

MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2023

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

Following City Council Meeting

**JUDICIARY
COMMITTEE MEETING**

7:16 PM

Alderman Jackson called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

I. DISCUSSION OF CELL PHONE POLICY:

Alderman Coleman said the policy is presented for attorney review and to be voted at next Council meeting. Attorney Adam Simon explained that the data on city issued technology equipment to employees and/or elected officials belong to the City and can be searched. Alderman January clarified using personal telephone; Mr. Simon explained that if conducting business on your personal device it is subject to Freedom of Information law.

Alderman Coleman said that the policy was approved by Ancel Glink law firm of which Attorney Adam Simon works. He explained that the policy was only for business use. The policy allowed officials opportunity for a cell phone or \$45 reimbursement for their personal account. He clarified was just an option and no one was obligated to take the cell phone or reimbursement.

Alderman Jackson stated that it would be placed on the next Council Agenda.

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

**PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2023

7:26 PM

Alderman Jackson called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

Alderman Jackson rearranged the order of Agenda Items for consideration of the guest.

IV. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSAL FOR USE OF THE NORTH CHICAGO KENNELS BY THE CITY OF WAUKEGAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT:

Police Chief Lazaro Perez explained the City of Waukegan requested use of the North Chicago Animal Shelter while Waukegan remodels their facility. The attorneys wrote an agreement of which the City of Waukegan was going to vote on that night at the City Council Meeting. He asked the mayor to be allowed to sign the agreement upon Waukegan's approval to begin the project and moving the animals before the next North Chicago City Council Meeting.

Alderman Evans left at 7:33 p.m.

Waukegan would use 9 of the 10 stalls, \$1 million liability insurance and \$9 million aggregate insurance for the at least 6 months they would be utilizing North Chicago facility. Alderman January suggested there be a Special Meeting to approve the Agreement. A Special Meeting was called for Thursday, **August 24, 2023, 6:00 p.m.**

I. DISCUSSION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:

Fire Chief Umek gave an overview of the Fire Department's monthly report. Noting CPR classes were available for the public (232 people certified so far).

II. DISCUSSION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:

Assistant Police Chief Gary Lunn gave overview of the Police Department's monthly report. Switched to NTN (National Testing Network), only 9 candidates to participate with physical test, only 5 passed. There were more candidates that have applied to be tested. He announced Carl Sain's retirement after 20 years of service.

Alderman Evans returned at 7:41 p.m.

Alderman January asked how many of the tickets issued had to come to adjudication hearing and how many of those were waived. Chief Perez said none of them were waived.

III. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSAL FOR WAUKEGAN/NORTH CHICAGO COMBINED USE OF 10th STREET POLICE SUBSTATION:

Chief Lunn said that the multi-use facility would curtail some of the problems in that area. He provided criminal statistics for that area. The main use would be for a multi-purpose community resource center, for station reports, foot patrol, bike patrol and community interactions in that area. Would not be just for police, can be used for meetings or other City needs. The Lake County State's Attorney contacted North Chicago to discuss possible funding and for possible use to investigate human trafficking cases.

The space to be utilized would be old Boost Mobile building (901 10th St.) owned by Mr. Gonzalez who also owns a market in the area. It was a stand-alone building; previous rent was \$1,800/month, unable to rent because of crime in the area. Mr. Gonzalez asked his son-in-law, Adam Carson, to speak on his behalf. His son-in-law expressed the concern of safety for the patrons and owners along 10th St.

Chief Perez stated the cost would be approximately \$12,000 per year; there was enough money in asset forfeiture fund for the first year. If first year was successful would look at grants and other partners/sponsors to assist. Alderman Evans questioned if the idea was successful, how you control the crime from migrating somewhere else. Many of the problem people live in that area; Chief Perez explained a combination of social services and patrol.

Alderman January expressed her approval and thought it was an awesome idea. She questioned substation at former Grant Place; Chief Perez explained it was no longer owned by the city and was closed. She asked if Waukegan was to utilize the space also; were they going to share in the cost; Chief Perez said not in the beginning but felt upon its success that they would join financially.

Alderman January asked if there needed to be an intergovernmental agreement; Attorney Simon said only a lease was needed.

Alderman Allen agreed with the idea and effort; wanted to keep the businesses in the community. Alderman Jackson also suggested that the aldermen be allowed meeting residents there. Alderman Smith thanked Mr. Gonzalez for opening his business for this use. Several business owners from the 10th St. area spoke and agreed with the possible use by the Police. They expressed concern of personal situations/problems they have had afraid of the current situation.

