

# MINUTES

The City Council of North Chicago met in a Regular meeting, Monday, October 6, 2025, at 6:03 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 1850 Lewis Avenue with Mayor Rockingham Jr. presiding.

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

## **II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **III. INVOCATION**

## **IV. ROLL CALL**

Upon the Roll Call being taken, the following members were present:

Present: Jackson, Allen, Wray, Brooks

Absent: Coleman, Evans, Murphy

Mayor Rockingham stated that Alderman Murphy was ill and asked that she be allowed remote participation via Zoom.

**Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Jackson to allow Alderman Murphy to participate remotely via Zoom Recording.**

### **ROLL CALL:**

Ayes: Jackson, Allen, Wray, Brooks

Nays: None

Absent: Coleman, Evans

**Alderman Murphy was present via Zoom at 6:05 p.m.**

Mayor Rockingham announced that Alderman Evans was out of town and had no communication from Alderman Coleman.

## **V. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA**

5-1 Approval of Minutes for Regular Council Meeting, **September 15, 2025**

5-2 Approval of Standing Committee Meeting Minutes, **September 15, 2025**

5-3 Approval Authorizing Staff to Advertise for Bids for the Surplus Properties at 0 Kennedy Dr., 0 Barrett Dr. and 0 Dugdale Ave., collectively known as Arrington Woods

5-4 Approval of Authorizing Staff to Advertise Request for Proposals – Sheridan Crossing Market Study Discussion of an Ordinance

5-5 Approval of Ordinance Approving Certain Lot Coverage and Landscaping Variations to North Chicago School District 187 at **1812 Morrow Ave.**

5-6 Approval to Authorize the Purchase of Property at **0 Green Bay Rd.** (PINs **1206210015** and **1206210016**) for a Sales Price of **\$45,000**

5-7 Approval of (GP) Gaming License for Mia's Pancake House & Grill, **2314 Green Bay Rd. #1**

**Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Jackson to approve the Omnibus Vote Agenda as presented.**

### **ROLL CALL:**

Ayes: Jackson, Allen, Wray, Murphy (RP), Brooks

Nays: None

Absent: Coleman, Evans

## **MOTION CARRIED**

### **VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

#### Tiffany Murray

Representing T. Wallace Blacktopping Inc. said that the company would like to be considered for upcoming projects and bids. Mayor Rockingham said they would be notified.

#### Commissioner Carmecia Hawthorne

Announced Foss Park District was hosting a Haunted House October 24<sup>th</sup>, Trunk or Treat October 25<sup>th</sup> 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. ending with Trail of Treats, October 29<sup>th</sup>. Call the Foss Park District for upcoming events. Also, demolition of Hamlet Park (Argonne Dr.) began, and new equipment was on the way.

Suggested everyone stay in prayer due to all the chaos occurring.

#### Rayon Edwards

Concerned with a North Chicago Housing Authority Board member being the owner of a building on Audrey Nixon Blvd. Asked how the member could own, charge rent and not report the income to the Housing Authority. He was speaking of Kajuan Hodge who also lived in public housing. He was contacting Springfield to get answers.

He asked the elected officials to assist with the ICE raids. People were being dragged from vehicles, ICE have been asking people for identification. They have on uniforms that could be ordered online, and imposters could kidnap people. Action needed to be immediate.

Mayor Rockingham said that he did not condone the actions of ICE and the possibility of the National Guard in Illinois. He explained that Chicago Mayor Johnson used the Executive Order for legal purposes of Chicago private property. North Chicago Police have been advised not to participate with ICE unless there is an active warrant from the State's Attorney or the State of Illinois. Their actions were not right.

Mr. Edwards suggested that the police be present during arrests by ICE to assure people don't continue to get hurt. People that were documented had been taken. Mayor Rockingham said it was not right in America.

Mr. Edwards was concerned with the Treasurer not being present at the meetings and traveling. Treasurer Wyatt (via Zoom) stated that he was at Evanston Hospital with a family member. Mayor Rockingham expressed well wishes.

Alderman Allen clarified that ICE could not enter private property; Mayor Rockingham agreed they could not "bust the door down" to come in. Alderman Brooks explained that although they could not it was not stopping them. They feel they are above the law. There was a difference with President Obama deportation tactics that were lawful and with due process. Currently documented people were being detained by people that appeared like villains. He gave kudos to Mayor Cunningham of Waukegan for his attempt to assist detainees.

### **VII. REGULAR AGENDA**

#### **7-1 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF CITY BILLS**

Water, Sewer & Refuse Fund	\$ 206,634.01
Retiree Premium Fund	\$ 18,462.07
Library Fund	\$ 10,226.29
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	\$ 685,379.87
 SPECIAL 1 - Police Work Dog	 \$ 4,975.00
SPECIAL 2 - Marsha Bowles	\$ 50.00
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<b>TOTAL including Special Runs</b>	<b>\$ 690,404.87</b>

**MOTION:**

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks to pay the Regular bills of Council Run **10/6/25** in the amount of **\$690,404.87** when funds become available.

**ROLL CALL:**

Ayes: Jackson, Coleman (RP), Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks

Nays: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**VIII. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS**

- Alderman Allen asked how often railroads were serviced. Stressed the importance of maintaining a clean community for attraction of economic development. Cyber Security – what was protocol for bomb threats and other threats, he was told there was none. Mayor Rockingham explained that Fire Chief Umek led the Safety Committee and has emphasized that efforts in safety.

Alderman Allen questioned the security of City Hall and the panic buttons. The police informed him when the buttons were utilized, they weren't sure of their location. Mayor Rockingham said the panic button was in question; Chief Umek explained a map had been created to identify zones of where the button was used.

Mayor Rockingham said the City was attempting to get funding for readers on the door locks. Alderman Allen was concerned with the excessive car accidents by the Police Department and the cost. Those accidents drive the Risk Management insurance up.

Deputy Police Chief Gary Lunn stated that the Safety Committee was working on safe driving initiative and defensive driving. Human Resources Elizabeth Black acknowledged that it was being reviewed and looking into creating a policy. Alderman Allen said there needed to be consideration of safety.

Alderman Jackson expressed concern of the panic button and questioned the process. Do the panic button alarms go through LAKECOMM. Chief Umek said the alarm company will handle the dispatching to LAKECOMM and then contact North Chicago. Alderman Jackson noted there would be a delay; Chief Umek explained that it was a 3<sup>rd</sup> party monitoring system.

- Alderman Brooks gave kudos to Public Works for the installation of the removable speed bumps in alley of Greenfield Ave. Alderman Jackson also commended Public Works for filling the potholes on Wadsworth Ave.; also, for removing the fly dumping. Alderman Allen also recognized the Public Works Department for painting curbs.

- Mayor Rockingham announced that the final food truck event was going to be Thursday, October 9, 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.
- Alderman Brooks recognized Alderman Allen’s Birthday and everyone wished him many more.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

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

### **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

The Council Meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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**Lori L. Collins, City Clerk**