

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2023

**City of North Chicago
1850 Lewis Avenue, North Chicago, IL 60064**

Following City Council Meeting

**FINANCE/AUDIT
COMMITTEE MEETING**

7:14 PM

Alderman Allen called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Coleman (RP), Allen, Murphy, January

Absent: Evans, Smith

I. DISCUSSION OF QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT – OCTOBER 2023:

Chief of Staff, Greg Jackson would provide the Quarterly budget report if any questions and there were none addressed.

II. DISCUSSION OF TREASURER’S REPORT – OCTOBER 2023:

Treasurer, Vance Wyatt provided overview of the **October 2023** Treasurer’s Report. The interest of **\$151,265.18** was the highest year to date. The state was behind in payments and he updated the Comptroller’s Office; the casino amount averaged, since August the City had amount of **\$50,000** or more.

Alderman January stated the casino had lost large sums of money and suggested a possibility of a committee to oversee the Casino including the surrounding communities. Treasurer Wyatt clarified the Casino was responsible for paying the City of North Chicago.

Alderman Evans entered the council chambers at 7:16 p.m.

III. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF 2023 PROPERTY TAX LEVY:

Comptroller, Tawanda Joyner provided an overview of the **2023** Property Tax Levy. She explained it was itemized by its classification code of properties receiving estimates from Lake County for city property tax.

Alderman Allen had concerns of the increased rates of the Homestead Exemption; Ms. Joyner explained it would impact the Library and the City.

Ms. Joyner continued, there would be a debt service to be levied due to the bond. The proper tax rate wasn’t changed due to the EAV (Equalized Assessed Value). The calculations were conservative if there were any adjustments needed.

Attorney Simon questioned clarification of the homeowner paying the same as last year with more value entirety; Ms. Joyner acknowledged it was correct. He added there was a board of review for appealing property values and a State Appeal Board if unsatisfied with the results. Attorney Simon elaborated further. Ms. Joyner added the Property Tax Levy was exclusive to North Chicago. She provided a scenario for better understanding.

Treasurer Wyatt explained.

She requested council authorization when finalized by **April 2024** to establish rate amount from last year.

This will be placed on the next **Council Agenda, December 4, 2023**

Alderman January moved, seconded by Alderman Jackson that the Finance/Audit Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Coleman (RP), Evans, Allen, Murphy, January

Nays: None

Absent: Smith

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

**HUMAN RESOURCES
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2023

7:41 P.M.

Alderman Murphy called the meeting to order.³

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Coleman (RP), Evans, Allen, Murphy, January

Absent: Smith

I. DISCUSSION OF HUMAN RESOURCES QUARTERLY REPORT:

There were no questions upon review of the Human Resources Quarterly Report.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman January that the Human Resources Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Smith

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

**BUILDING/LICENSE
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2023

7:43 P.M.

Alderman January called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Coleman (RP), Evans, Allen, Murphy, January

Absent: Smith

I. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF DISABILITY PARKING PERMIT FOR 1924 JACKSON ST:

Alderman January read and reviewed the Ordinance for disability parking permit sign applications for **1924** Jackson St.

II. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF DISABILITY PARKING PERMIT FOR 1701 SEYMOUR AVE:

Alderman January clarified were corrections received for the application of **1701** Seymour Ave

Items I and II will be placed on the Next **Council Agenda, December 4, 2023.**

III. PENDING MATTERS (ITEMS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED)

There were no pending matters for discussion.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Jackson that the Building/License Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Coleman (RP), Evans, Allen, Murphy, January

Nays: None

Absent: Smith

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

**PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2023

7:52 PM

Alderman Jackson called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Coleman (RP), Evans, Allen, Murphy, January

Absent: Smith

I. DISCUSSION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT:

Alderman Jackson asked for the resource center update; was opened and functioning; Abbott Labs coming to possibly provide additional furniture.

Alderman Allen acknowledged Chief Perez.

II. DISCUSSION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT:

There was no discussion.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy that the Public Safety Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Coleman (RP), Evans, Allen, Murphy, January

Nays: None

Absent: Smith

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2023

7:54 PM

Alderman Evans called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Coleman (RP), Evans, Allen, Murphy, January

Absent: Smith

I. DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT:

There were no questions.

II. DISCUSSION OF WATER DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY REPORT:

Alderman Coleman acknowledged the Public Works Department for all their hard work and Alderman Evans' endurance as the chairman.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman January that the Public Works Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Coleman (RP), Evans, Allen, Murphy, January

Nays: None

Absent: Smith

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING/ZONING
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2023

7:56 PM

Alderman Jackson called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Coleman (RP), Evans, Allen, Murphy, January

Absent: Smith

I. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED GROCERY STORE – 1490 LEWIS AVE:

Chief of Staff, Greg Jackson stated the owners weren't present; attempting to arrange for them to arrive at the Committee Meeting and in the process of removing the former equipment from the building. The city has attempted to recover some funding from the auction; the Auctioneer has agreed to separate funds in remittance to the City of North Chicago.

Alderman January clarified prior establishment wasn't at that location; other companies that had an interest. Attorney Simon clarified wasn't an auction; it was a landlord's auction. She asked if the other entities.

Alderman Allen was questioning how the city legally could be reimbursed; Attorney Simon explained would discuss with the State's Attorney Office requesting a criminal investigation; Alderman Allen requested a follow up report with the issue.

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Alderman Evans asked how the attorneys defended the City of North Chicago; Attorney Simon didn't have authority to file criminal charges. Attorney Simon stated the former owners had falsified information to the City; have done what possibly could to protect the interest and/or if they had any assets; was monitoring asserted rights of the equipment. Alderman January echoed sentiments of Alderman Allen; preferred/recommended full entitlement claiming the city government was defrauded and questioned how the money was recouped; attorney reiterated was monitoring everything since the grocery store was closed, asserted city rights based on the lien and sharing revenue from the auction. He Reminded there was a forgivable loan provided that was open 1+ years. Alderman January questioned the time. He suggested a cost benefit analysis vs. the money recovered.

Alderman Coleman inquired what happened with the **2017** grocery store and who drafted contract; city council directed him to Ancel Glink firm. He volunteered to conduct a criminal investigation.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman January that Economic Development/Planning/Zoning stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Coleman (RP), Evans, Allen, Murphy, January

Nays: None

Absent: Smith

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.