V. DISCUSSION – LETTER OF RECOGNITION FOR C.S.O. DAMIAN LESKI:

The Letter of Recognition was presented during the City Council Meeting

Alderman January moved, seconded by Alderman Evans that the Public Safety Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Mayor Rockingham asked that the Building/License Committee be next for discussion in consideration of those to present.

**BUILDING/LICENSE
COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2023
8:08 PM**

Alderman January called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

II. DISCUSSION OF FIESTAS PATRIAS, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023, BEGINNING AT 10th AND ADAMS ST.:

Alderman January gave brief overview of the application; she noted there would be horses. Fiestas Patrias representative said there would be approximately 50 horses, maybe more. Community Information Coordinator Hombre Darby said the parade route would be the same as Community Days. Alderman January asked if the police coverage would cause any police overtime for the manning the event.

Chief Perez said the cost overview was submitted to the organization. Alderman January recognized that there was insurance for the event. Alderman Smith asked if there was detail and clean-up of the horses; Rep said there would a packet given to all participants with expectations and duties. He was expecting **3,000-4,000** participants as previous years in Waukegan. There would also be wagons to pick up after the horses and first aid on duty for them.

Alderman January inquired about the liquor license; Mayor Rockingham explained there was discussion about it and in addition to the license from the city there needed to be confirmation from the Park District where the event was going to end.

Alderman Allen felt that this was a great event to show that the city works as a team; he supported it **110%**. Alderman Coleman questioned the security/police coverage with the limited number of police to handle thousands of people that are expected. He wanted to assure that the taxpayers are not paying for emergency services for an independent parade; the cost should be given to the organization.

Alderman January noted that the event was **September 16th** and details were being worked out including with the Police Department; she asked if it would be possible for mutual aid if the crowd exceeds the police capabilities. Assistant Chief Lunn said there was also going be private security provided by the organization, the cost for the police would be paid by organization and an alarm that would call surrounding police departments if necessary. He was impressed with the planning of this event.

Alderman January thanked them for the work and planning of the event to make sure it was safe for everyone including the animals.

I. DISCUSSION OF FORT2BASE RACE, FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2023, BEGINNING AT FOSS PARK:

Alderman January explained that it was an annual race held by the Navy. She noted that **(2)** police were needed and if it would cause overtime. Chief Perez said it would just be part of regular work patrol. Mr. Darby corrected the day; the actual day was Sunday, **August 27, 2023**. Alderman January asked if there was a flyer for advertising; Mr. Darby said it was on the city website and he was available to contact.

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

**FINANCE/AUDIT
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2023

8:28 PM

Alderman Allen called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

I. DISCUSSION OF FINANCE/AUDIT DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:

Comptroller Tawanda Joyner gave an overview of the monthly finance; she included fees that had been collected and tracking of water fund. Alderman Jackson asked if **\$7,275,796.98** was actual monies in the Water Fund Account; Ms. Joyner acknowledged it was. Alderman Smith asked if the city bond rating had increased; Ms. Joyner said the city had not gone out for a bond rating at this time and not until after the audit was complete. There were still items that needed work at this time; Alderman Smith questioned the issues as it has been **3+** years; Ms. Joyner explained there were no new problems, though some corrections were new and wouldn't be reflective until the new audit. Attorney Simon explained that bond ratings mattered when bonds were being sold, when the city was to borrow money.

Alderman Coleman said the attorney answered questions for the Comptroller and was never addressed a question, he was acting as an alderman. Alderman Allen said that the attorney was asked to clarify.

II. DISCUSSION – PURCHASE OF DATA FILE SERVER(S) AND STORAGE EQUIPMENT WITH ALL PERIPHERALS TO DEPLOY EQUIPMENT NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT \$75,000:

Interdev Representative Chris Franco explained that the 3 servers servicing the city was at its 5-year lifespan and the maintenance warranties had expired. It was vital equipment; the caveat was that the Microsoft 365 migration was nearly complete and move the city's data into the cloud not requiring as much storage.

Alderman Jackson asked if 3 bids were required; Mr. Franco clarified SHI International was part of the Sourcewell bidding contract. Alderman Evans asked if they were the lowest bid; Mr. Franco acknowledged it was.

III. DISCUSSION – RENEWAL OF AT&T TELEPHONE AND NETWORK SERVICES AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$133,524:

Mr. Franco explained currently using AT&T and Comcast. The memo indicated the breakdown of investment. The existing services cost **\$5,267/.07mo.** contract ended in **2018**; internet connection would change from Comcast to AT&T and briefed about other technological changes. Three-year contract with AT&T was a cost reduction; the City would save approximately **\$83,000** over those 3 years.

