

FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**DECEMBER 8, 2015
6:00 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

A Finance Committee of the Whole Meeting was held on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at 6:05 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 204 Pulaski Road, Calumet City, Illinois, with Finance Chairman Wosczyński present and presiding.

ROLL CALL

**PRESENT: 6 ALDERMEN: Schneider, Wosczyński, Jones, Williams, Munda (6:06)
Manousopoulos**

ABSENT: 0 ALDERMEN: None

Also present were Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush, City Clerk Figgs, City Treasurer Tarka (6:13) Finance Director Kasperek, City Engineer Roberts and Commissioner Manousopoulos.

There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order.

Public Comment There was no public comment.

#2: Multi-year plan Address Improvements needed for Yates Avenue Storm Water Retention Basin and Yates Avenue Storm Water Pump.

Mayor Michelle: "I asked City Engineer Roberts to place on the agenda. This was something that was sent to the Mayor and the City Council back in June. I don't think this is anything that will be resolved this evening.

I believe this will probably go back to the Public Utilities Committee. I just want to keep this in your forefront. There are significant things that need to be addressed.

While there are very expensive. I think that it is important that we don't lose sight of them and perhaps come up with a multi-year plan similar with what the city did with the Sewer and Water Pump Station Improvements that were needed.

This is the Yates Avenue Storm Water Basin which services the whole west side of town.

If everyone look at the amounts on these, just on the basin the work that needs to be done. The estimated cost is 8 million dollars. On the pumps the estimated cost is 1 million dollars.

I think we need to keep this in committee and we need not lose site of this.

City Engineer

At this time in the meeting, City Engineer Roberts gave a presentation of a 15 year plan to address improvements needed for Yates Avenue Storm Water Retention Basin and Yates Avenue Storm Water Pumps.

Mayor Michelle: "Perhaps this could just be discussed in Public Utilities Committee first and come out with a recommendation. I know that the sediment is always an issue and it is very hard to get the pond dry because of that.

It causes problem and it is very difficult to cut the vegetation growing in there because the pond is never dry. It is just an ongoing problem. Capacity is not there. This is whole west side of town that serviced by this pump and retention pond.

Maybe in committee it could be discussed and remove some of sediment out it or come up with a multi-year plan to address that.

We really need not lose sight of this. At some point, we don't want that to not work on the west side of town.

Alderman Jones: "Ernest, I thought at one of the meetings we suggested that the fire department do a control burn over there. Was that not discussed?"

City Engineer Roberts: "I think you are talking about a different location."

Alderman Jones; "I believe it is the same location."

City Engineer Roberts: "That is the first I heard of it. What we want to do is remove the sediment out and it has to be tested because Illinois has CCDD requirements that state we have to test that material if we want to take to a dump.

It has to be tested to make sure that there is nothing bad in the material and that is all part of the engineering that we would do to remove it.

What we plan on doing is to remove it over a period of years. Actually I come up with three different alternatives. One would be 7 years, 10 years and 15 years.

We can spread that cost out as well as remove it incrementally like the Mayor stated earlier."

Mayor Michelle: “That to answer the control burn. I know that the fire department kind of works in with that. I don’t know if it is that easy to get that kind of a permit. There was a reason why we couldn’t do that there.

Hopefully the Fire Chief will remember. I will get that information for your committee. I don’t think it is that easy to get a permit and I think because it is so moist in there, if you will, because there is so much water in there, nothing may even burn.

City Engineer Roberts: “Then you still have to remove the sediments regardless. Because you are effecting the capacity of the actual basin. Again when you have major rains and things occur, you want to make sure that location is functioning at its peak efficiency.”

Mayor Michelle: “We will get more information to go to Public Utilities and kind of keep this in the forefront. I know City Engineer Roberts will get more information to the council.

We have to do something there. I am concerned the pumps being able to pump out.”

Refer Yates Avenue improvements/Public Utilities Comm.

Alderman Jones moved, seconded by Alderman Wosczyznski, to send improvements for Yates Avenue Storm Water Retention to the Public Utilities Committee and come back with a recommendation to the full council.

