

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024

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

Following City Council Meeting

**HUMAN RESOURCES
COMMITTEE MEETING**

7:02 PM

I. DISCUSSION OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:

There were no questions and no meeting was held.

**BUILDING/LICENSE
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024

6:43 PM

Alderman January called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: Allen

I. DISCUSSION OF SPECIAL EVENT, GUNS DOWN COMMUNITY BBQ ON THE CORNER OF 18TH ST. AND SHERIDAN RD., JUNE 28, 2024, 3-6 PM:

Alderman Coleman emphasized the need of cleaning up on 18th St. and Sheridan rd. Asked if there was a fee for clean-up after an event. Chief of Staff, Greg Jackson acknowledged there was a fee of an agreement. Attorney Simon suggested an agreement after the Special Event to ensure proper cleanup. Alderman January agreed. Chief of Staff Jackson stated could amend the application accordingly. Alderman Coleman suggested the wording highlighted bringing more attention to it and asked if any deposit. Chief of Staff Jackson stated the amount of **\$250** and it would be reimbursable.

Police Chief Lazaro Perez reassured the empty field would be utilized vs. the county road. The Safe Place would be marking their second event. The police would also be stopping by the event.

Alderman Smith questioned if the street was to be blocked. Alderman January said that was not part of the request received. Alderman Coleman added/suggested signs be posted to slow traffic on the roadway.

III. PENDING MATTERS:

There was no discussion.

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Allen

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

**PUBLIC WORKS
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024

6:51 PM

Alderman Evans called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: Allen

IV. DISCUSSION TO APPROVE HACH SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR EXISTING EQUIPMENT NOT TO EXCEED \$24,000:

Bob Miller, Consulting Interim Public Works Director, explained was asking to waive bidding for Hach Service Equipment **Not to Exceed \$24,000**. There was no other company that made the same equipment. It was an annual agreement checking the chlorine level and water quality etc.

Alderman Jackson questioned clarification and Mr. Miller explained there was a previous company.

Alderman Coleman disagreed with waiving the bid. For fairness, should always have a bidding process.

This will be placed on the next **Council Agenda, July 1, 2024**.

V. DISCUSSION TO APPROVE DAHME MECHANICAL INDUSTRIES INC. TO INSTALL (2) AIR COMPRESSORS NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000:

Mr. Miller was also asking to waive the bidding for air compressors Dahme Mechanical Industries and elaborated further. The City of North Chicago had a long-standing relationship with the company. It was also the lowest price. The replacement of the **2** new air compressors and safeguarding the Water Treatment Plant; if the water pressure dropped the other **2** compressors would serve as a backup system. This was an emergency and would utilize more time for bidding.

Alderman Smith questioned what was considered a reasonable price. Mr. Miller explained the other company quoted double the amount of Dahme's bid.

Alderman January questioned clarification. Mr. Miller explained with a different brand though the same compressors. She asked if there was a possible conflict of interest with anyone. Mr. Miller was unaware.

Alderman Coleman disagreed with waiving the bids. The City needed to be more transparent protecting the taxpayers. He asked Attorney Simon if he recommended waiving or bidding; he stated should be a case-by-case basis based on its merits.

I. DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:

There was no discussion.

II. DISCUSSION OF WATER DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:

Mr. Miller explained the routine testing resulted per EPA, a compound in the water which he read. It was somewhat higher with the concentration on **April 15, 2024**, preferred another test was performed on **May 16, 2024**, that resulted in a lower amount of accepted EPA limit. A notification letter would be sent to the residents. A follow-up test would be performed with raw and treated water to ensure its quality. Any further questions, the resident could ask for Mr. Miller or Cliff Young at the water plant.

Alderman January asked if he had reached out to other water municipalities; he mentioned no other one tested recently positive. Currently tested below the EPA limits.

Alderman Jackson requested that the aldermen had a copy of the notification letter before it was sent to the residents. Mr. Miller would honor his request. Mr. Miller reiterated that the compound was checked annually and the EPA would check on quarterly intervals until consistency tested below the required levels. The Mayor preferred that the residents were pro-actively notified regardless of the severity vs. alarmed.

Alderman Smith strongly indicated the need of ensuring comfort. He was surprised it would be had delivered to the homeowners. Chief of Staff, Greg Jackson explained would arrange a bulk mailing effective the following day. Alderman Evans asked if he could distribute copies in the evening.

Alderman Coleman would direct questions received to the Chief of Staff and he encourage the alderman remaining united in one accord. The Mayor appreciated his comment moving forward.

III. DISCUSSION OF ENGINEER REPORT:

There was no discussion.

Alderman Murphy left at 6:52 p.m.

