

**MONDAY
NOVEMBER 3, 2025**

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

Following City Council Meeting



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

6:40 p.m.

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

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks

Absent: Coleman

I. DISCUSSION OF STAFF MEMORANDUM REGARDING HONORARY STREET NAMING:

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson gave a brief history of the honorary street signs/naming. There were some signs that were past the expiration. He compared with other cities that allow for honorary street names and noted there was a fee charged to the requestor.

3 suggested options:

1. Continue existing program
2. Develop a Committee to determine approval of applicants
3. Cancel the program – recognize people through resolutions

Alderman Evans suggested keeping the signs that already existed. Chief Jackson asked for clarification if a resolution was needed to keep the signs in place. Attorney Silverman explained they were approved by Resolution and did not require legislative action but recommended a resolution.

Chief Jackson questioned the procedure of replacing damaged signs. Alderman Wray suggested that if the policy already said 10 years, then it should be that; moving forward with resolution and plaque. Alderman Evans reiterated that the current signs remain forever.

Alderman Murphy reminded that there were signs past expiration and agreed with going through a process to give the expired signs to a family member. Thought the current policy should “go away” because there are many people that want/deserve a sign. Alderman Allen agreed with 10 years.

City Treasurer Vance Wyatt expressed not taking many down that are up due to their significance and meaning to the community. Alderman Jackson expressed that it should be all or nothing. Mayor Rockingham asked if it were possible to permanently rename some of the streets. Chief Jackson explained that some of the streets were not longer than a block. Alderman Wray stated concern of how it would be determined which signs remain.

Mr. Wyatt noted there could be a fee associated. Chief Jackson noted that the family could be charged for maintenance or given the sign if needed. Mayor Rockingham asked how often signs were changed; Interim Public Works Supervisor Bob Miller said when faded or damaged. Alderman Brooks and Murphy clarified the process.

Chief Jackson explained that if the Council chose; there would be no more honorary street signs and maintenance would be to the requestor/family. Alderman Jackson asked the typical cost of a sign; Mr. Miller said about \$200.

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

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

**MONDAY
NOVEMBER 3, 2025
7:09 p.m.**

Alderman Murphy called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks

Absent: Coleman

**I. DISCUSSION/REVIEW ADVERTISING FOR BID THE LEAD SERVICE LINE
REPLACEMENT PROJECT, PHASE I:**

Engineer Steve Cieslica explained that the City applied for a grant of **\$2.645 Million** from IEPA for the replacement of Lead Line Service Line. Starting in southwest side of the City and work east. The first of multiple phases. The money is waiting to be spent. Each phase will be roughly **\$2 million**. Alderman Evans asked if Trotter applied for the grant or the City; Mr. Cieslica said it was a collaborative effort.

**II. DISCUSSION/REVIEW ADVERTISING FOR BID THE WATER TOWER NO. 1,
CONTRACT A:**

Mr. Cieslica estimated the Water Tower Project was estimated at **\$6.5 million**; the City had received \$1.95 million in principal forgiveness for construction of water tower and associated watermains leading to the tower. The watermain project was estimated at **\$900,000** and he explained the route of the main to be installed. Same loan but 2 separate contracts/companies in order to save cost.

**III. DISCUSSION/REVIEW ADVERTISING FOR BID THE WATER TRANSMISSION MAIN,
CONTRACT B:**

Mr. Cieslica explained that this was part of the same loan but 2 separate contracts/companies in order to save cost. Mayor Rockingham asked if the property exchange was clear with the Park District; Mr. Wyatt said there was a Quit Claim process currently approved.

**IV. DISCUSSION/REVIEW ADVERTISING FOR BID THE CDBG SANITARY SEWER
CLEANING & CIPP LINING PROJECT:**

Mr. Cieslica explained that **\$332,804** had been received for sanitary sewer lining and seeking permission to go out for bid. Followed the Argonne Dr. project. Mayor Rockingham, Jr. clarified that the detention pond was still in process, Mr. Cieslica said yes. Mayor Rockingham, Jr. said there were many projects going on with the infrastructure and sometimes it is not known; he appreciated the work of Trotter. Alderman Evans said that Trotter Assoc. was the best firms and was great for North Chicago.

**V. DISCUSSION TO APPROVE PROPOSAL FROM CORRECTIVE ASPHALT MATERIALS
LLC (CAM) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$84,650 TO APPLY RECLAMITE MALTENE BASED
REJUVENATING AGENT TO SELECT ASPHALT PAVEMENT:**

Interim Public Works Director Bob Miller explained that the compound makes the pavement last longer. The cost was more from the previous years because more street was added. It was properly bid and was a collaboration with other cities.

Alderman Murphy asked how many were done previous and what was the result. Mr. Miller explained that the process started approximately 10 years prior, it was a proven fact that it protects the pavement. Although it was not an old process but becoming more widely used.

Alderman Brooks clarified the cost increase; Mr. Miller explained that after repaving 16th St. there was additional (new) street to protect.

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

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks

Nays: None

Absent: Coleman

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

**FINANCE/AUDIT
COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MONDAY
NOVEMBER 3, 2025
7:25 p.m.**

Alderman Allen called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks

Absent: None

I. DISCUSSION OF CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH LAUTERBACH & AMEN, LLP FOR PENSION ACTUARIAL SERVICES FOR FY25 \$13,340, FY26 \$13,660, AND FY27 \$14,220

Comptroller Tawanda Joyner explained every year that an actuary report was required, and this one was for the Police and Fire pensions. Treasurer Vance Wyatt elaborated about the possible fees.

