

MINUTES

The City Council of North Chicago met in a Regular meeting, Monday, November 17, 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, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Brooks

Absent: Murphy

Mayor Rockingham announced that Alderman Murphy was ill and asked that she be allowed Remote Participation via Zoom.

Alderman Coleman moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks to allow Remote Participation (RP) via Zoom for Alderman Murphy.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

Alderman Murphy was present at 6:04 p.m.

- 4-1 Approval of Resolution Honoring Reverend Arthur Devost

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks to approve the Resolution Honoring Reverend Arthur Devost.

Mayor Rockingham, Jr. asked the City Clerk to read the Resolution. City Clerk Lori L. Collins read the Resolution of Reverend Arthur Devost. Mayor Rockingham, Jr. stated that he presented the Resolution to the family at funeral services.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

V. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA

- 5-1 Approval of Minutes for Regular Council Meeting, **November 3, 2025**
- 5-2 Approval of Standing Committee Meeting Minutes, **November 3, 2025**
- 5-3 Approval of Contract Renewal with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP for Pension Actuarial Services for Fy25 \$13,140, Fy26 \$13,660, and Fy27 \$14,220
- 5-4 Approval of Professional Services Agreement with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. to Establish an Appearance Code in an Amount **Not to Exceed \$20,000**

- 5-5 Approval of Third Party Claims Administration Services with PMA Management Corp. in the Amount of **\$45,000**
- 5-6 Approval of First Amendment to Agreement for Police Services between Midwest Family Housing, LLC and the City of North Chicago
- 5-7 Approval of Disposal/Donation of 30' Bronze Anodized Flagpole to Midwest Veterans Closet
- 5-8 Approval of Contract with Corrective Asphalt Materials LLC (CAM) in the Amount of **\$84,650** to Apply Reclamite Maltene Based Rejuvenating Agent to Selected Asphalt Pavement

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

City Clerk Collins explained that there was a typo, item 7-1 indicated that Alderman Jackson voted Aye and Nay. It was changed in the permanent records to just reflect Aye.

Alderman Allen and Alderman Evans amended motion to reflect the correction.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rayon Edwards

Expressed thanks to Mayor, Fire Chief and Police Chief for attending Reverend Arthur Devost funeral. It was important to be present for the people of the community. Alderman Allen stated he was also present.

Carmecia Hawthorne

Wanted everyone to enjoy the holiday season.

Announced:

- Flames lightweight and middleweight football teams were Superbowl champs.
- Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon, November 21st, 12 p.m. – 2 p.m.
- Toy drive hosted by the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, December 20th, 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Christmas at the Library, December 11th, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- Rosalind Franklin Health Clinic at the Library – call for availability

Alderman Allen asked that the Flames be recognized at the Council Meeting, the Mayor agreed and asked that Ms. Hawthorne work with his assist to prepare.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

7-1 PRESENTATION BY GREG WHITE OF LEARN CHARTER SCHOOL

Mr. White presented statistics and facts about the LEARN Charter Schools which was founded in 2001. He noted 800 students in 2 campuses, waitlist of over 120 students, 85% black or latino, 50% of North Chicago's military students attend LEARN, 30% English language learners comparable to the district, 17% children with disabilities, higher than the D187.

Alderman Allen expressed his extensive support of the LEARN Charter School. New homeowners look at the school system when they purchase homes, and it was important to provide good schools. Alderman Coleman clarified the contract term and noted that at end of contract time there would be

an elected School Board. He asked if the elected Board could assist; Mr. White said it depended on the timing and some of the issues were financial. Alderman Coleman referred to the importance of proficiency in math and LEARN was providing the better programs. He said that the entire district would have charter school education. He said for many years that D187 was under performing.

Alderman Wray questioned how to bring the children back to higher learning. Mr. White explained there needs to be done together, give a rigorous curriculum, reward parents for their participation and make sure the children attend school.

Alderman Jackson asked what was needed financial to come to an agreement. Mr. White said it was only a few thousand dollars. LEARN received money based on the number of children. Part of the issue was decrease in revenue with an increase in cost, which in turn could result in failure due to finances. Alderman Jackson asked if there were a possibility there could be terms with the numbers. Mr. White said that if the children were put first there could be an agreement.

Mr. White questioned why anyone would want to take away the option for better education. It is a parent's greatest hope for a great education. Alderman Evans asked who was preventing them from striving to the next level. Mr. White explained that it was the ultimate decision of the Board. Mayor Rockingham explained that in 2012 it was a state-run School Board; he asked if the military was part of the contract that 50% must be military students. Mr. White clarified that not 50% of the students were military; of the 50% of military students approximately 40% attend LEARN. Only a preference if number drops below 1/3.

Mayor Rockingham said he supports both schools and all the children were significant. He also noted that there are Unions that affect how schools are run, and District 187 is at a disservice because they must follow certain guidelines. He was in hope of a collaboration with ideas to come together and everyone succeed. Mayor Rockingham said that he would supply a letter of support.

Alderman Coleman asked if the information in Mr. White's presentation was given to the Board. Mr. White acknowledged that they had the information, and it was also public with the State Board of Education. There was no detailed conversation of the dramatic difference.

Alderman Brooks was happy that Mr. White came to inform the Council and thanked him. Was in hope for a resolution.

7-2 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF CITY BILLS

General Fund	\$ 176,868.76
General Grants Fund	\$ 105,175.90
Motor Fuel Tax Fund	\$ 67,904.53
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 5,800.37
Water, Sewer & Refuse Fund	\$ 198,268.19
	<u>\$ 554,017.75</u>
SPECIAL - IML Risk Management	<u>\$ 1,228,412.99</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 1,782,430.74</u>

MOTION:

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans to pay the Regular bills of Council Run **11/17/25 in the amount of **\$1,782,430.74** when funds become available.**

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

- Alderman Allen questioned sponsorships in the amount of \$18,000 that had not been collected for Community Days. He spoke with Dr. Price who stated there was an invoice needed for the \$10,000. He asked who was following up. Chief of Staff Greg Jackson said he met with the Comptroller and there were calls being made. Alderman Allen suggested that there should be solicitation starting to get funding early.
- Alderman Coleman wished Alderman Evans a Happy Birthday
- Mayor Rockingham, Jr. announced Tree Lighting Ceremony, December 2nd at 6:00 p.m. at the Fire Station

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9-1 Executive Session 5 ILCS 120 2 (C)(11) – Litigation

Alderman Jackson moved, seconded by Alderman Coleman to Suspend the Regular Order of Business at 7:16 p.m. to go into Executive Session under 5 ILCS 120 2 (c)(11).

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy (RP), Brooks
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

Alderman Jackson moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks to Reconvene the Regular Order of Business at 7:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy (RP), Brooks
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

9-2 Approval of a Resolution Approving a Settlement Agreement with Monsanto Company Regarding PCB Contamination of Stormwater

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Allen to approve a Resolution Approving a Settlement Agreement with Monsanto Company Regarding PCB Contamination of Stormwater.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray, Murphy (RP), Brooks
Nays: None
Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lori L. Collins, City Clerk