VI. DISCUSSION/REVIEW AWARD OF CONTRCT TO HOERR CONSTRUCTION FOR FY 2025 SANITARY SEWER CLEANING AND TELEVISING PROJECT IN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000:

Engineer, Steve Cieslica grouped **Items VI AND VII** were bid out previously in **FY 2023**; Hoerr Construction won both contracts and was the last yr. of a 3-year contract.

VII. DISCUSSION/REVIEW AWARD OF CONTRCT TO HOERR CONSTRUCTION FOR FY 2025 STORM SEWER CLEANING AND TELEVISING PROJECT IN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$150,000:

Both Items will be placed on the Next **Council Agenda, July 1, 2024.**

VIII. DISCUSSION/REVIEW TO APPROVE PRE-AWARD IGA WITH LAKE COUNTY SMC FOR THE LEWIS AVENUE DETENTION BASIN PHASE I AND II (PENDING LEGAL REVIEW):

Mr. Cieslica explained the City received the amount of **5.5 mil** in DCEO funding for the construction of the Lewis Ave. detention basin. Phase **II** would provide upgrading to some of the piping to assist with helping the flow.

Attorney Simon chimed-in that this was a pre-agreement with SMC and another one once the funding was released. Alderman Smith questioned clarification with the smaller pipes. Mr. Cieslica stated was included with the issue; the main problem was utilized from a former landfill, became Pettibone Creek watershed flowing from Green Bay Rd. to Glenn Dr. and Broadway Ave. leading to EMCO Chemical. The storm detention basin would create the capacity in the pipe building an outlet on Lewis Ave.

Alderman Smith questioned the detention basin aesthetics. Mr. Cieslica explained.

Alderman Coleman highly commented Mr. Cieslica on the bid process.

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Allen

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

**FINANCE/AUDIT
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024

7:26 PM

Vice Chair Alderman Murphy called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: Allen

I. DISCUSSION OF MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT:

There was no discussion.

II. DISCUSSION OF REQUEST TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING – REBRANDING CAMPAIGN:

Hombre Darby, Community Information Coordinator requested to waive competitive bidding for the rebranding campaign. At location of **1616** Green Bay Rd, Studio North, it was a community organization, assisted with north Chicago student mentorships, they have been in the City of North Chicago within **40** years. They have done branding for Lake Forest; they were genuine and the city's neighbors. It justified his request to waive the bidding for the rebranding campaign

Alderman Jackson clarified there was no price. Mr. Darby explained it was a 4-phases totaling **\$78,710** in **2 + years**. Extensive research for other municipalities. The branding Alderman Jackson disagreed with waiving the bidding. There were no other bids acquired.

Alderman Smith questioned the extensive research. He had concern of city expenditures. They were producing a North Chicago documentary from the **1900's**.

Alderman Coleman agreed with other bids allowing others with the bidding process.

Attorney Simon explained was a professional service provided. It was qualification based focusing on specifics.

Alderman January recalled a rebranding several years prior. The Mayor explained was a modernization image for the City. She asked the benefits of it. Mr. Darby stated the 1st half was approved in the fiscal budget.

Chief of Staff Jackson chimed-in he would prepare a proposal at the next meeting Agenda, **July 1, 2024**. He toured Studio North that was a national award-winning recognized marketing advertisement facility in the City for some time, some of the employees were residents of North Chicago.

The Mayor recalled a conference in New Jersey that they were in the process of rebranding and the same process was for the City. The input of the residents was beneficial in the interim. Studio North would also be reaching out to the residents to assist them.

Alderman Smith inquired of the comprehensive plan. Mr. Darby explained the **(2)** groups in place were properly aligned. One was named for the infrastructure and the other for marketing and publicity.

Alderman Evans questioned other city experience with Studio North. Mr. Darby reiterated was from Lake Forest with the branding. They were genuine and passionate of rebranding north Chicago. Their involvement with Community Days Event and the students of the City. They were verse on the branding due to their involvement and a reliable partner for the City.

The Mayor agreed they were dependable due to a reliable business in the community. Mr. Darby added that the money spent would be beneficial remaining in the City.

Alderman January questioned if possible, conflict of interest. Mr. Darby stated there wasn't.

Alderman Coleman clarified were other north Chicago business that could be involved in the rebranding campaign bidding.

Treasurer Wyatt clarified that K30 wasn't rebranding though providing apparel for Foss Park District.

Alderman Jackson questioned clarification on the quality vs. quantity. Mr. Darby acknowledged they were and supportive to completion of the rebranding.

This will be placed on the Next **Committee Agenda, July 15, 2024**.

