

MINUTES

The City Council of North Chicago met in a Regular meeting, Monday, March 17, 2025, at 6:02 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, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy, January

Absent: Coleman

- 4-1 North Chicago Exchange Club Presentation; Exchange Club Firefighter of the Year Award to Firefighter/Paramedic Thomas Williams.

Secretary Stella of the North Chicago Exchange Club explained the (4) pillars of the Community: Americanism, Community, Youth and Prevention of Child Abuse. Stella presented the plaque to Firefighter/Paramedic Thomas Williams for 2023/2024 Firefighter of the Year.

The Mayor clarified that the Public Safety Officers, firefighters and police officers placed their “lives on the line” daily and he appreciated their service. They go beyond above and beyond.

- 4-2 The North Chicago Fire Department Presentation; Firefighter of the Year Award to Firefighter/Paramedic Thomas Williams.

Fire Chief John Umek explained it was a long-standing tradition since **1983**, of the Fire Department to award a Firefighter of the Year. The 2024 award was for Thomas Williams. Chief Umek read of Thomas Williams’ quality services that he provided to the community.

Alderman Coleman entered at 6:08 p.m.

The Mayor read the plaque from the City.

- 4-3 Promotion of Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Sheehan to Lieutenant

Fire Chief John Umek read about his service qualities and qualifications. He has risen to the mission. The Mayor administered the Oath of Office as the Fire Department Lieutenant.

- 4-4 Oath of Office Administered to new North Chicago Firefighters/Paramedics

➤ Anthony Avila, Leonel Rodriguez and Daniel Tyrjan

The Mayor administered the oath of office to the new North Chicago Firefighter/Paramedics

- 4-5 Oath of Office Administered to New North Chicago Police Officers

➤ Daniel Contreras, Silvestre Delgado, Eric Drozdek, Jordan Kopf, Aleix Kotsaskis, Kyle Olson, Da’Nell Powell, Jose Tejo, Vinay Vellookunnel

The Mayor appreciated the number of officers joining the City of North Chicago. Expressed pride in having the many who wanted to join in moving the City forward. He administered the oath of office to the new police officers. He thanked them for all they did. He then administered the oath. The Board of Police & Fire Commissioners was also recognized and present.

- 4-6 The North Chicago Police Department Presentation, Police Officer of the Year Award to Officer Steve Roberts.

The Mayor said that Officer Roberts was very dedicated to North Chicago and familiar with many residents on a personal level and he considered him a friend.

Police Chief Lazaro Perez explained that Police Officer Steve Roberts started in **1985**. He has served in many roles as a police officer and named them, listing his accomplishments.

He earned the respect of the other officers. Chief Perez noted that Officer Steve Roberts received **90%** of the nominations for Police Officer of the Year and congratulated Officer Roberts. Officer Roberts stated his appreciation for the award from the Police Department.

V. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA

- 5-1 Approval of Minutes for Regular Council Meeting, **March 17, 2025**
- 5-2 Approval of Standing Committee Meeting Minutes, **March 17, 2025**
- 5-3 Approval of Treasurer's Report – **February 2025**
- 5-4 Approval of an Ordinance Amendment to a Special Use Permit, Final Plat of Re-Subdivision and Plat of Vacation
- 5-5 Approval of an Amendment to **Title 8, Chapter 13, Section 8A**, Increasing the Number of **B-W2** Liquor Licenses, (Requestor Lucky Spin NC LLC, Located at **1500** Sheridan Road)
- 5-6 Approval of an Amendment to **Title 8, Chapter 13, Section 8A**, Increasing the Number of **B-W** Liquor Licenses, (Requestor Mia's Pancake House & Grill, LLC, Located at **2314** Green Bay Road)

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans to approved items 5-1 to 5-6 as presented.

Alderman Jackson asked to move item **5-6** to the Regular Agenda.

Alderman Jackson moved, seconded by Alderman Coleman to moved item 5-6 to the Regular Agenda.

