

**MONDAY
AUGUST 18, 2025**

**City of North Chicago
1850 Lewis Avenue, North Chicago, IL 60064**

Following City Council Meeting



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2025
6:40 p.m.**

Mayor Rockingham asked the Council if there were questions about any of the reports. There weren't any questions therefore the meeting did not convene.

I. DISCUSSION OF DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS:

- Economic Development
- Police
- Engineer
- Public Works
- Finance Budget Report
- Treasurer – July
- Fire
- Water
- Human Resources

**JUDICIARY
COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2025
6:41 p.m.**

Alderman Wray called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: Coleman

**I. DISCUSSION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE TO
REGULATE BUSINESSES AND BAN ESTABLISHMENTS FROM SELLING PRODUCTS
CONTAINING DELTA-8 THC AND KRATOM:**

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson gave statistical information regarding the selling of Delta 8-THC and Kratom. There were several states banning them also. Limiting 21 years and older would not prevent compliance violations.

Alderman Murphy asked if there were restrictions currently; Chief Jackson said restrictions were same as for tobacco.

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Allen to allow Alderman Coleman remote participation via Zoom at 6:51 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Coleman

Treasurer Vance Wyatt asked for clarification of consumption by drink; Attorney Simon explained that those beverages were regulated by the state. Mr. Wyatt stated that there were many athletes that use Delta 8 to manage pain. Alderman Murphy was concerned with the gray area. City Clerk Collins asked if it was legal for athletes; Mr. Wyatt said it was not.

Alderman Murphy emphasized that the regulations was difficult. Alderman Wray asked if North Chicago banned but the state regulates the sell could it be changed. Chief Jackson said that it could be changed.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks that Judiciary Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING/ZONING COMMITTEE MEETING

**MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2025
7:11 p.m.**

Alderman Brooks called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

**I. DISCUSSION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT AMENDMENT TO
SAFE BUILT:**

Economic & Community Development Director Taylor Wegrzyn explained that the proposal was to extend the contract for SafeBuilt. They performed inspections and plan reviews. The contract would be extended by 1 year; currently used for approximately 4 years.

Alderman Brooks questioned if the 2 current vacant positions would eliminate the need for SafeBuilt. Mr. Wegrzyn said that it would not eliminate them but reduce some of their hours. Alderman Brooks asked if the contract could be terminated at any time; Mr. Wegrzyn said there was no minimum use just wouldn't assign any hours.

Alderman Allen noted that code enforcement was working on the weekend and noticed the many violators that was in Adjudication court. Alderman Jackson questioned the rates for service; Mr. Wegrzyn explained that the cost was based on the service performed. Alderman Jackson said that he would like to see the numbers prior to voting.

Alderman Brooks asked Mr. Wegrzyn for a breakdown of how SafeBuilt had been used. Mr. Wegrzyn explained the process; the City pays the initial cost and that cost is in turn charged to the applicant.

**Alderman Murphy moved, seconded by Alderman Evans that Economic
Development/Planning/Zoning Committee Meeting stand adjourned.**

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

**FINANCE/AUDIT
COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2025
7:19 p.m.**

Alderman Allen called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

I. DISCUSSION OF A REQUEST FOR RATE INCREASE (ANCEL GLINK LEGAL SERVICES):

Alderman Allen noted that there hadn't been a raise since 2022. Chief of Staff Jackson stated that there has been a reduction in billable hours. He had directed staff to present information to him first before approaching the attorneys. There were many passthrough dollars; as example, there is an escrow account to pay back monies for attorney fees when contractors need to pay. They started with North Chicago in 2016, the last rate increase was 2021. The compound CPI increase seemed reasonable.

Alderman Evans did not feel there was a need for an increase. He felt there should be increase salaries of the Mayor, City Clerk and Treasurer. The Aldermen's spending budget should also be increased. There were 10 elected officials obligated to live in the City and pay tax dollars back into the City. He was not suggesting that other employees weren't worthy of a raise. He noted that when taxes increase those elected officials are affected also. If the aldermen did not have a raise in pay, their budgets for community events should be increased. The Mayor, City Clerk and Treasurer offices should be considered for whoever is in those positions.

Alderman Evans suggested also reviewing other law firms. Alderman Jackson said it had been 4 years since the raise and there was no one that would stay on a job without a raise for that long. They were entitled to some form of increase. He was in favor of an increase of the proposed rate but not the passthrough rate.

Alderman Evans moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks that Finance/Audit Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

**MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2025
7:27 p.m.**

Alderman Jackson called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

I. DISCUSSION OF A RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING PROGRAM:

Chief of Staff Greg Jackson explained that the proposal was for more dense areas of the City. There were also drawbacks. Identifying and assessing the area; get the community opinion. There was cost associated also. He asked the Council for direction.

Alderman Coleman said the ordinance needed to be enforced. There was much illegal parking. Attorney Simon said the ordinance allows for booting the vehicle for too many unpaid parking tickets. Alderman Allen was not in favor of booting because of liability. Alderman Allen did not agree with allowing permit parking.

Chief Jackson suggested that other solutions could be reviewed. Alderman Evans said the cars currently needed to be ticketed; 2 a.m.-6 a.m. is no parking and should not be changed.

Alderman Wray noted there was a party in the 5th Ward and realized the issue parking on the street could cause for emergency personnel. Alderman Coleman referred to inoperable vehicles and eyesores. Chief Jackson said there were reports of inoperable vehicles; took place in more in 1st and 2nd Ward.

Alderman Jackson asked for suggestion on the next steps. Alderman Evans said there was an ordinance already in place; should not change. Alderman Brooks clarified that the issue was more cars than space; where do they move their cars 2 a.m.-6 a.m. what is the alternative?

Alderman Murphy asked if there was possibility of a pilot area, a certain area be permitted to assess if it could work. Chief Jackson said it could be a pilot project; there would be a spill over; other areas will attempt the same. City Clerk Collins asked if there was a limit for the number of cars allowed per household that would be allowed to park on the street. She noted that if there was no limit, people may have to park far away.

Treasurer Wyatt suggested a ticket be issued for cars allowed. Alderman Murphy said there would be an expense to permitted parking (costs for tickets, signs etc.). Chief Jackson said the cost to purchase the sticker would have to be worth printing them. Alderman Wray said something had to be done; asked Chief of Staff to come up with an alternative.

Alderman Coleman suggested that aldermen be allotted 10 parking permits because they know the various situations. Chief of Staff is concerned that constituents would disagree with aldermen's approval. Alderman Evans asked that speedbumps should be installed.

Alderman Coleman disconnected from Zoom.

Consensus: Allen – stop, Evans – stop, Brooks – stop, Murphy would like alternative - stop, Wray – go with majority, Coleman – left meeting

Alderman Murphy moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks that Public Safety Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

Absent: Coleman

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.