

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

REGULAR MEETING

**City Council of the City of Calumet City
Cook County, Illinois**

OCTOBER 23, 2014

Public Forum

The following individuals spoke before the public forum held at 7:30 p.m.

Otherine Preston, 381 Saginaw Avenue, congratulated Alderman Williams for getting his GED program started. She also thanked Alderman Schneider for his response for grass cutting request and thanked Mayor Michelle for meeting with her regarding some issues.

Evelyn Reed, Tips at 170, Naperville, Illinois, regarding a proposal for city healthcare costs.

CALL TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance

The City Council of the City of Calumet City met in the City Council Chambers at 7:34 p.m. on Thursday, October 23, 2014 with Honorable Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush, present and presiding.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:	7	ALDERMEN:	Schneider, Wosycznski, Jones, Williams, Munda, Manousopoulos, Collins
ABSENT:	0	ALDERMEN:	None

Also present were City Clerk Figgs, City Treasurer Tarka, City Engineer Roberts, City Attorney Horvath, Economic Development Coordinator Swanson, Fire Chief Galgan, Finance Director Kasperek and Deputy Clerk Bonato.

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

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

<u>Finance</u>	Alderman Wosczyński had no report.
<u>Public Safety</u>	Alderman Manousopoulos had no report.
<u>Public Utilities</u>	Alderman Jones had no report.
<u>Ord. & Res.</u>	Alderman Collins had no report.
<u>H.E.W.</u>	Alderman Williams had no report.
<u>Permits & Licenses</u>	Alderman Schneider had no report.
<u>Public Works</u>	Alderman Munda: "Public Works is out cleaning alleys and cutting grass. The leaf program will begin in November. Residents will be notified at a later meeting."

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

City Clerk Figgs - report City Clerk Figgs: "Good evening council and residents. Early voting has started. It starts Friday, October 24, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., October 27-31, 2014, Monday thru Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday, October 25, 2014 and November 1, 2014 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m."

Early voting is also taking place on Sunday, October 26, 2014 and November 2, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The location is the Calumet City Public Library, 660 Manistee Avenue. The election day is Tuesday, November 4, 2014.

City Treasurer Tarka-report City Treasurer Tarka: "We did have the opportunity to attend the Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration at Lincoln School this past Tuesday. The children's presentation was both fun and informative. A grade school audience is a very hard audience to capture their attention. All of the presentations were interesting. Thanks to Lincoln School for putting together the program."

Amend handicap parking by deleting: 439 Gordon Alderman Schneider moved, seconded by Alderman Wosczyński, to amend the handicap parking ordinance by deleting: 439 Gordon Avenue.

MOTION CARRIED

Calumet Memorial Park District Halloween events Alderman Schneider announced Calumet Memorial Park District's scary story time and haunted hay rides this Friday, October 24, 2014 and Saturday, October 25, 2015.

The scary story time is for the younger children from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The haunted hay rides are from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Burnham Woods golf course at 142nd & Burnham Avenue. The cost is \$3.00 per person. Contact the park district at (708) 862-6640 to volunteer or visit www.mycmpd.com.

10/30/14 - Halloween party
@ Memorial Park

Alderman Schneider announced a Halloween Party on October 30, 2014 at Memorial Park from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The fee is \$1.00.

Block off Escanaba -
10/18/14

Alderman Wosczyznski moved, seconded by Alderman Schneider, to block off the area with barricades and garbage receptacles to the alley on 153rd Street, the corner of 153rd Street & Escanaba on Saturday, October 18, 2014 from 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

2nd Ward Food/Toy Drive

Alderman Wosczyznski announced information will be forthcoming to residents relative the annual 2nd Ward Food/Toy Drives.

Thank residents

Alderman Jones thanked the residents for coming to McDonald's for the breakfast conversation with residents. He will announce other dates at a future meeting.

Raising minimum wage/
11/4/14 ballot

Alderman Jones announced members from the SEI union are out discussing raising the minimum wage. He encourages residents to support the initiative. The item will be on the November 4, 2014 ballot.