ROLL CALL FOR 5-6 TO REGULAR AGENDA:

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

Nays: January

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

ROLL CALL FOR 5-1 thru 5-5:

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

Nays: January

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Charles January Jr. -

Mr. January explained that John Spiros of Full Moon Restaurant, died and asked for prayers to family. Mr. Spiros used to feed the public. He was proud of the North Chicago Fire Department; they saved his life on Rte.41; the Council Meetings should start at **7:00 p.m. vs. 6:00 p.m.** Public Comments should also be included for Committee Meetings.

Tim Coleman – Resident & Employee

Mr. Coleman suggested total access to the security cameras, indicated in common areas where they should be located. There were approximately **40+** cameras at the Water Plant and stated they should

be in areas of concern not for people of concern. There were 2 operators on every shift and it's secure. There were real areas of concern that needed to be addressed.

Carmecia Hawthorn

Ms. Hawthorn was present to spread cheer and joy with the following:

- Father/Daughter Dance
- Easter Egg Hunt – **April 12, 2025**
- Sip & Paint – **March 28, 2025; 6:00 p.m.**
- Lake County Girls Flag Football Clinic – **April 5, 2025; 12-2:30 p.m.**
(Sponsored by the Chicago Bears)
- Circus Arriving **April 10-12 (\$10 Fee)**

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

- 5-6 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO TITLE 8, CHAPTER 13, SECTION 8A, INCREASING THE NUMBER OF B-W LIQUOR LICENSES, (REQUESTER MIA'S PANCAKE HOUSE & GILL, LLC, 2314 GREEN BAY ROAD)

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Allen to approve the Amendment for Title 8, Chapter 13, Section 8A, increasing the number of B-W Liquor Licenses.

Alderman Jackson asked the number of current **B-W** Liquor Licenses; Chief Jackson said 1 and only 1 was allowed.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jackson, Evans, Allen, Smith, Murphy

Nays: Coleman, January

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

- 7-1 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF PROCLAMATION – ARMENIAN GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman January to approve the Proclamation for the Armenian Genocide.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

- 7-2 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF CITY BILLS

General Grants Fund	\$ 922.76
Motor Fuel Tax Fund	\$ 13,357.91
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 241,332.00
Water, Sewer & Refuse Fund	\$ 1,665,576.28
Vision Fund	\$ 2,264.05
Retiree Premium Fund	\$ 747.40
Library Fund	\$ 119.00
Total	\$ 2,118,255.84
Special Bills	\$ 650.00
Total	\$ 2,118,905.84

MOTION:

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy to pay the bills of Council Run 03/17/25 (including Special Run) in the amount of \$2,118,905.84 when funds become available.

Alderman January asked if there were sufficient funds, when checks would be cut and sent, including amount in Liquid Water Fund. Comptroller Tawanda Joyner answered that there were sufficient funds available, checks to be processed Wednesday. She explained the balance in the Water Fund's liquid amount of \$3,841,678.30; Treasurer Vance Wyatt explained the non-liquid assets amount was \$1,510,454.44 at market closing.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: January

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The Mayor wished everyone a "Happy St. Patrick's Day!"

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9-1 Executive Session 5 ILCS 120 2 (c)(11) – Imminent Litigation / 2(c)(12) – Settlement of Claims

Alderman Smith moved, seconded by Alderman Jackson to suspend the Regular Order of Business at 7:00 p.m. to Executive Session 5 ILCS 120 2 (c)(11) – Imminent Litigation and 5 ILCS 120 2(c)(12) – Settlement of Claims.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED

Alderman Smith moved, seconded by Alderman January to resume the Regular Order of Business at 7:55 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

9-2 APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF SERVICEMASTER RESTORATION INVOICE NOT TO EXCEED \$11,849.41

There was no discussion.

9-3 APPROVAL FOR SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS – WORKER’S COMPENSATION

There was no discussion.

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

ATTEST:

Lori L. Collins, City Clerk