MOTION CARRIED

#3:Traffic Signal LED upgrades

Approval to add traffic signal energy saving LED upgrades to existing contract for street light LED fixtures.

Mayor Michelle: “As you know, part of the bond money we are going to do the LED fixtures on all of our street lights in town. During this process Lyons & Pinner submitted information to Robinson Engineering to say we can include all the traffic signals as part of this proposal.

If the council so wishes, we would need a motion to include, we already got the street lights. This would be to include the traffic signals.”

City Engineer

At this time in the meeting, City Engineer Roberts updated the council on the traffic signal LED upgrades to existing contract with Lyons & Pinner.

Mayor Michelle: “Ernest what is the amount to add the traffic signals to this?”

City Engineer Roberts: “The amount is \$235,725.00.”

Mayor Michelle: “So basically, the city engineer is looking for direction if the council wishes to add the street lights for cost engineer savings to the program that we are doing currently.

We are moving that along as part of the bond issue with changing all the fixtures on the street lights.”

Add traffic signals
LED upgrades

Alderman Wosczynski moved, seconded by Alderman Manousopoulos, to recommend adding the Traffic Signal Energy LED upgrades to the existing contract to be paid out of bond proceeds; to be submitted to the city council for final approval.

MOTION CARRIED

Alderman Jones: "Ernest, this will be coming of the bond money, right?"

City Engineer Roberts. "Yes."

#4: Approval
Garbage/Recycling
RFP

Approval of Garbage/Recycling disposal RFP recommendation.

Purchasing/Personnel Director Vallis: "Aldermen, you all of a memorandum and a summary sheet. The committee which consisted of myself, Treasurer Tarka, Finance Director Kasperik and Commissioner Manousopoulos.

We met with both potential vendors who submitted RFP's. We cleared the air with some questions and things back and forth.

There were modifications in each RFP. We have reviewed those RFP's. There is a summary sheet attached to the memo on your desk.

At this point looking at both RFP's and the cost involved. The committee has recommended entering into final negotiations or contract talk with Republic Services for the new garage RFP.

The decision that has to be made by the city council whether or not, when the RFP was created there were two options in each RFP. That was with and without recycling.

On each RFP, Republic Services was cheaper. Whatever decision with or without recycling, as I stated the result of the RFP was Republic Services was cheaper."

Mayor Michelle: "Is there is a motion to approve the recommendation of the committee and direct the City Attorney to prepare a contract with Republic Services for the garbage/recycling disposal, with Option 2 which includes recycling.

Alderman Schneider: "With Option 2."

Alderman Jones: "Option 2, would be the recycling, correct."

Approve RFP/
Republic Services

Alderman Jones moved, seconded by Alderman Schneider, to approve the recommendation of the committee; direct the City Attorney to prepare a contract with Republic Services for the garbage recycling disposal, with Option 2, recycling.

(Alderman Munda voted no)

MOTION CARRIED

Treas. Tarka entered meeting City Treasurer entered meeting at 6:13 p.m.

#5: Reinstating Foreman position Approval of reinstating foreman position.

Commissioner Manousopoulos: "We would like the council to consider reinstating Sewer Foreman position. All the work that we have going on. We are finding a lot more trouble with our infrastructure.

We will need someone on hand a lot more to check on these jobs and verify that they need to be done. And with everything else that have going on, we find ourselves short handed spread all across the board.

Approval reinstating foreman position Alderman Munda moved, seconded by Alderman Manousopoulos, to approve the 4th Foreman position.

MOTION CARRIED

#6: Comcast Agreement Mayor Michelle: "The Comcast Agreement is on everyone's desk this evening. I know Thad, it was at a previous meeting but I think you had school, then it was on a regular agenda meeting and it was referred back to committee.

City Attorney Horvath did go through the entire agreement and reviewed it. Wherever you see the yellow highlight, I think is there. This is the 10 year agreement. It has to go before the city council for final approval. But everyone has copies without blanks."

Alderman Jones: "The questions dealt with some of the items that were blank, as you stated Mayor, City Attorney Horvath inserted the right of way information, put the relevant chapters of the municipal code.

He answered some of the questions, so if anyone has other questions."