Senate Bill 16

Alderman Jones announced his office in conjunction with representative Will Davis they will be discussing on November 5 after election about Senate Bill 16 which will effect local elementary schools.

The session will be held at South Suburban College from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.

Energy Fair - 11/8/14

Alderman Jones announced the Energy Fair on November 8, 2014 at Thornton Township.

Electronic document
shredding - 11/8/14

Alderman Jones announced on November 8, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at his office an electronic document shredding event. He encourages residents to participate

3rd Ward Toy Drive

Alderman Jones announced in conjunction with Senator Harris and Will Davis Target, Pepsi, Coca Cola will be having a 3rd Ward Toy Drive. Information will be forthcoming. Most of the toys will be donated to Thornton Township and Catholic Charities. He encourages residents to participate.

Residents can visit www.3rdwardcalumetcity.org to participate.

Battle of Badges - 11/15/14

Alderman Jones announced that the Calumet City Firefighters on November 15, 2014 will be participating in the Battle of the Badges with Restoration Ministries.

Contact 3rd ward office

Alderman Jones requested residents to contact his office at (708) 891-8193 for service requests or issues in the ward.

3rd Ward Newsletter Alderman Jones announced that the 3rd Ward Newsletter will be coming out in the mail for residents.

Give honor to God Alderman Williams gave honor to God.

Thank residents/River Oaks Townhomes Alderman Williams thanked the residents of River Oaks Town Homes for coming out to the day time meeting.

Thank residents participating Sweetest Day Alderman Williams thanked the residents for participating in the Sweetest Day event. There were about 75 senior citizens who enjoyed cookies.

Prepare resolution/School Board Appreciation Day 11/15/14 Alderman Munda moved, seconded by Alderman Wosczynski, to direct the City Clerk to prepare a Resolution for each school district to honor the school boards on School Board Appreciation Day on November 14, 2014.

MOTION CARRIED

Contact ward office Alderman Manousopoulos requested residents in need of city services or have issues in the ward to contact his office at (708) 891-8196.

Thornton Township Energy Fair - 11/8/14 Alderman Collins announced the Energy Fair on Saturday, November 8, 2014 at Thornton Township. Pre-registration is Monday, October 27, 2014 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Tuesday, October 28, 2014 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

He also added two additional dates of November 5, 2014 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and November 6, 2014 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For more information contact 596-6040, ext 3132 or his ward office at (708) 891-8197.

Veteran's Day ceremony 11/11/14 Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush reminded resident that November 11, 2014 and the Veteran's Day service will be held by the American Legion and VFW Post at the corner of River Oaks Drive and Wentworth Avenue at 11:00 a.m.. She encourages residents to attend.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS TO BE ACCEPTED AND PLACED ON FILE

SaBrina D. French/ commending Mayor Michelle Commending Mayor Michelle.

Comcast/channel line-up RE: Channel Additions and change to line-up.

Comcast/upcoming changes RE: Upcoming changes.

Treasurer Tarka/revenue & expense reports RE: Revenue & Expense Reports for September.

<u>Nicor Gas/payment options</u>	Advising of payment options for municipalities.
<u>IDOT/improvement Sibley to Torrence Avenue</u>	RE: Improvement of Sibley Boulevard to Torrence Avenue.
<u>Metropolitan Water Reclamation District/CID Recycling & Disposal facility</u>	RE: Notice of Noncompliance No. 91293 CID Recycling and Disposal Facility.
<u>Illinois Environmental Protection Agency/permit to manage waste</u>	RE: Land and Lakes 1 and 2 Compost Facility/Notice of Application for Permit to Manage Waste.
<u>Illinois Environmental Protection Agency/permit manage waste</u>	RE: Land and Lakes 1 and 2/Notice of Application for permit to manage waste.
<u>Illinois Environmental Protection Agency/permit manage waste</u>	RE: Land and Lake River Bend Prairie Landfill/Notice of Application for permit to manage waste.
<u>WOW Cable/rate fees</u>	Advising of rate fees.
<u>Pace/2015 Operating & Capital Program</u>	RE: 2015 Operating & Capital Program.
<u>Accept & place on file</u>	Alderman Manousopoulos moved, seconded by Alderman Wosczyński, to accept the communications and place on file.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

