

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

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

NOVEMBER 10, 2011

Public Forum

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

Hope Allen, 1033 Burnham Avenue, regarding the appointment of Inspector General.

CALL TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance

The City Council of the City of Calumet City met in the City Council Chambers in a regular meeting on Thursday, November 10, 2011 at 7:34 p.m. with Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush, present and presiding.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 7

ALDERMEN: Gonzalez, Wosczynski, Jones, Wilson, Munda,
Manousopoulos, Collins

ABSENT: 0

ALDERMEN: None

Also present were City Treasurer Tarka, City Engineer Roberts, City Attorney Odelson, Assistant Chief Zori, Fire Chief Galgan, Finance Director Kasperek, Community Development Director Gigliotti, Purchasing/Personnel Director Vallis, Insurance Investigator Larson and Deputy Clerk Bonato.

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

Approval of minutes

Alderman Munda moved, seconded by Alderman Gonzalez, to approve the minutes of October 27, 2011 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

<u>Finance</u>	Alderman Wilson had no report.
<u>Public Safety</u>	Alderman Wosczynski had no report.
<u>Public Utilities</u>	Alderman Gonzalez had no report.
<u>Ord. & Res.</u>	Alderman Jones had no report.
<u>H.E.W.</u>	<p>Alderman Munda: "November is Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month. Having trouble with memory does not automatically mean a person has Alzheimer's Disease. There are a number of warning signs, however, that may point to the need for a medical evaluation. Obtaining an accurate diagnosis as soon as possible is one of the most important things that can be done to improve a person's quality of life.</p> <p>Information regarding the ten warning signs of Alzheimer's disease is available at the information centers at the Clerk's Office, the Sandridge Center and the Argento Senior Center.</p> <p>Additional information about warning signs and the early diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease can be obtained from the Alzheimer's Association at www.ALZ.org They also have a 24 hour help line at 800-272-3900.</p>
<u>Permits & Licenses</u>	Alderman Collins had no report.
<u>Public Works</u>	Alderman Manousopoulos had no report.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

<u>Second Ward town meeting 11/16/2011</u>	Alderman Wosczynski announced a Second Ward Town meeting on Wednesday, November 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Calumet City Public Library. All residents are encouraged to attend. The Cook County Board of Review representative will be available and residents asked to bring tax bills.
<u>2nd Ward Food Drive Nov. 5-Nov. 30, 2011 drop</u>	<p>Alderman Wosczynski announced the 24th Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. Residents are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items at the following</p> <p>off locations: Bank Financial, BMO Harris and First Savings of Hegewisch.</p>
<u>Veteran's Day - 11/11/11 celebration - American Legion</u>	Alderman Wosczynski announced that the American Legion Post #330 will be having a Veteran's day celebration on Friday, November 11, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. All residents are encouraged to attend.

Thornton Township
Veteran's Day - 11/11/11

Alderman Wosczyński announced that Thornton Township will be having a Veteran's day celebration on Friday, November 1, 2011 at 12:00 p.m. at 333 E. 162nd Street, South Holland and the 150th commemoration of the Civil War, All residents are encouraged to attend.

Present thank you cards
to fire department

At this time in the meeting, Alderman Wosczyński submitted thank you cards to the Fire Chief and department from the St. Andrew the Apostle CCD Program.

Thank residents attending
tax seminar

Alderman Jones thanked the residents for attending the tax seminar sponsored by his office and Commissioner Larry Rogers.

Contact office regarding
ward ward issues

Alderman Jones encourages residents to contact his office or email regarding concerns or issues at tjones@calumetcity.org.

Illinois Hardest Hit Program

Alderman Jones stated any residents having trouble paying their mortgage due to job loss or income for facing foreclosure to contact his office or the state regarding the Illinois Hardest Hit Program which they will pay up to 19 months.

Illinois CPA Program/free
tax services

Alderman Jones announced the Illinois CPA Program is providing free tax services for military personnel contact (800) 993-0407 or visit www.icpas.org

Honor & support veterans

Alderman Jones congratulated and thanked his brother who is a retired marine and thanked him for his service to his country and honored his father who served in the Korean war. He encourages residents to attend ceremonies celebrating Veteran's day.

Prepare resolution/Rev.
Isaac Floyd

Alderman Wilson moved, seconded by Alderman Gonzalez, to prepare a Resolution honoring his pastor Reverend Isaac Floyd on the 7th Anniversary of Joy Fellowship Baptist Church.

MOTION CARRIED

Tree trimming/tree removal
fourth ward

Alderman Wilson encourages residents to contact his office regarding tree trimming or tree removal at (708) 891-8194.

Thank veteran's

Alderman Wilson thanked all the veteran's that are currently serving our country and have retired and served in the past. He encourages residents to attend a veteran's day program.

Leaf program

Alderman Munda announced that the leaf program is in effect and the schedule is on the government access cable channel or contact the public works department at (708) 891-8160.

Thank veteran's

Alderman Munda thanked all the veteran's for their service all that are currently serving our country.