Mayor Michelle: "It has to be go before the city council. If the council is in favor in presenting this for a final vote to the city council that would be the appropriate motion for tonight.

Refer Comcast Agreement/Dec. 21 2015 council meeting for approval Alderman Jones moved, seconded by Alderman Wosczynski, to refer item #6, Comcast Cable Agreement be placed on the next city council meeting of December 21, 2015.

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion invoices #7 thru #16

Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush: "Item #7-#16, are all the invoices, Alderman Jones would like to take the lead, these are all public utilities."

Alderman Jones; "I will direct the questions to Commissioner Manousopoulos. You have invoices, per the direction, we want to have invoices before they get on the bill listing, come before committee.

What you have before you are invoices from Calumet City Plumbing. The first item #7 is the Calumet City Plumbing invoice for hydro/excavated water main valve #18587 in the amount of \$9,060.00."

Mayor Michelle: "Just as a point of information, Alderman Jones. The reason the invoices, proposals or requests come before the committee is to approve actually doing the work.

Maybe Commissioner Manousopoulos can explain what this was for. Because apparently this is an invoice for work that had to be done. It is supposed to be approved by committee before it actually happens."

Discussion invoices

Commissioner Manousopoulos: "Item #7, this work is at Sibley and State Line. The sewer line collapsed which starting caving in the street. That is the reason there is an invoice because it couldn't wait because of the emergency.

If is something that can wait, as in the past we put in proposals and waited for approval."

Mayor Michelle: "If it is an emergency it still should come before the committee. Basically this was an emergency which is why we are seeing an invoice."

Place item #7 invoice on 12/21/15

Alderman Jones moved, seconded by Alderman Wosycznski, to place item #7, Calumet Plumbing, Invoice #18587 in the amount of \$9,060.00; on the last meeting agenda in December.

MOTION CARRIED

Item #8/Calumet City Plumbing proposal

Calumet City Plumbing proposal for UPM cold patch work for 1355 Freeland.

Mayor Michelle: "This is a proposal for work at 1355 Freeland, so this work has not been done."

Commissioner Manousopoulos: "This work has not been done. It is the same thing at this location the sewer line collapsed and is in need of repair."

Alderman Jones: "Will this money come out of the emergency sewer repair?"

City Treasurer Tarka: "Yes."

Approve work
1355 Freeland

Alderman Jones moved, seconded by Alderman Wosczyznski, to approve work as set forth in proposal for item #8 and place this item on the last meeting in December and accept the proposal and authorize the work to be done.

MOTION CARRIED

Item #9/Calumet City
Plumbing proposal

Calumet City Plumbing proposal for UPM cold patch work for 427 State Street.

Commissioner Manousopoulos: "This work has not been done and it is for another sewer collapse at 427 State Street."

Approve work/
427 State Street

Alderman Schneider moved, seconded by Alderman Jones, to approve work as set forth in proposal for item #9 and place this item on the last meeting in December and authorize the work to be done.

MOTION CARRIED

Item #10/Calumet
City Plumbing proposal

Calumet City Plumbing proposal for UPM cold patch work for 305 Memorial Drive.

Commissioner Manousopoulos: "This work has not been done and it is for another sewer collapse at 305 Memorial Drive."

Approve work/
305 Memorial Dr

Alderman Jones moved, seconded by Alderman Wosczyznski, to approve work set forth in proposal for item #10 and place this item on the last meeting in December and authorize the work to be done.

MOTION CARRIED

Item #11/Calumet
City Plumbing

Calumet City Plumbing proposal for SDR 26 PVC work at Sibley & Stateline.

Commissioner Manousopoulos: "This proposal they said is with the actual invoice."

Mayor Michelle "Item #11 was the proposal, but we already acted on the invoice."

Item#12/Calumet
Plumbing invoice

Calumet City Plumbing invoice for 155th Place and Stateline.

Commissioner Manousopoulos: "This work couldn't wait, it was for a sanitary sewer that collapsed at 155th Place and Stateline."

Place item #12
Calumet City
Plumbing/\$5,019.00

Alderman Jones moved, seconded by Alderman Manousopoulos, to place item #12 Calumet City Plumbing invoice for the last meeting in December.