<u>Approve 1st Ward cleanup</u>	Approving the 1 st Ward Cleanup on Saturday, November 1, 2014.
<u>Advertise demolition bids</u>	Directing the City Clerk to advertise for demolition bids for the following properties: 248-153rd Place, 655 Lincoln Avenue (need to be boxed bid as one); 421 Pulaski Road, 1278 Price St., 611 Clyde Ave, 224-154th Place, 525-154th Place, 208-155th Street, 665 Mackinaw Avenue & 701 Burnham Avenue; upon receiving specifications from the Department of Inspectional Services.
<u>Approve new business</u>	Alderman Wosczyński moved, seconded by Alderman Schneider, to approve new business items as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

BUILDING PERMITS

FENCE

1645 Patricia Place - 3rd Ward

Approve permit

Alderman Jones moved, seconded by Alderman Wosczyznski, to approve the fence permit at 1645 Patricia Place as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Ord. #1: amending handicap parking by adding: 416 Madison & 1236 River Dr.

Ordinance amending Chapter 90 of the Municipal Code of the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois, Handicap Parking, by adding: 416 Madison Avenue and 1236 River Drive. (see attached page 6A)

Adopt ordinance #1 (Ord. #14-47)

Alderman Jones moved, seconded by Alderman Wosczyznski, to adopt the ordinance as presented, without the necessity of prior posting.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: 7

ALDERMEN: Wosczyznski, Jones, Williams, Munda, Manousopoulos, Collins, Schneider

NAYS: 0

ALDERMEN: None

MOTION CARRIED

Ord. #2: amending Chap. 94 Water Rates/Billing Cycle

Ordinance amending Chapter 94 of the Municipal Code of the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois. (Water Rates, Billing Cycle and Fees)

Adopt ordinance #2 (Ord. #14-48)

Alderman Manousopoulos moved, seconded by Alderman Munda, to adopt ordinance #2 relative to the water rates amend the part that states monthly billing to remain quarterly until further notice.

Water rate increase

At this time in the Finance Director Kasperek addressed the City Council relative to the water rate increase.

There was discussion regarding water rate increase.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: 6

ALDERMEN: Williams, Munda, Manousopoulos, Collins, Schneider Wosczyznski

NAYS: 1

ALDERMAN: Jones

ABSENT: 0

ALDERMEN: None

MOTION CARRIED

THE CITY OF CALUMET CITY
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ORDINANCE
NUMBER 14-47

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 90 OF THE MUNICIPAL
CODE OF THE CITY OF CALUMET CITY, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

MICHELLE MARKIEWICZ QUALKINBUSH, Mayor
NYOTA FIGGS, City Clerk

ERIC SCHNEIDER
MAGDALENA J. "LENI" WOSZYNSKI
THADDEUS JONES
RAMONDE WILLIAMS
ROGER MUNDA
NICK MANOUSOPOULOS
ANTOINE COLLINS
Aldermen

Published in pamphlet form by authority of the Mayor and City Clerk of the City of Calumet City
Office of the City Clerk - 204 Pulaski Road, Calumet City, Illinois 60409

ORDINANCE NO.: 14-47

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 90 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE
OF THE CITY OF CALUMET CITY, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois, by and through its home rule powers, as follows:

Section 1. That Section 90-317 (Handicapped parking) of Article V [Stopping, Standing and Parking] of Chapter 90 [Traffic and Vehicles] of the Municipal Code of Calumet City, Illinois, is hereby amended by adding the following language to subsection G (Signed areas) to read, as follows:

416 Madison Avenue

1236 River Drive

Section 2. The Commissioner of Streets and Alleys is hereby authorized and directed to install the proper signs in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Ordinance.

Section 3. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity thereof shall not affect any other provision of this Ordinance.

Section 4. All ordinances, resolutions, motions or orders in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

ADOPTED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Calumet City, Cook County,
 Illinois this 23rd day of October 2014, pursuant to a roll call vote, as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	PRESENT
Schneider	X			
Wosczynski	X			
Jones	X			
Williams	X			
Munda	X			
Manousopoulos	X			
Collins	X			
(Mayor Qualkinbush)				
TOTAL	<u>7</u>			

APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois on this
23rd day of October 2014.


 Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush
 MAYOR

ATTEST:

 Nyota T. Figgs
 CITY CLERK

THE CITY OF CALUMET CITY
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ORDINANCE

NUMBER 14-48

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 94 OF THE MUNICIPAL
CODE OF THE CITY OF CALUMET CITY, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
(WATER RATES, BILLING CYCLE AND FEES)**

MICHELLE MARKIEWICZ QUALKINBUSH, Mayor
NYOTA T. FIGGS, City Clerk

ANTOINE COLLINS
THADDEUS JONES
NICK MANOUSOPOULOS
ROGER MUNDA
ERIC W. SCHNEIDER
RAMONDE D. WILLIAMS
MAGDALENA J. ALANI@ WOSCZYNSKI

Aldermen

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City Attorneys - 3318 West 95th Street - Evergreen Park, Illinois 60805

ORDINANCE NUMBER: 14-48

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 94 OF THE MUNICIPAL
CODE OF THE CITY OF CALUMET CITY, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
(WATER RATES, BILLING CYCLE AND FEES)**

WHEREAS, the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois (the *ACity@*) is a home rule municipality pursuant to Section 6(a), Article VII of the 1970 Constitution of the State of Illinois, and as such may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs (the *AHome Rule Powers@*); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Calumet City (the “*Corporate Authorities*”) may from time to time amend the text of the Municipal Code of Calumet City when it is determined to be in the best interests of the City; and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Authorities are charged with the responsibility of regulating water rates in a manner to be able to continue to provide City services and for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare of its citizenry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois, by and through its Home Rule Powers, as follows:

Section 1. That the above recitals are incorporated herein and made a part hereof, as if fully set forth in their entirety.

Section 2. That Section 94-171 (“*Established; Due date*”) of Division 1 (“*Generally*”) of Article V (“*Water Systems*”) of Chapter 94 (“*Utilities*”) of the Municipal Code of Calumet City, Illinois, is hereby amended by deleting the stricken language and adding the following underlined language to read, as follows:

Sec. 94-171. Established; due date.

The rate for all water supplied by the city, to users who reside within the corporate boundaries of the city, payable on the first day of each period shall be ~~three dollars and thirty-four cents (\$3.34)~~ six dollars and sixty cents (\$6.60) per one thousand (1,000) gallons of water used starting ~~January February 1, 2007~~ 15 or at such time thereafter upon the establishment and phased in issuance of a monthly bill cycle for water and sewer services to a user. The rate for all water supplied to those who reside in an unincorporated area, the rate shall be ~~four dollars and eighty-one cents (\$4.81)~~ seven dollars and sixty cents (\$7.60) per one thousand (1,000) gallons of water used starting ~~January February 1, 2007~~ 15.

In addition starting ~~May 1, 2008~~ February 1, 2015, fees shall be adjusted upward or downward consistent with the ~~Consumer Pricing Index—Chicago Region using the annual calendar year from the preceding year in which new rate increase or decrease is to take place~~ automatically if the City of Hammond raises the water rates for the City and such adjustments will be administered by the director of finance. The dollar adjustment for the unincorporated purchasers of water will be the same amount as those living within the corporate boundaries of the city.

Section 3. That Section 94-71 (“Bills; penalty for late payment; persons liable”) of Article III (“Collection of Water and Sewer Bills”) of Chapter 94 (“Utilities”) of the Municipal Code of Calumet City, Illinois, is hereby amended by deleting the stricken language and adding the following underlined language to read, as follows:

Sec. 94-71. Bills; penalty for late payment; persons liable.

Bills for water and sewer services shall be rendered ~~monthly~~ quarterly and shall be delinquent ten (10) days after the due date stated on the bill. In the event of failure to pay the bills within the said ten-day period, an additional ten (10) percent shall be added to the bill. Accounts not paid within twenty (20) days of the due date stated on the bills shall be designated for disconnection. The owner of any premises to which any water and sewer service is rendered is liable to pay for such service and such service is to be provided by the city, regardless of any separate private agreements that the owner may maintain with a third-party liability.

