allen and January were absent

The Council Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lori L. Collins, City Clerk