

**MONDAY
JUNE 16, 2025**

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

Following City Council Meeting



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

6:54 PM

Mayor Rockingham, Jr., called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

I. DISCUSSION OF DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| ➤ Economic Development | ➤ Police |
| ➤ Engineer – no report | ➤ Public Works |
| ➤ Finance Budget Report | ➤ Treasurer – no report |
| ➤ Fire | ➤ Water |
| ➤ Human Resources | |

There was no discussion for department monthly reports. He asked for the status report from Community Information Coordinator Hombre Darby on Committee Days.

Mr. Darby explained the amount of **\$50,500** raised by donors. The amount excluded vendor and t-shirt sales. The City had lost Allendale as a large Community Days donor. It was replaced with Northwestern Medicine, who had also reduced their donation amount. Collaborated with Community Partners in conjunction with Patrias Padres saving costs of estimated **\$13,500**. Community Days with the stage included monitors. LRS had donated dumpsters and porta potties. Nighthawk Printing donated larger inflatables, free of charge.

Alderman Allen questioned clarification if the amount of **\$50,500** was in the bank. Mr. Darby explained he could provide a copy of the information to him and was certain the money was guaranteed.

Chief of Staff Jackson confirmed the amount was committed to the City but not yet received. The amount was excluding the vendors and t-shirt sales. He estimated **\$18,000+**. Abbott was a past donor and recently he would have to follow the formalities of an annual grant for Community Days. He clarified they were confirmed as commitments and not banked.

Alderman Allen was highly concerned of a shortfall. The Chief of Staff recognized his sentiments.

Alderman Brooks questioned if **\$50,500** was committed. The Chief of Staff explained that **\$13,500** was included in the amount **\$50,500**. He, Alderman Brooks also asked the timeline reaching out to vendors for the event. Mr. Darby started making monies in **February**. Alderman Brooks suggested reaching out to vendors for donations and specific quality of entertainment preferably in month of **September** for the next year.

Alderman Coleman recognized Mr. Darby's efforts. Mr. Darby added he had received check donations late in October for the event. The money donated was from regular vendors and he was confident it would be received as in the past. He ensured there was a definite contract confirming the vendor's commitment.

The Mayor was concerned and echoed sentiments of Alderman Brooks. The donation amounts were lower and he has withheld signing contracts for entertainment. He explained the origin of Community Days compared to other communities, the City deserved the same quality. If the City didn't receive more donations within a week, the event would have to be postponed.

Alderman Jackson suggested removing a day. The Mayor clarified wouldn't be impactful. Mr. Darby strongly stated a significant saving with **\$2,000** vs. **\$15,000**. The Mayor explained he was seeking quality entertainment for the community.

Alderman Wray explained the constituents would understand if the City was unable to hold the event due to not being feasible. The Mayor explained it wasn't to that extent at this time.

Alderman Coleman was hopeful for the event. It was an opportunity for others to join in union. The Mayor explained has negotiated tent rental Big Top. He asked Mr. Darby for the cost of tents and he responded, **\$14,000**. Alderman Coleman supported the Mayor if financially needed.

Alderman Brooks asked if Mr. Darby could send the advertisement packets to the Aldermen.

Alderman Evans stated during COVID, the City lost many donors. He suggested one day and exclude the parade; consolidated to one big festivity day.

The Mayor stated would provide the status to the Aldermen accordingly.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans that the Committee of the Whole stand adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

**MONDAY
JUNE 16, 2025**

7:22 PM

Alderman Evans called the Public Works meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

I. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF FY2026 PUBLIC WORKS VENDOR LIST:

Interim Public Works Director Bob Miller explained an updated list of the vendors from the previous year.

Alderman Coleman questioned clarification. Public Works Superintendent Tommy Johnson explained that **Item I** was the **2026** Public Works Vendor list. He asked it to be approved.

Alderman Murphy asked if it would be placed on the Regular Council Agenda at the next meeting.

Alderman Brooks requested a highlighted version of the previous vendor list. Mr. Miller acknowledged he would provide.

Item I will be placed on the Next Council Agenda

II. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF FY2026 MFT RESOLUTION ESTIMATE COST AND MAINTENANCE ENGINEERING AGREEMENT

Trotter Engineer Steve Cieslica explained the **2026** MFT Resolution and Engineering Agreement. Seeking to spend **\$1,632,750** and the funds used were MFT Revenues. It was budgeted for an amount of **1.1mil**.

III. DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF LEWIS AVE. DETENTION BASIN PROJECT

Mr. Cieslica clarified the guarantee of the Lewis Ave. Detention Basin Project and a Phase **II**.

The Mayor questioned the quality of bids received. Mr. Cieslica had foreseen projected bids. Generally, Peter Baker & Son was the lowest bidder. Received amount of **\$2.75 mil** received through the DCEO (Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity) Grant.

Mr. Cieslica explained it was guaranteed money.

The Mayor questioned the number of Phases. Mr. Cieslica stated was a Phase **II** involving the storm sewer pipe upsizing west on **20th St.**, installing new storm sewers on Broadway Ave. The detention basin would create a strong capacity for preventing flooding.

Alderman Wray questioned clarification of the guarantee with the Lewis Ave. Detention Basin Project on Sherman Ave. Mr. Cieslica explained the pipe increase from **24** to **36** inches. The pipe size increased down the roadway from **12** to **18** inches.

Alderman Wray was highly concerned and asked if he could commence sooner. The Mayor agreed with the urgency. He was very appreciative of the funding.

Alderman Murphy questioned the timeline for both Phases. Mr. Cieslica explained.

Alderman Brooks questioned clarification of the Phases. Mr. Cieslica explained that Phase **I** was strictly excavating in building the detention basin commencing in the Fall season and completing it in the Spring, contingent upon the weather. He added it was a large detention basin and **2000** loads of dirt. Alderman Brooks asked if there would be significant change to the needed homes. Mr. Cieslica acknowledged it would.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks that the Public Works Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

**PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MONDAY
JUNE 16, 2025**

7:38 PM

Alderman Jackson called the Public Safety meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

I. DISCUSSION OF LEXIS/NEXIS:

Police Chief Lazaro Perez provided the information of Lexis/Nexis. It was a bridge for the crash report writing system to the website. It alleviated some records tasks. He clarified there was no city cost. The software was utilized previously before the Quicket Solutions Software system and included a pay module.

Item I will be placed on the Next Council Agenda, July 7, 2025.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Evans that the Public Safety Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.