Section 4. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity thereof shall not affect any of the other provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 5. All ordinances, resolutions, motions or orders in conflict with this

Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

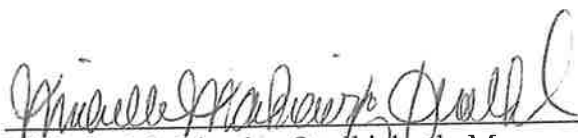
Section 6. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

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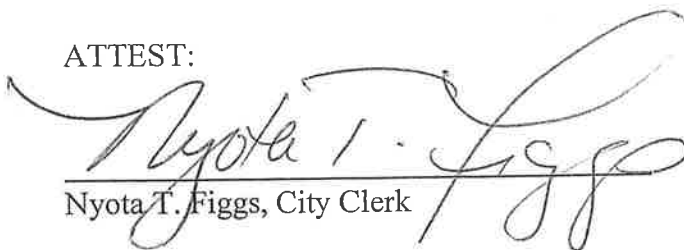
ADOPTED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois this 23rd day of October, 2014, pursuant to a roll call vote, as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	PRESENT
Collins	X			
Jones		X		
Manousopoulos	X			
Munda	X			
Schneider	X			
Williams	X			
Wosczyński	X			
(Mayor Qualkinbush)				
TOTAL	6	1		

APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois on this 23rd day of October, 2014.


Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush, Mayor

ATTEST:


Nyota T. Figgs, City Clerk

FINANCIAL MATTERS

- #1: Remit payment/Mesirow Financial (\$92,171.00) Direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to Mesirow Financial (Safety National) in the amount of \$92,171.00 for the Excess Worker's Compensation renewal premium from account #010501130.
- Approve the execution of the Annual Service Agreement Letter with Mesirow Financial and remit payment in the amount of \$25,000 to Mesirow Financial for the annual service fee; to be charged to account #010502271.
- #2: Remit payment/CSX Transportation/\$8,100.80 Approve the lump sum agreement for PIWAX: Pipeline Water Crossing in the amount of \$8,100.80; direct the City Treasurer to remit payment and charge to account #01099-52990 and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement.
- #3: Remit payment/Calumet City Plumbing/\$4,700 Accept the recommendation of Robinson Engineering (from 6/21/13); direct Calumet City Plumbing to install a catch basin in the alley behind 660 Clyde Avenue (alley between Clyde & Chappel) in the amount not to exceed \$4,700; direct the City Treasurer to remit payment and charge to account #03036-52107, 4th Ward Catch Basin.
- #4: Approve Geocon Professional Services (264 Torrence Avenue) Approve the Geocon Professional Services as the City's consultant and representative for all engineering and environmental matters related to the remediation and monitoring of the Quick Stop Mobile LUST Project #20140788 (264 Torrence Avenue); authorize the Fire Chief to oversee same.
- #5: Remit payment Illinois State Treasurer/\$7,130.83 Direct the City Treasurer to issue a check in the amount of \$7,130.83 to the Illinois State Treasurer for the 2014 Annual Report for Unclaimed Property; to be charged to account #01099-52990.
- #6: Approve payment/ \$2,000/Cavalier Inn Approve payment of \$2,000.00 to Cavalier Inn for the Polish Heritage Day; direct the City Treasurer to remit payment; to be charged to account #01099-52683.
- #7: Remit payment/ Robinson Engineering/ \$44,183.40 Approve the payment of \$44,183.40 to Robinson Engineering for work done on the IKE Planning Grant; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment to be charged to account #01099-52600.
- #8: Approve City Treasurer Emergency Payments (\$3,054.49) Approve the City Treasurer's Emergency Payments (\$3,054.49) in the following amounts and charge to the accounts as stated: Midwest Operating Engineers (\$600.00) #01099-51201; State Farm Insurance (\$2,243.09) #01099-51301 & Reliance Safety (\$211.00) #01041-54130.
- #9: Approve Collective Bargaining Local 700 contract (clerical staff) Approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Calumet City and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 700 (clerical staff) for the period May 1, 2014 through and including April 30, 2018.