Alderman Coleman asked if the new phone system would be using the bandwidth also; Mr. Franco acknowledged it would; Alderman Coleman asked if AT&T was more stable than Comcast to handle all the usage; Mr. Franco said there would be provisions ensuring if one failed the other company(s) would work. Alderman Coleman clarified that the new phone system would be using a lot of data and could interfere with internet; he trusted that I.T. would make sure there were no issues.

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

**PUBLIC WORKS
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2023

8:50 PM

Alderman Evans called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy

Absent: January

Alderman Jackson left Council Chambers at 8:51 p.m.

I. DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:

Public Works Supervisor Clarence Johnson gave monthly Public Works report. He highlighted 4 employees took CDL test and passed; 3 watermain breaks and now in possession of new truck. Alderman Smith asked if there were more trees and if more would like 5.

Alderman January left the Council Chambers at 8:52 p.m.

II. DISCUSSION OF WATER DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:

Alderman Jackson returned to the Council Chambers at 8:53 p.m.

Public Works Consultant Bob Miller gave the monthly Water report for July as the plant was just back online. He highlighted testing/training of several employees.

III. DISCUSSION OF ENGINEER MONTHLY REPORT:

City Engineer Steve Cieslica gave monthly Engineer report. Noted that the 16th St. project was on hold because there was no water pumping and did not want to risk watermain break. With the plant operational, Campanella was contacted to continue.

Alderman Murphy left Council Chambers at 8:56 p.m.

Mr. Cieslica gave briefing of Brookstone at Coles Park and working toward a resolution. There was only 1 bid received for the water meters; he was hopeful for a vote at next Council meeting. Intake valve building work being done. He elaborated more of the report. Alderman Allen asked if more roads were going to be done this year with the money available. Mr. Cieslica said more work was going to happen.

Alderman Coleman said great job; he questioned Seymour and 16th flooding issue. Mr. Cieslica said there was no issue in that immediate area, it was at 15th and Seymour. The sewer Vactor truck would clean out the sewers initially and following the analyzing; Alderman Coleman said that he had video footage concerning Seymour and 16th St. and he would be bringing the residents to the Council meeting.

Alderman Murphy returned to Council Chambers at 9:01 p.m.

V. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF SHERIDAN RD./AMSTUTZ CORRIDOR FEASIBILITY GRANT FUNDING APPLICATION LETTER OF FINANCIAL COMMITMENT WITH \$100,000 FY25 BUDGET CITY COST SHARE:

Mr. Cieslica noted that in **2022** there was a grant writing agreement with Transystems to pursue a planning grant from DOT (Reconnecting Communities) for Sheridan Road corridor and not successful in receiving the grant. It was written that neither city would spend out of pocket because of an impoverished area. After the debrief, there was no letter of **20%** local match, which caused the problem. He was pursuing it again with added language.

IV. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF RESOLUTION FOR LAKE COUNTY ALL NATUAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN:

Mr. Miller explained that every **5** years the County updates the mitigation plan in order for FEMA assistance in event of a natural disaster, needed approval to participate.

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: January

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

**HUMAN RESOURCES
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2023

9:08 PM

Alderman Murphy called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy

Absent: January

I. DISCUSSION OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:

Human Resources Director Elizabeth Black gave overview of Human Resources monthly report. Alderman Smith asked if there were applicants for Human Resources Assistant position; Mrs. Black said she was in interview process and received no internal applicants.

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: January

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2023

9:12 PM

Alderman Smith called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy

Absent: January

I. DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING/ZONING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:

Economic Development Director Victor Barrera gave an overview of developments. He noted the building next to Starbucks was moving forward; received plans for the Jimmie Johns and Dollar Store (moving fast). Neal Math & Science has their open-house previous week. He also briefed on other projects.

II. DISCUSSION OF SAFE BUILT CONTRACT RENEWAL IN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000:

Mr. Barrera said it was 1-year renewal to perform inspections and major plan reviews; only **\$64,000** spent last cycle. There was cost savings provided to applicant with some in-house minor plan reviews. He would propose they worked 3-day weeks. The applicant reimbursed the review cost upfront and the reimbursement.

Alderman Evans asked due to staffing issues, did he contact the Human Resources department to fill the positions available; he was waiting for new Chief of Staff to discuss possibilities.

III. DISCUSSION OF B&F CONTRACT RENEWAL ON THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000:

Mr. Barrera said this was also a 1-year renewal to close out some of their projects. Alderman Murphy asked to review the contract for review of the termination clause in case they were not needed the entire term; Mr. Barrera was hopeful to approve the contract at the next meeting.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans that the Economic Development/Planning/Zoning Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: January

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.