

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2024

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

Following City Council Meeting

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MEETING

7:18 PM

Alderman Jackson called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

I. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 11, CHAPTER 5, SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 11, STRIKING THE REQUIREMENT FOR A DESIGNATED SERVICE PROVIDER – FIRE ALARM SERVICES:

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson explained was a 5-year extension to the contract asking for another (5). He was requesting authorization from the attorneys to amend the Ordinance as **Item I** was discussed/directed. There was number of qualified firms that could meet the same requirements with a lesser amount. He was asking council for a collaborative conjunction with the attorneys.

II. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF AGGREGATION PROGRAM FOR ELECTRICAL LOAD:

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson reviewed year of **2021**. Adam from NIMEC explained that residents that participated in the program had saved **\$400 - \$600** in the past (3) years. Residents can opt in and out.

The Mayor questioned the current rates. Adam mentioned the safest option was the price match program. Chief of Staff Jackson explained.

III. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF PROPOSED CITY CODE AMENDMENT – ADOPTION OF UPDATED BUILDING CODES:

Taylor Wegrzyn Economic & Community Development Department Director explained the adoption of the updated building codes from **2006** to **2021** edition to modern standards. This would include the Property Maintenance Code, Fire Code. He would propose the **2021** Code updated for the sprinkler system(s).

Alderman Coleman asked for the Fire Chief John Umek's opinion. Fire Chief Umek explained it would result in a safer community including the firefighters and everyone involved.

The Mayor was approached by staff several times with updating the building codes. It would be more money to install a sprinkler system though would add safety if or when a possible fire. He agreed was in favor of it ensuring astute safety of the community.

Alderman Allen questioned if this would be a requirement for the newly constructed homes. Mr. Wegrzyn explained wasn't a current requirement and elaborated further with modernization from **2006** to **2021** code.

The Mayor asked what material would be utilized for the lines for the newer buildings. Mr. Wegrzyn was unaware.

Alderman Coleman acknowledged the Chair if Mr. Reggie Boyson, Contractor/Builder could discuss how this would impact him and the surrounding builders. Mr. Boysen explained the minimum cost for sprinklers; **\$20,000** It would be difficult for the builders to sell the homes at a reasonable price. Alderman Coleman asked his suggestions to reduce the cost. Mr. Boyson explained the wired smoke detectors for a single-family home. The sprinklers were more geared towards the multi-unit homes. Alderman Coleman agreed.

Alderman January questioned the material used for the lines. Mr. Boyson clarified copper was state-wide. He recommended PEX piping that was more cost-effective, reliable and durable in the long term. It also reduced % of theft.

The Mayor questioned if copper was needed for the sprinkler system. Mr. Boyson replied it didn't and the current city code allowed the PEX what he utilized for several years. The Mayor clarified the insurance costs for the homeowner would be less with the sprinkler(s). The city builders stated installing the fire sprinklers in the nearby areas was difficult to sell them.

Chief of Staff Jackson explained the insurance ratings would be reasonable, the smoke detectors were designed to exit their homes to safety and sprinklers would douse a fire. Fire Chief Umek clarified there was currently a hard-wire battery backup for when acquiring a home. He asked to research the cost further for the Sprinklers.

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

BUILDING/LICENSE COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2024

7:49 PM

Alderman January called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

**I. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION LANGUAGE UPDATE
EXPLAINING OBLIGATIONS FOR MUNICIPAL INCURRED EXPENSES:**

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson explained that the City Clerk received language from other cities for parade, special event application language with minor adjustments. It currently was lacking information. He asked that at least another month to complete the research to move it forward.

Alderman January agreed with him and better to be more transparent.

**II. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF SPECIAL EVENT, ANNUAL FORT2BASE RACE, SUNDAY,
AUGUST 25, 2024; 7:00 AM – 2:00 AM: (FROM FORT SHERIDAN TO FOSS PARK)**

Alderman January explained the special event for the Annual Fort2Base Race, Sunday, **August 25, 2024; 7:00 – 2:00 p.m.** starting from Fort Sheridan to Foss Park. The post-race area would be ending at Foss Park. She questioned the cost for (2) police requested on the application. Chief Lazaro Perez explained they always asked for in-kind services for the annual race event. Water station locations were provided and elaborated further. If interested, she gave instructions for Online sign-up and could google search for the e-mail.