#10: Approve payroll Approve payroll (\$895,659.78)

#11: Approve bill listing Approve bill listing (\$1,152,587.75)

Discussion item #2 At this time in the meeting City Treasurer discussed item #2 Pipeline Water Crossing and the agreement relative to the easement.

Approve financial matters Alderman Wosczyński moved, seconded by Alderman Manousopoulos, to approve financial matters #1 thru #11 as presented and amended.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: 6	ALDERMEN: Williams, Munda, Manousopoulos, Collins, Schneider, Wosczyński
NAYS: 1	ALDERMAN: Jones
ABSENT: 0	ALDERMEN: None

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion on bill listing Alderman Jones discussed item on the billing listing from Broad Street Studios relative to the pink ribbons and the overtime incurred.

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush stated that the expenditure from Broad Street Studio didn't require council action prior to be approved and it was approved under the normal purchasing procedures.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Water Rate Increase Alderman Jones addressed the council regarding water rate increase.

At this time in the meeting Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush discussed water rate increase followed by a lengthy discussion.

Mayor Michelle - statement Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush: "I would like to address the statements and would like my comments for the record. It is truly unfortunate that Alderman Jones who has served as the Public Utilities Chairman which pays \$600.00 a month and has been aware of the financial impact of this increase passed onto us by the City of Hammond but he chose not to have a committee meeting in two years about anything. Not one public utilities committee meeting.

In fact, Alderman Jones had a private meeting with the Finance Director during this past summer during budget time and two years ago we were all made aware of that increase and he didn't address it.

I said as a point of information and I will address those comments. Alderman Jones you are saying that I introduced and put an ordinance on this floor alderman and you are lying Alderman just like you did in your robo call.

Ald Jones - statement

Alderman Jones: "For the record and fact residents. Two years ago I addressed this city council and said we need to deal with this water issue. For a fact I had a meeting with Finance Director Kasperek and met in these chambers addressing these issues. For a fact there is almost \$500,000 of discrepancy in the Water Fund which I address at a city council meeting.

For a fact the Mayor introduced an ordinance and suggested that we increase the water rates 73 percent. For a fact in January residents will be called on to pay 73 increase in your water bill. For fact it is true that the City of Hammond and the City of Chicago raised the water rates.

Two years ago I suggested this city council deal with it. There is other ways to deal with it. I have addressed many tough votes. This vote I am not voting on because there is discrepancy in the Water Funds. You can't go from 5 million dollar surplus two years to almost a 3 million dollar deficit now.

The Mayor wants to address those issues but residents should be concerned that 73 percent on your water bill you have to blame the Mayor and this City Council for doing that. I voted no. I would have yes if I would have got the answers that the Mayor stated that at this public meeting that an audit would have been done on the water fund.

I did call meetings. There is aldermen that haven't had meetings as committee chairman as well. Since the Mayor wants to make that an issue. We all work together collectively when it comes to our water funds and our meetings.

I addressed this city council almost two years ago and suggested we deal with this water increase and we didn't. I am voting no. I had the right to vote no. I explained this to residents and it wasn't like I was hiding it.

If you got your feelings hurt about me telling residents that there will be a 73 percent increase we all should have had town hall meetings and told our residents that there was 73 percent increase in the water rates.

We all should have did that. We didn't do that. I addressed at the time. I didn't want to make that an issue tonight Mayor. I simply wanted to make sure that the issues on this agenda was heard probably and you went into a tyrate. Addressing the residents there will be a 73 percent increase on your water bill in January."

I would like to now finished my report Mayor unless you are going to have another point of order?"

Install lights/Sibley Blvd.

Alderman Jones requested from the State of Illinois to install lights on Sibley Boulevard and 94. This will address residents who had concerns on Stony Island and Prairie Avenue. He will forward information to the city engineer.

IDOT will also be out to cut grass around the ramp at 94 by Stony Island and Sibley Boulevard.

Contact ward office Alderman Jones requested residents having concerns or ward issues to contact his office at (708) 891-8193.