II. DISCUSSION OF AMM ENTERPRISES BILLING ANALYSIS

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson gave a brief overview of previous discussion/concern, including travel reimbursement. Generally, do not include to and from workplace. It was not illegal but not normal practice. Over the last year the amount reimbursed was **\$6,283.17**. The question was based on the findings and if Council wanted to pursue reimbursement to the City.

Alderman Jackson asked if this practice had stopped and said that it should stop. Going with trust that it was agreed upon with the former Chief of Staff. He suggested cutting the loss and make sure it did not happen again. Alderman Allen said it was not within the “four corners” of the contract; if the government overpays, they take it back.

Mr. Wyatt suggested that if there was overpay it could be taken out of his check. Alderman Murphy expressed that it was never in the contract and did not agree with reimbursing for mileage. Independent contractors are responsible for operating costs and were incorporated in the fee. Did not want to see the City bear the cost.

Alderman Brooks suggested the reimbursement for the mileage stop. There was no detailed information that showed all the billed information. Alderman Wray clarified that the process stops immediately; Mr. Jackson said that it had already ceased. Attorney Silverman explained that the contracts were approved and included the IRS reimbursement for travel but that does not typically include travel to workplace. Supposed to subtract that workplace travel out of the figure. There needed to be a new agreement.

Interim Public Works Director Bob Miller agreed there was some ambiguity in the contract and was under the impression from a verbal agreement he would be reimbursed. He said that he did not charge for hours to and from work although he works during that time. He was on the job 24/7 and takes his job seriously. He had no problem with ceasing the charge. All his bills included all the charges. Moving forward, he would be happy to fix the contract and never intend to be deceptive.

Alderman Evans included that he also used his own vehicle; why doesn't the City provide him transportation. He said that Mr. Miller was doing a good job and was always on duty. Suggested that he correct the contract.

Mr. Wyatt said there should be fairness across the board. Mayor Rockingham, Jr. agreed with no more charges but not with having to reimburse. Alderman Wray assured there was not an insult with integrity and agreed there would be no more reimbursement.

Alderman Brooks explained that he commuted a distance to contractual work and did not get paid for mileage to workplace. He asked how far back for suggested payback; Alderman Allen said one year. He stood with equality and fairness. Alderman Jackson asked Mr. Miller if he were willing to split the cost 50/50; he said if that was what Council agreed to.

Alderman Brooks asked for Chief of Staff recommendation; Mr. Jackson explained that prior to this inquiry he signed off on the bills for AMM without knowing the mileage shouldn't have been included. His predecessor did not have the authority to agree to those terms. There should be a new contract.

City Clerk asked for clarification from attorney for the agenda. Attorney Silverman stated he was attempting to decipher the wishes of the Council but did not want to assume and that he would like to present a proper Independent Contract that would account for all the concerns. It was not asked to be reviewed by the attorneys previously. Alderman Brooks said it was basically bad business; Alderman Allen clarified that it was one side of the story. Alderman Brooks stated that all the contracts needed to be reviewed.

City Clerk asked for consensus, written **Payback or No Payback**: Payback - Allen; No Payback – Evans, Jackson, Brooks, Wray, Murphy

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

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks

Nays: None

Absent: Coleman

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING/ZONING COMMITTEE MEETING

**MONDAY
NOVEMBER 3, 2025
8:22 p.m.**

Alderman Brooks called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks

Absent: None

**I. DISCUSSION OF APPROVAL, AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE, PROFESSIONAL
SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC. TO
ESTABLISH AN APPEARANCE CODE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000:**

Economic and Community Development Director Taylor Wegrzyn explained that the service would be to develop an appearance code for non-residential structures. He reviewed the cost based on the work intended and thought the cost was reasonable. He recommended moving forward with Kimley-Horn & Associates; it was being reviewed by legal. Alderman Brooks asked the references; Mr. Wegrzyn listed several. Alderman Evans clarified there was no additional costs to be had. Mr. Wegrzyn explained the cost was for the entire service and there would be no additional cost. He had done work with the company previously

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

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING

**MONDAY
NOVEMBER 3, 2025
8:28 p.m.**

Alderman Allen called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks

Absent: Coleman

**I. DISCUSSION OF THIRD-PARTY CLAIMS ADMINISTRATION SERVICES WITH PMA
MANAGEMENT CORP. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,000:**

Human Resources Director Elizabeth Black explained they provide service for workers comp claims and liability claims which were in a runoff phase. Approximately 8 claims remain. Incidents prior to our current IMA insurance. Critical to protect the City's legal interest because they are familiar with the current claims and have worked on them.

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

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

**MONDAY
NOVEMBER 3, 2025
8:32 p.m.**

Alderman Allen called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jackson, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks

Absent: Coleman

**I. DISCUSSION OF THIRD-PARTY CLAIMS ADMINISTRATION SERVICES WITH PMA
MANAGEMENT CORP. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,000:**

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson explained that it was 5-year extension for the policing at the military housing. Adjustment made based on the closing of Halsey Village and 2.9% increase for inflation or police budget. Effective October 1st to include the cost increase.

Alderman Evans asked what the cost was; Attorney Silverman explained **\$83,325/month**. Mayor Rockingham, Jr. asked if there had been any activity in Halsey Village since its closure. Police Chief Perez explained there were some break-ins that required the police in the beginning. There have been barriers installed.

II. DISCUSSION OF DISPOSAL/DONATION OF 30' BRONZE ANODIZED FLAGPOLE

Fire Chief John Umek explained that it had been on the ground since 2018 and would like to donate to the Midwest Veterans Closet. Alderman Brooks asked who would remove it; Mayor Rockingham said the City would donate and install which cost approximately **\$1,800**.

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

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.