MOTION CARRIED

Item #13/Calumet
Plumbing/\$5,351.00

Calumet City Plumbing invoice for Memorial Drive & Muskegon Avenue.

Commissioner Manousopoulos: "This was one that was already brought in for proposal approved."

Place item #13
Calumet City
Plumbing/\$5,351.00

Alderman Wosczyznski moved, seconded by Alderman Jones, to place item #13, Calumet City Plumbing invoice, for the last meeting in December.

Item #14/J & J
Newell/\$5,898.00

Invoice from J & J Newell work performed on 9/30/15 at 1466 Forest Avenue alley.

Commissioner Manousopoulos: "This is for a sewer line that collapsed. We had to tear up the sidewalk and asphalt and repair. This work was done."

Mayor Michelle: "In the future, these have to get approved prior to."

Place item #14
J & J Newell/
\$5,898.00

Alderman Williams moved, seconded by Alderman Wosczyznski, to place item #14, J & J Newell invoice for the last meeting in December.

MOTION CARRIED

Item #15/Patten Cat
estimate/Lincoln Pump
Station

Patten - CAT estimate for tank/valve expansion for Lincoln Pump Station.

Commissioner Manousopoulos: "This is for our Lincoln Pump Station. The fuel tank has dried out. "

Mayor Michelle: "Have we done this repair?"

Commissioner Manousopoulos: "We haven't done it, they are ordering parts for it to come in."

Place item #15
Patten -CAT/
Lincoln Pump Station

Alderman Jones moved, seconded by Alderman Manousopoulos, to place item #15 estimate from Patten - CAT for tank/valve expansion for Lincoln Pump Station for the last meeting in December and approve the work.

MOTION CARRIED

Alderman Jones: "Would this come out of Emergency Sewer Repair as well or would it come out of a different account?"

Mayor Michelle: "Isn't there a Lincoln Avenue Pump Station account, Treasurer Tarka." If there is a Lincoln Avenue Pump Station account that will be included on the agenda for The last meeting in December.

It will be clear where the money will come from on all of these items. Everyone will have account numbers provided."

Invoice #16/Calumet Plumbing/\$9,486.00 Calumet City Plumbing invoice for water leak repair Sibley & Commercial.

Commissioner Manousopoulos: "This was a water line leak that we couldn't locate at first. We located it and we are losing a lot of water before it hit the meter. So we went ahead and got that fixed."

Place item #16 Calumet City Plumbing invoice

Alderman Williams moved, seconded by Alderman Jones, to place item #16, invoice from Calumet City Plumbing water leak repair at Sibley & Commercial for final approval on the last meeting in December.

MOTION CARRIED

Ald. Manousopoulos

Alderman Manousopoulos: "Before the close the meeting, could we go back to the garbage disposal. If we go with Option #2, is there an additional charge that will be placed on the residents for recycling, or will we do what we talked about doing drop off locations throughout the city?"

Mayor Michelle: "I think it is up to the aldermen."

Alderman Manousopoulos: "Because we don't have a contract where in the amount that might be passed on to the residents. So would it be fair to approve Option #1 and maybe further discuss Option #2 and add to it."

Mayor Michelle: "I think at this point, since the motion has been made and they have left. I think perhaps City Attorney Horvath goes forward to work with them on the contract that can be discussed and be presented to the council when it comes for a final vote."

Alderman Manousopoulos: "It is on the agenda for Thursday."

City Clerk Figgs: "I think it will be on the agenda for the last meeting in December."

Alderman Manousopoulos: "If they work on it for the next couple of days, we won't have a chance to look at it."

Mayor Michelle: "I guess we won't vote on it alderman."

Alderman Manousopoulos: "I think we are rushing a little bit here."

Mayor Michelle: "There was a motion and it passed the city council to go with Option #2."

Alderman Manousopoulos: "So, I will withdraw my motion."

Mayor Michelle: "No."

Alderman Manousopoulos; "Ok."

Mayor Michelle: "It is going to go to the council meeting for final approval."

Alderman Munda; "This is a council meeting."

Mayor Michelle: "No alderman this is a committee of the whole meeting. So, what do you wish to do alderman?"

