

# MINUTES

The City Council of North Chicago met in a Regular meeting, Monday, July 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 1850 Lewis Avenue with Temporary Chairman presiding for Mayor Rockingham Jr's absence.

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

City Clerk Lori L. Collins call the meeting to order

## **II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **III. INVOCATION**

## **IV. ROLL CALL**

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

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

Absent: None

**Alderman Jackson moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy to appoint Alderman Allen as Temporary Chairman in the absence of the Mayor.**

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

## **MOTION CARRIED**

## **V. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA**

5-1 Approval of Minutes for Regular Council Meeting, **July 7, 2025**

5-2 Approval of Standing Committee Meeting Minutes, **July 7, 2025**

5-3 Approval of Disable Parking Permit – **1309** Broadway Ave.

5-4 Approval for Liquor License B-W(2) and G-P for **1015** Foodmart Inc.,**1015 10<sup>th</sup>** St. for New Officers; Secretary Albin Matthew; **33%** Ownership and Treasurer Tosmy Simon; **33%** Ownership

5-5 Approval for Liquor License B-W(2) and G-P for **1234** Foodmart Inc.,**1234** Sheridan Rd. for New Officers; Secretary Albin Matthew; **33%** Ownership and Treasurer Tosmy Simon; **33%** Ownership

5-6 Approval for Liquor License **H** and **G-P** for Rahyl Enterprises Limited DBA, Tee Pee **1801** Martin L. King Jr. Dr. for New Officer; President Harshida Patel **100%** Ownership

**Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy to Move item 5-5 to the Regular Agenda.**

## **ROLL CALL:**

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

## **MOTION CARRIED**

**Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Murphy to Approve all other items of the Omnibus Vote Agenda.**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Brandon Paige**

Mr. Paige explained he was a former North Chicago employee. He noticed upon renewing his driver license, **November for December 7, 2024**, for his CDL there was a ticket that remained from **2014** and following the license expired. He informed the Foreman what had transpired. It was difficult to obtain the new license at the DMV and the written test was required. He was asking for a second chance.

**Carmecia Hawthorne – Foss Park Commissioner**

Announcements – Movies at the Park showing this day, Music at the Park performance, Thursday at Hamlin Park near the Foss Park Golf Course, **7/10/25** and lastly the Caribbean Fest at the Foss Park lakefront, **July 25-27**. She encouraged participation.

**VII. REGULAR AGENDA**

- 5-5 Approval for Liquor License B-W(2) and G-P for **1234 Foodmart Inc., 1234 Sheridan Rd.** for New Officers; Secretary Albin Matthew; **33%** Ownership and Treasurer Tosmy Simon; **33%** Ownership

**Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Coleman to Table item 5-5.**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 7-1 Consideration/Approval of 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 Allen clarified that item **7-1** should have been returned to Committee Meeting.

Alderman Evans asked to discuss the CSO at this time. Alderman Murphy (H.R. Chair) clarified the possibility as requested. Alderman Allen focused more on position of the Building Inspection Manager from Grade A-**19** to A-**26**; a **\$35,000** annual increase. He agreed to remove the specific item.

Alderman Coleman emphasized “decent and in order.” He agreed and it wasn’t proper in accordance with Robert’s Rule of Order and needed it to be returned for further discussion.

**Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Coleman for Item 7-1 returned to Committee Meeting for further discussion.**

Alderman Brooks questioned clarification if the item could be discussed in Council or need to be returned to Committee Meeting. Attorney Simon explained per State Law, it was allowed to be discussed and voted accordingly. He also provided options on how it could be handled.

City Clerk Lori Collins clarified already a motion. Attorney Simon explained.

Alderman Coleman asked the most proper and common practice, directed to Attorney Simon. He clarified the Council members directed the item returned to Committee at the last meeting.

Alderman Evans reiterated his suggestion. Alderman Coleman wasn't prepared to repeat the conversation at this time.

Alderman Murphy agreed with Alderman Evans. Alderman Allen disagreed with the position annual amount. Alderman Murphy questioned clarification. Alderman Coleman emphasized should have followed Council direction.

Alderman Brooks agreed with council discussion hopefully resulting in moving forward. The Chief of Staff was present addressing questions.

Alderman Coleman clarified there was no deadline or penalties. Attorney Simon stated the last intent was discussion in Committee. Alderman Jackson questioned clarification. Alderman Coleman emphasized direction accordingly in decent and in order.

**Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Coleman to Table and return to Committee for further discussion.**

**ROLL CALL:**

Ayes: Jackson, Coleman, Allen

Nays: Wray, Evans, Murphy, Brooks

Absent: None

**MOTION FAILED**

**Alderman Coleman moved, seconded by Alderman Evans for continual deliberation with contents of the CSO for Item 7-1.**

Alderman Allen questioned clarification with the Building Inspection Manager unaware of the qualifications and where it was utilized from and disagreed with the amount to be paid. Chief of Staff Jackson explained the Council's concern with less manpower, the duties of the Building Inspection Manager etc. There were also savings vs. using a contractor. Alderman Allen emphasized the need to review with proof the savings including benefits.

Alderman Brooks asked if there was someone chosen for the position and secondly, the ability to remove the position and approving the remaining CSO. The Chief of Staff acknowledged it could. He stated on behalf of the E&CD Department, there was value in the position, supported by the quantity and quality measures.

Alderman Coleman explained his concern with the staff and protecting the taxpayer's money. He supported the Finance/Audit Chair's direction.

Alderman Evans questioned the impact of the position. The Chief of Staff explained the reduction in existing graffiti, grass cuts etc. He noted there was a delay in various projects. He would provide the needed data with the position reducing the time for plan reviews and substantial to the customers. On behalf of Alderman Coleman, would follow the incurrence code.

Alderman Evans stressed to be mindful with impact of the city's financial standpoint.

Alderman Coleman questioned the E&CD Chair Alderman Brooks on his view. He clarified would prefer that the E&CD Director could properly perform his tasks and officially move forward.

Attorney Simon inquired/reiterating the motion to remove the position of Building Inspection Manager and approve the remaining CSO positions. Alderman Wray preferred that all the council members were in union.

Alderman Brooks asked if they were ready for a sound vote upon unanswered questions.

He inquired if this could be completed before the 2-week timeline.

Clerk Collins reiterated the sentiments of Attorney Simon, amending salary ordinance removing the position of Building Inspection Manager approving the remaining CSO positions.

**Alderman Wray moved, seconded by Alderman Coleman to Amend Motion and approve the 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 without the position of Building Inspection Manager.**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

Nays: Jackson

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

Alderman Brooks questioned clarification of removing the position and approving the remaining positions of the CSO. Attorney Simon acknowledged.

Alderman Coleman asked how the removal could be resolved. Attorney Simon offered a suggestion for a Special Meeting.

**7-2 CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF CITY BILLS**

<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>707,669.74</b>
<b>Motor Fuel Tax Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,810.48</b>
<b>Skokie Highway TIF Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>43,007.55</b>
<b>Capital Projects Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>16,008.41</b>
<b>Water, Sewer, &amp; Refuse Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>140,479.89</b>
<b>Vision Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>939.27</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>910,915.34</b>

<b>Special Bill</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>760.00</b>
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>911,675.34</b>
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**MOTION:**

**Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks to pay the Regular bills of Council Run 7/21/25 in the amount of \$911,675.34 which included Special Bill: \$760.00 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 requested all sponsorship dollars that had been received for Community Days to be sent to the Council. Mr. Jackson acknowledged that he would provide that information.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

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

**MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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**Lori L. Collins, City Clerk**