

MINUTES

The City Council of North Chicago met in a Regular meeting, Monday, July 01, 2024, at 6:01 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 1850 Lewis Avenue with Temporary Chairman Bobby Allen presiding.

City Clerk Lori L. Collins called the meeting to order.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. INVOCATION

IV. ROLL CALL

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

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

Absent: Coleman

Alderman Jackson moved, seconded by Alderman Smith to name Alderman Allen as Temporary Chairman in the absence of the Mayor.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Coleman

MOTION CARRIED

V. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA

- 5-1 Approval of Minutes for Regular Council Meeting, **June 17, 2024**
- 5-2 Approval of Standing Committee Meeting Minutes, **June 17, 2024**
- 5-3 Approval of Treasurer's Report – **May 2024**
- 5-4 Approval of Hach Service Agreement for Existing Equipment **Not to Exceed \$24,000**
- 5-5 Approval of Dahme Mechanical Industries Inc. to Install (2) Air Compressors **Not to Exceed \$50,000**
- 5-6 Approval of Contract Award to Hoerr Construction for **FY 2025** Sanitary Sewer Cleaning and Televising Project in Amount **Not to Exceed \$150,000**
- 5-7 Approval of Contract Award to Hoerr Construction for **FY 2025** Storm Sewer in Amount **Not to Exceed \$150,000**
- 5-8 Approval of Pre-Award IGA with Lake County SMC for the Lewis Avenue Detention Basin Phase **I** and Phase **II** (Pending Legal Review)
- 5-9 Approval of Lease Agreement – EMCO use of Parking Lot at **0** Martin Luther King Dr.
- 5-10 Approval of Real Estate Contract Extension Request – **0** Fairway Lane and **0** Green Bay Rd.

Alderman Smith moved, seconded by Alderman Evans to approve the Omnibus Vote Agenda presented.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy

Nays: January

Absent: Coleman

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Hood

Congratulated the 14 new officers and suggested the officers be given a stipend to move to the City of North Chicago (starting at \$70,000). He thought it would be feasible to live in the City they work. The officers previously lived in North Chicago and retired here, made the community a bit safer and more crimes were solved.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

7-1 CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO WAIVE FIRST READING OF AND AWARD CONTRACT TO J & M DISPLAYS FOR COMMUNITY DAYS FIREWORKS DISPLAY SERVICES IN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000 FOR (3) YEARS FROM 2024-2026

Informational Officer Hombre Darby explained that fireworks for Community Days were performed by the same vendor who seemed to be grandfathered in to do the work. The Chief of Staff suggested it be sent out to bid for more competition. It was bid out and there was only submission/proposal for the next 3 years.

Having a 3-year contract made it easier to possibly get discounts and better shows for the City. Therefore, he proposed waiving the first reading. Alderman January clarified what was being approved. Alderman Murphy asked how bids were advertised; Mr. Darby explained, publication, City website and known vendors. J & M Displays was the only vendor who met the requirements and was on time.

Attorney David Silverman reiterated that bids were sought.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman January to approve to waive First Reading of and award contract to J & M Displays for Community Days fireworks display services in amount not to exceed \$20,000 for (3) Years from 2024-2026.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Coleman

MOTION CARRIED

7-2 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF CITY BILLS

General Corporate Fund	\$ 131,931.86
General Grants Fund	\$ 9,500.00
Motor Fuel Tax Fund	\$ 37,922.16
Federal Forfeiture Fund	\$ 700.00
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 16,534.62
Water, Sewer & Refuse Fund	\$ 105,521.47
TOTAL	\$ 302,110.11

General Fund - 6/17/24

Cristo Rey St. Martin CO NC Students	\$ 4,550.00
Safe Travel Transport Warhawk Summer Travel	\$ 2,400.00
Safe Travel Transport Warhawk Summer Travel	\$ 4,000.00
Safe Travel Transport Warhawk Summer Travel	\$ 3,400.00
Western Illinois Univer Warhawk Summer Prog	\$ 6,300.00
TOTAL	\$ 20,650.00

General Fund

Kimberly McFarland Community Days - 6/17/24	\$ 3,250.00
Lake County Collector - 6/04/24	\$ 20.50
Aldermanic Expenses - Ward 3 - 6/21/24	\$ 75.00

Water, Sewer & Refuse Fund - 6/17/24	\$ 407,897.00
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TOTAL	\$ 734,002.61
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MOTION:

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy to pay the bills of Council Run 07/01/24 the amount of **\$734,002.61 when funds become available.**

Alderman January asked if there were sufficient funds, when checks would be cut and sent, also amount in Water Fund. City Treasurer Vance Wyatt said funds were available (roughly **\$32,000,000** in bank), he did not have a total amount, but the not liquid amount was **\$1,433,781.71**.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy

Nays: January

Absent: Coleman

MOTION CARRIED

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

VARIOUS CONCERNS AND COMMENTS

* Alderman Jackson was concerned with waiving of First Reading. It was a disservice because there is a process. Needed to stop avoiding the process. He understood emergencies but needed to stop circumventing the process.

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson agreed and was working with staff to maintain the process. Alderman January agreed there were too many waivers and need to follow the process; needed more transparency. Alderman Evans agreed but also clarified that there were times that bids were not able to be had. There is some equipment that can only be maintained by certain vendors.

Chief of Staff Jackson said the City's intent was to advertise competitive bid (RFP) and provide the best service. Alderman January said that the City needed to do its due diligence.

* Alderman Allen commended the Police Department for their gun collection program; 12 were given to the department. It was important. He also thanked Deputy Police Gary Lunn for cleaning the police vehicles; it gives a perception when they are not.

* Alderman Smith announced Annual 5th Ward Meeting and Block Party, July 27th.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Coleman

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

Alderman Coleman was absent.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lori L. Collins, City Clerk