Alderman Manousopoulos: "I wish to further discuss it. If it is our third big meeting, we won't know what is in our contract."

Alderman Jones: "The motion was to direct the City Attorney to draw up a contract."

Mayor Michelle: "Right, it was put on the agenda because I didn't know that had to happen. We won't act on it, if you need more time, you need more time."

Alderman Manousopoulos: "Could we table it to the one following meeting?"

Mayor Michelle: "We could, but you have approved item #2, so are you saying that you don't want it to be number #2, you want it to be #1?"

Alderman Manousopoulos: "That is not what I am saying. What I am saying, we have not discussed, we did approve Option #2, but without knowing what extra it is going to cost. How much more are we going to put on the residents, is my question."

Finance Director Kasperek: "I want to take a little responsibility and apologize because I have been at a seminar the last two days."

Option #2, Republic was still cheaper on both Option #1 and #2, the entire 5 year contract. It wasn't much of a contest to decide which was which.

The thing is the recycling is about a little more than \$2.00 per month, if we took recycling option or we are going to do household recycling throughout the city. That is costing us more than we bill."

Mayor Michelle: "How much do we bill on our bill for garbage right now?"

City Clerk Figgs; "\$16.66 per month."

Finance Director Kasperek: "Ok, the cost to recycle would be \$18.60, that equates to just under a quarter of a million dollars a year to quantify over a 12 month period."

The reason we weren't pushing the one, is because it is up to the city council. If we are going to do Option #2, understand that it is going to cost us as a city about \$250,000 more a year in our revenue waste haul.

And our bills that we charge out right now don't cover. We pay for roll offs, we do get 93 roll offs at public works throughout the course of the year, but we actually see that number probably by double."

Mayor Michelle: "John, the question is on the recycling issue, could we stick to the issue here."

Finance Director Kasperek: "Recycling will cost us more than we bill our customers."

Mayor Michelle: "Well, right now if are charging residents \$16.60 for garbage and if we go with Plan #2 which was approved by the city council that is roughly a \$2.00 difference.

I guess the question to the city council, are we going to. I think, I am a supporter of recycling. We have heard residents come up several of the last meetings.

I think that \$2.00 is \$2.00 on their bill. Do we do cost of living on garbage or no."

Finance Director Kasperek: "Yes we do. Under the CPI, I would recommend that we change it because both contracts were at 3 percent. If we do that, we should change our revenues."

Mayor Michelle: "That is a discussion for another day. The question is, the council approved Option #2. In just reading the option, because we want to do recycling."

Alderman Munda: "No."

Alderman Manousopoulos: "The toters for recycling, is the city paying for that or do they provide those? Those are the type of questions I have."

Mayor Michelle: "George do you know the answer. They are providing the toters, free of charge."

Director Vallis: "Yes, they are providing the toters."

Alderman Munda: "Could I comment."

Mayor Michelle: "Alderman, when you time is up on the floor you can."

Alderman Munda: "I have asked twice to talk, I have multiple questions about this and I am frustrated right now about the proceedings of the meeting right now.

Mayor Michelle: "Have a seat alderman or I will have you removed. Calm down."

Alderman Munda: "I will not be removed from the chambers. I am elected and have every right to be in these chambers. I have asked twice to comment and you keep putting me down.

I have multiple questions about this."

Mayor Michelle: "To answer the question, they are providing the toters, correct."

Director Vallis: "Yes."

Mayor Michelle "Alderman Munda, what is your question."

Alderman Munda: "Are we going to pay for the toters. Are we going to get all the toters out of the alleys and Republic has to come and flip them out."

Have we discussed any of that?"

Mayor Michelle: "Did you ask those questions when those folks were here. I am sure Waste wants their toters back."

Alderman Munda: "Why didn't we have a committee meeting to discuss this in more detail."

Mayor Michelle: "This is a committee meeting alderman."

Alderman Munda: "Why didn't we discuss this before we had these guys here and have the contract."

Mayor Michelle "Why didn't you ask the question Alderman Munda?"

Alderman Jones: "Why don't we take a break and ask them to come back."

Mayor Michelle "No."

