

# MINUTES

The City Council of North Chicago met in a Regular meeting, Monday, June 16, 2025, at 6:00 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, Murphy, Brooks

Absent: None

## **V. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA**

5-1 Approval of Minutes of Regular Council Meeting, **June 2, 2025**

5-2 Approval of Minutes of Standing Committee Meetings, **June 2, 2025**

5-3 Approval of an Ordinance Establishing the Compensation of Non-Represented Officers and Employees in the City of North Chicago for the Period of Employment from **May 1, 2025 – April 30, 2026**

**Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy to move item 5-3 to Regular Agenda.**

### **ROLL CALL:**

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

### **MOTION CARRIED**

**Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans to approve items 5-1 thru 5-2 in the Omnibus Vote Agenda as presented.**

### **ROLL CALL:**

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

### **MOTION CARRIED**

Alderman Jackson noted correction to the Council Meeting Roll Call, **June 2, 2025**. Alderman Coleman was marked absent.

## **VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

### **Foss Park**

Commissioner Carmecia Hawthorne – listed announcements for “Family Fund Day” at the North Chicago Library, **July 12, 2025; 10-2 p.m.**; Level up – Summer Reading Program; Music in Vision Park, **June 26, 2025, July 10, 24, 2025** and **August 14, 2025**; Movies in the Park, Lemonade Stand Contest. She reminded everyone the beach closed at **8:00 p.m.**

## **VII. REGULAR AGENDA**

5-3 Approval of an Ordinance Establishing the Compensation of Non-Represented Officers and Employees in the City of North Chicago for the Period of Employment from **May 1, 2025 –**

**April 30, 2026.**

**Alderman Murphy moved, seconded by Alderman Jackson to approve item 5-3.**

Chief of Staff Jackson questioned clarification if the ordinance impacted on other positions. Attorney Simon explained.

Alderman Coleman clarified motion to table removing item from Council Meeting to Committee for further discussion.

**Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Allen to remove item from Council to Committee, July 7, 2025 for further discussion.**

**ROLL CALL REFERRING TO COMMITTEE**

Ayes: Jackson, Coleman, Evans, Allen, Wray

Nays: Murphy

Abstain: Brooks

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**7-1 PUBLIC HEARING ON APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026**

**Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy to open the Public Hearing on Appropriations Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2026 at 6:13 p.m.**

Comptroller Tawanda Joyner provided briefing of the Appropriations Ordinance. There was a **5%** contingency included in the appropriations amount of **\$67,602,806**. She explained that it was the City's legal spending limit based on the budget. The Mayor invited the audience to speak. There were no comments.

**Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Jackson to close the Public Hearing at 6:17 p.m. and resume Regular Council meeting.**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**7-2 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF FY2026 APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$67,602,806**

**Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Allen to approve the FY2026 Appropriations Ordinance in the Amount of \$67,602,806 as presented.**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**7-3 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL - \$500 DONATION TO JUNETEENTH EVENT FROM THE LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS**

**Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Coleman to Approve the \$500 Donation to Juneteenth Event from the Legislative Members.**

Attorney Simon questioned clarification of each member or collectively. The Mayor explained it was the total donation amount of **\$500**.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

7-4 **CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF CITY BILLS**

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>557,691.65</b>
<b>Motor Fuel Tax Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>124,999.31</b>
<b>Capital Projects Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>451,379.41</b>
<b>Water, Sewer, &amp; Refuse Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>332,650.45</b>
<b>Retiree Premium Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>15,856.30</b>
<b>Library Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7,123.80</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,377,200.92</b>

**Special Bills** **\$** **252.00**

**TOTAL** **\$** **1,377,452.92**

**MOTION:**

**Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans to pay the Regular bills of Council Run 6/16/25 in the amount of  $\$1,377 + 252.00 = 1,377,452.92$  when funds become available.**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**VIII. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

Alderman Allen explained a funeral home business preferred to be established in the City of North Chicago. The Mayor said he would contact the prospective business owner.

Alderman Evans clarified that the City was trying to re-brand and needed to hire more residents from within North Chicago ensuring correct decisions including the Mayor as one moving the city forward.

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson explained the IEPA Sheridan Crossing Remediation. The RFP (Request for Proposal) opening was the following day. The City had received a release from IEPA, nearing the closing of the land conversion for the water tower project once secured additional funding. He noted that North Chicago was featured in a national magazine and the magazine was utilized for recruiting businesses.

Alderman Coleman explained the job openings, ribbon-cutting ceremony of (3 parks and he expressed his excitement. With Community Days approaching, he asked if the Park District staff received enough Community Days t-shirts. He asked if fliers were also placed in the Aldermanic mailboxes.

Alderman Brooks stated he brought the students from Neal Math & Science Academy to various parks which they enjoyed. He acknowledged those involved with the park development.

**Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Coleman to suspend the Regular Council meeting to Executive Session 5 ILCS 120 2 (c)(5) – Purchase of Lease of Real Estate.**

Alderman Coleman questioned legalities that was directed to Attorney Simon. He explained it was appropriate and legal.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Coleman to resume Regular Council meeting at 6:54 p.m.**

**MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

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

**MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

The Council Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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**Lori L. Collins, City Clerk**