November 4, 2014 election Alderman Jones announced the election on November 4, 2014. He encourages residents to come out and vote. Early voting will end November 2, 2014.

Tickets circus @ United Center Alderman Jones announced the United Center provided coupons for the circus November 6 thru November 16, 2014 and November 19 thru November 30, 2014.

Tickets from his office are \$9.00. Any residents interesting in attending the circus stop by his ward office or the City Clerk's Office.

Recognize wife & son Alderman Williams recognized his wife and son who attended their first council meeting.

Ald. Munda - statement Alderman Munda: "I would like to cover some bullet points in regards to the water increase. We were all aware of the water rate increases from Hammond. I want to clarify for the record.

The order of operations in the city and the city council. Information on these types of items and these type of issues come directly from the committees.

Alderman Wosczyznski as the Finance Committee Chairman advises us of a committee meeting and then brings the information in regard to the budget to the city council and relays the information to the council so we can go home and digest that information. Then come back at a later meeting and vote on those issues.

To sit here and argue about not knowing about the water rate increases or that a certain alderman not raise the water rates or was aware and no one else wanted to do anything because we should have done this a long time ago.

The proper place for that in my opinion would be at public utilities meeting in regard to the water rate increases at the time that there happening. They didn't happen last year or anytime this year. To sit here and vote against the water rate increases knowing that if we don't raise those water rates and the city continue to absorb those costs next year during budget there will be a huge whole in our budget and inhibit us from doing other things with those funds.

If an issue comes up with public works like some new vehicles that were purchased that should be discussed at the public works committee and then send to the city council to be approved."

Ald. Collins - report Alderman Collins: "No one wants to raise taxes and no one wants to give residents additional fees. I have spoken to the Finance Director and we have been going through this. According to the numbers that I have been presented with 2 ½ million dollar deficit. Roughly \$6,000 per day is what the city is responsible for.

Now this issue we are your elected officials until 2017. We can string issues out until you seat your next city council. We can push it onto somebody else. I can grand stand and say I am not voting on this issue. Everyone has a right to vote how they want to vote.

But we have to look at the numbers and according to what I have been presented with \$6,000 a day this city is on the hook for. Yes this probably could have been addressed early. The fund was solid and we had those numbers. It is a tough decision especially when people are in financial situations. You elect us to make these decisions. I have gotten phone calls and spoke to residents.

These things are being imposed on us. Really the southland we are not exempt. I am not opposed to the City of Chicago or Hammond charging fair rates so that we can support the infrastructure so we can pay for labor and delivery of the water.

We don't have any regulation in the southland. We don't have a body to govern or fight and speak with the City of Chicago that can really give us relief.

I think this issue go to the state legislature. I don't know how far it went. We do have an issue with this. There was not another choice.

I don't foresee anyway that we can up 2 ½ million dollars and we have to try to make the decisions to keep the city solvent. I am doing what I am elected to do. It is a tough choice and I don't want to raise taxes. The water rate has been increased. I am sure that this city council if there is any way we can re-visit or find other ways to realize to bring in money that would be my goal."

Garden House parking

Alderman Collins stated for the residents of Garden House on Ring Road that parking is available at Target for your guest until 12 midnight. He has spoken to the Manager

The owners of the Garden House are not willing to make available additional parking. They are landlocked unless that want to create other spaces on their grassy areas.

He will be meeting with Sam's Club to discuss parking with them.

Mayor Michelle-statement

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush: "The City Council is not raising taxes that has been put out in a robo call. What we are raising are the fees that the increase in the fees that were passed on to this city by the City of Hammond.

Residents understand that every community around us South Holland, Chicago Heights, Dolton, Lansing, Lynwood, Homewood, Blue Island they all have been hit by this increase. They have been relentless. They haven't even tried to negotiate with our finance team when they went to talk to the City of Hammond.

It is unfortunate but it is something that we had to do. I want to make it clear we are not raising taxes. In fact, the city council hasn't raised taxes in two years.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment was at 8:31 p.m. on a motion made by Alderman Manousopoulos and seconded by Alderman Schneider.

MOTION CARRIED



Nyota T. Figgs, City Clerk

/rb