Alderman Coleman suggested in the future that the Mayor signed to waive costs of an event.

The Mayor suggested waiving costs of an event was presented before Council to be approved.

Alderman January stated preferred that everyone was treated fairly included in the language of the Special event application. Alderman Coleman elaborated further.

Chief of Staff Jackson clarified that if one of the officers were injured providing an in-kind service, it would be considered a workman's compensation injury.

**III. DISCUSSION OF SPECIAL EVENT, BIG BROTHER BIG SISTERS/RHO TAU CHAPTER
OF OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, BACK TO SCHOOL/FAMILY FUN DAY (GRANT
PLACE, EAST OF SHERIDAN RD. IN NORTH CHICAGO, IL, AUGUST 10 TO
AUGUST
17, 2024, SATURDAY; 11:00 TO 4:00 P.M.:**

Alderman January explained the Special Event for Big Brother/Big Sisters back-to-school family fun day held at Grant Place on the open lot Ease of Sheridan Rd. from **August 17-17, 2024, Saturday; 11- 4:00 p.m.** No police assistance was needed.

**IV. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION – FIESTAS PATRIAS,
SEPTEMBER 14, 2024:**

Alderman January explained the Special Event for Fiestas Patrias, **Saturday, September 14, 2024; 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.** year. There were horses in the event. The parade route was the same as Community Days route from **10th St./Adams** and ending at City Hall. Police were needed though the quantity wasn't indicated. Chief Perez clarified that **6-7** officers were paid for the same event last year.

V. PENDING MATTERS:

CARNIVAL

The Mayor was inquiring concerning a carnival at Foss Park. Alderman January explained it was previously discussed and they had their own security coverage.

Alderman January questioned clarification with the City involvement with any decisions. Directed to Attorney Silverman. He explained that it was Foss Park's entity though the City provided services for the events.

Alderman Jackson questioned a later discussion for an event and council had to approve it. Alderman January explained the discussion was for administrative purposes, needed signatures, liability insurance, staff assistance if necessary and the covered costs.

Alderman Coleman asked Chief of Staff Jackson if events could be ensured that security was present. Also, that the Aldermen were properly informed of events. Chief of Staff Jackson explained.

City Clerk Lori Collins added the new application reflected 30-day notice.

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2024

8:13 PM

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

I. DISCUSSION – DESIGNATION OF AN HONORARY ROADWAY – DEBORAH “DEBBIE RICHARDS – SHERMAN AVENUE BETWEEN MARTIN LUTHER KING DR. AND 23RD ST:

The Mayor explained that **Item I** and **II** were requests for designated Honorary Roadway for Deborah “Debbie Richards and Glenn S. Johnson.

Alderman Smith added that they were well known in the community who have represented the City of North Chicago properly.

The Mayor clarified only **1** Honorary Sign per ward annually. The other one would have to wait until the following year.

Alderman January stated was unable to place Honorary Roadway Signs in the 7th ward. She asked if she could donate hers to another alderman for the year. Alderman Smith clarified that Alderman donated funds to other aldermen when needed and encouraged the donated roadway in a collaborative junction.

Alderman Evans explained in all fairness, because a person worked in the City didn’t require an honorary sign posted for them. He asked what did the honorary applicants do to deserve a roadway sign. Alderman Smith stated that Debbie Richards had a business in the City. Alderman Evans Disagreed that the Real Estate Company benefited her not the City of North Chicago.

Alderman Smith debated the issue with Alderman Evans.

Alderman Allen agreed with Alderman Evans to consider what the applicants have done for the City.

Alderman Jackson was neutral, Alderman Coleman respected the alderman’s decision etc.

Suggested to allow council members decision. Alderman January recommended that Alderman Smith discuss with both of the applicants explaining the Resolution #**2015-37**. Alderman Allen disagreed with Alderman January’s donation.

II. DISCUSSION – DESIGNATION OF AN HONORARY ROADWAY – GLENN S. JOHNSON – 20TH ST. AND LEWIS AVE:

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman January that Committee of the Whole stand adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.