Director Vallis: "Mayor, if I could. We did talk to Republic and said if you were the successful bidder what is the transition time. They do have the transition plan for the toters.

To deliver there's and Waste be allowed to take them out if they so desire. There is a plan. About a 10-15 day plan."

Alderman Munda: "I was under the assumption, Madam Mayor, that we were going to discuss this in more detail moving forward not to agree on the contract until we had further meetings with both companies on how many roll offs they were going to take, incentives.

Like are they going to pay for the toters for recycling. Does the council know if they wish to have recycling for their residents."

Mayor Michelle: "They just voted on Option #2 Alderman, you voted no. But the rest of the council wish to have Option #2 which mean they wish to have recycling."

Alderman Munda: "So we are going to put curbside recycling and the toters are going out on the curb every Tuesday and this company is going to pick them up and put them on the lawns empty. All this was discussed."

Mayor Michelle: "All this was discussed Alderman."

Treasure Tarka: "Bi-weekly, alderman."

Mayor Michelle: "Bi-weekly. This was all discussed by the committee that you all put in charge of this. Which was Purchasing/Personnel Director, Public Works Commissioner, Finance Director and City Treasurer. It was all discussed."

I was under the assumption and after they had those meetings with Waste and Republic that they will come and have a public works committee meeting and inform the council of everything said in the meetings and what is and what is not being done. Then we would come and vote on this."

Mayor Michelle: "With all due respect, this is a committee meeting of the entire city council. This was the opportunity to discuss with those folks."

At this point, the next opportunity for you to discuss it is when we come up with an agreement with Republic that will be on the city council floor."

Alderman Munda: "My point is, from the time that we announced the public hearing on the RFP's until this point in time, this is the first time I am discussing all the details of each bid from each company."

Before we went and voted on approving the contract with the council, I just don't understand."

Mayor Michelle: "With all due respect, there was no public hearing. It was a public bid opening. You directed this city council, directed that four member committee to meet with them and hammer out the questions that are in your recommendation."

They were here this evening, both sides Waste and Republic for an opportunity for all of you to ask them questions. No one asked a question. You didn't ask one question."

Alderman Munda: "Did we have the public works committee meeting where we directed Billy, John, George and the committee."

Mayor Michelle: "Alderman, what action do you wish to take because it has been discussed and already voted on."

Alderman Munda: "I thought those individuals would report back to the committee."

Mayor Michelle: "We are in a committee meeting alderman, we are sitting in a committee meeting."

Alderman Munda: "But we are discussing it after we voted on it."

Mayor Michelle: "No alderman, we are in a committee meeting. When the motion was made, there was asked if there were any questions. You had not one question Alderman."

That is the time you should have asked your question. But we answered your questions that you just asked, I think."

Alderman Munda: "I just want to make sure this is the right decision for the removal of the waste and the recycling and that all the aldermen want recycling and what consists of."

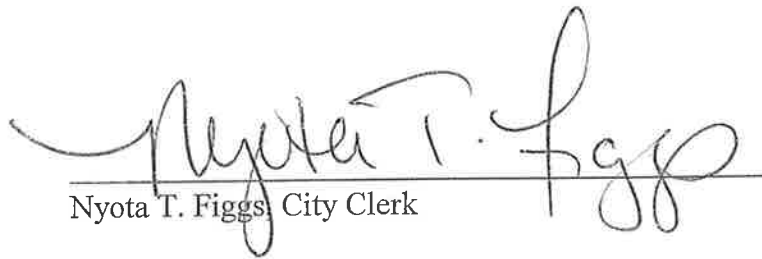
Mayor Michelle: "They do, they made the motion alderman."

Alderman Munda: "If it is an additional cost to the taxpayers on top of the water rate increases and everything else we have been going through. Now we are going to add more money on top of everything else.

That was my concern that we are going to charge, even it is a \$1.00 more, it is another bill that we have to put on the taxpayers. In light of what transpired here in the last couple council meetings, highly un-recommendable."

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment was at 6:42 p.m. on a motion made by Alderman Williams, seconded by Alderman Manousopoulos.


Nyota T. Figgs, City Clerk

MOTION CARRIED