III. DISCUSSION REQUEST OF \$500 DONATION FOR JUNETEENTH 3-DAY EVENT:

ITEM III WAS REMOVED

IV. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED IGSA BETWEEN NAVAL STATION GREAT LAKES AND CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO:

Taylor Wegrzyn explained the Intergovernmental Support Agreement between the Great Lakes Naval Station and City of North Chicago. There was a letter of Intent with lowered costs.

Item IV. will be placed on the Next **Council Agenda, July 1, 2024.**

V. DISCUSSION OF TREASURER’S REPORT – MAY 2024:

Treasurer, Vance Wyatt provided an overview of the report with updates.

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by January that Finance/Audit Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Allen

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

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

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024

8:09 PM

Alderman Smith called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: Allen

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

There was no discussion.

**II. DISCUSSION – DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY BY THE AUCTION METHOD:
ITEM II WAS REMOVED**

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEASE AGREEMENT – EMCO USE OF PARKING LOT AT 0 MARTIN
LUTHER KING DR:**

Taylor Wegrzyn explained that EMCO was leasing the parking lot from the City.

Alderman Evans questioned who maintained the cleanup. Mr. Wegrzyn

Alderman January questioned the type of vehicle requirement. Alderman Murphy read the information. It was basically for employee parking.

IV. DISCUSSION OF EXTENSION REQUEST – 0 FARWAY LANE AND 0 GREEN BAY RD:

Mr. Wegrzyn explained the lots were sold to Norman Cole. There were stipulations and the dates had lapsed. The Homeowner was seeking an additional 18-month

Alderman January questioned the cause of the delay. Mr. Cole had a lien placed on the property. There were unforeseen occurrences that he experienced. She asked if Mr. Wegrzyn was privy what had occurred.

The Mayor was appreciative of him communicating with the council members.

Attorney Simon clarified that city deed they have the right to retrieve the property. He explained if Mr. Cole needed to borrow any money, please inform the bank accordingly.

Alderman Coleman appreciated him and his family genuinely giving back to the community. He solidly supported him.

Alderman Evans questioned Mr. Wegrzyn concerning extensions received etc.

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Allen

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

**PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024

8:22 PM

Alderman Jackson called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: Allen

I. DISCUSSION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:

There were no questions for Items **I** and **II**.

II. DISCUSSION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT:

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

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

Alderman Allen was absent.

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024
8:23 PM

Mayor Rockingham, Jr., called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: Allen

I. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF (SPECIAL A) LICENSE FOR CANTINA MANAGEMENT AT 2004 MLK DR. – KARIM MERCHANT:

The Mayor explained had directed Chief of Staff Greg Jackson following the review the staff had denied it. There was no internet information for the business. Alcohol had impacted the betting more erratic.

Mr. Karim Merchant explained was just a restaurant. The Mayor had strongly disagreed with issuing hard liquor to him.

Alderman Jackson questioned clarification. There were too many numbers of liquor stores and gaming.

Alderman January emphasized that the police were called to the same address **100+** times. She echoed the sentiments of Alderman Jackson.

Alderman Evans disagreed denying Mr. Merchant. He was in the community for **(26)** years.

Alderman Murphy questioned if they had a complete meal. She disagreed.

Attorney Simon read the information concerning a complete meal. He was serving beer and win.

Alderman Coleman questioned if there was a website. He received clarity from Alderman Murphy. He appreciated the owner to remove the keys of an intoxicated patron and turned them to the police.

Alderman Smith asked if there could be stipulations for a Special Class A license.

The Mayor elaborated further. He also didn't feel comfortable providing hard liquor at a gas establishment. He preferred the safety ensured of the residents. Attorney Simon explained.

Alderman January had witnessed children at the gas station.

Alderman Coleman questioned reports related to alcohol. Chief of Staff Jackson read the reports.

Police Chief, Lazaro Perez clarified wasn't opened when he was in and out of uniform.

Alderman Coleman asked if issued the liquor license. Attorney Simon explained. Alderman Coleman asked was there anything to assist in building the owner's reputation. As the Liquor Commission the Mayor was hesitant in issuing hard liquor to the owner and wouldn't support it.

Alderman Coleman disagreed. The Mayor emphasized he had the right as the commission ensuring the safety of the residents in the community. He asked if he would allow the alderman in the voting process.

Alderman January questioned if there was a door opening from the gas station to the gas establishment. Alderman Smith had concern for the minor's entering. Mr. Merchant had explained it wouldn't be allowed and the hard liquor would be placed behind the counter.

II. DISCUSSION TO WAIVE FIRST READING OF LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION FOR FULL MOON DINER, LLC, 1300 N. SKOKIE HWY, NORTH CHICAGO, IL:

This was removed.

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

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

Alderman Allen was absent.

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.