<u>Leaf pickup program</u>	Alderman Manousopoulos stated that the leaf pickup program started on November 7, 2011 and due to the rain the pickups are a little behind and encourages residents to be patient.
<u>Prepare resolution/ Monard Award Foundation</u>	Alderman Collins moved, seconded by Alderman Gonzalez, to prepare a Resolution to the Monarch Awards Foundation congratulating them on their 29 th Annual Gala and selecting Alderman Collins as the Monarch Award Recipient.
<u>Annual Thanksgiving turkey dinner - 11/12/11</u>	Alderman Collins announced that the Thornton Township and the City Council will be sponsoring turkey dinners at South Suburban College on Saturday, November 12, 2011 from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. Free hot meals will be given to residents of Thornton Township.
<u>Tax Appeal Summit 11/19/11 @ T. F. North</u>	Alderman Collins announced a Tax Appeal Summit on Saturday, November 19, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at T. F. North High School. Present will be Cook Board of Review Commissioner Larry Rogers will be present to help residents lower their assessed value on their property. He encourages to attend and bring a tax bill.
<u>Collins Care Package Initiative</u>	Alderman Collins thanked the residents for assisting his office with Collins Care Package Initiative. He thanked everyone for their support.
<u>Holiday pot luck/Park of River Oaks - 11/18/11</u>	Alderman Collins announced that on November 18, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. he will be out at the Park of River Oaks for the holiday pot luck.
<u>Garden House pot luck/</u>	Alderman Collins announced that on November 21, 2011 he will be at the Garden Ring Road, 1350 Ring Road for the holiday pot luck.
<u>Victory Center pot luck/ 11/22/11</u>	Alderman Collins announced that on November 22, 2011 he will be at the Victory Center at 4:30 p.m. for the holiday pot luck.
<u>7th Ward Holiday event 12/10/11</u>	Alderman Collins announced the 7 th Ward Holiday event is scheduled for Saturday, December 10, 2011.
<u>Congratulate Lavelle Houston</u>	Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush congratulated fifth ward resident Calumet City Chargers for being selected for the National Youth All-Star Football team in Florida and represent the Chargers on the national stage.
<u>Prepare resolution/ Lavelle Houston</u>	Alderman Munda moved, seconded by Alderman Wilson, to prepare a Resolution for Lavelle Houston, Calumet City Chargers for being selected for the National Youth All-Star Team in Florida.

MOTION CARRIED

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS TO BE ACCEPTED AND PLACED ON FILE

Deputy Clerk Bonato/
submitting monthly report

Submitting Monthly Report for October, 2011.

Illinois Environmental
Protection Agency/Burnham
Avenue Bridge Pump
Station

RE: City of Calumet City (Cook County - 0310390 Burnham Avenue Bridge Pump Station.

City Treasurer Tarka/
submitting Treasurer's
Report

Submitting Treasurer's Report for the City of Calumet City.

Accept & place on file

Alderman Manousopoulos moved, seconded by Alderman Wilson, to accept the communications and place on file.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Manning v. Calumet City

Alderman Manousopoulos moved, seconded by Alderman Gonzalez, to refer to Corporation Counsel - Circuit Court of Cook County - Gwenesther Manning, Plaintiff, v. Calumet City, et al, Wes's Towing, defendant.

MOTION CARRIED

Approve Repair of Breach
tag day request

Alderman Wosczyński moved, seconded by Alderman Jones, to approve a tag day request for Repairer of the Breach for November 21-23, 2011 at various intersections. (Approved by the police department).

MOTION CARRIED

Appointment of Inspector
to
General

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush: "I hereby appoint Edward Gonzalez, serve as Inspector General for the City of Calumet City for a term ending April 30, 2013.

Alderman Manousopoulos moved, seconded by Alderman Wosczyński, to confirm the appointment of Edward Gonzalez as Inspector General for a term ending April 30, 2013.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: 6

ALDERMEN: Wosczyński, Jones, Wilson, Munda, Manousopoulos, Collins

NAYS: 0

ALDERMEN: None

ABSTAIN 1

ALDERMAN: Gonzalez

MOTION CARRIED

Resignation of First Ward
Alderman Gonzalez

Alderman Gonzalez: “At this time Mayor and Members of the City Council I would like to tender my resignation as the First Ward Alderman of the City of Calumet City.

I would like to thank the residents of the first ward for re-electing me and having the confidence and the support. It has been a privilege and a honor to serve the residents of the first ward for the past 12 ½ years. My sister and brothers here on the city council, Mayor, City Attorney, City Treasurer, Deputy Clerk and also in memory of Gloria Dooley, thank you.”

Alderman Wosczynski: “I would just like to say thank you for having the privilege to be one of your colleagues. I wish you well. I know you will still stay with this city but not in the same capacity. I will miss you sitting next to me. But I will deal with the new alderman who is coming right now. I thank you.”

Alderman Jones: “Alderman Gonzalez, it has been a long 12 years and you have been of the best colleagues on the city council. I think a lot of residents and us look forward to your signature slogan that the Times made official buy American and shop Calumet City. I want to thank you for all the services and I am sure you are going to work with the new alderman.”

Alderman Wilson: “I just want to say that I have had the utmost respect for Eddie and the professionalism that he brought to his office and the work that he did for his residents. I will never forget when I first got elected and I went to the little party, Eddie was the first one that came over to me and shook my hand and congratulated me. I always think about and respected him. I appreciate all the work that you did. Good luck on your future endeavors.”

Alderman Munda: “Eddie, I don’t think that I have to tell you that if it wasn’t for you that I probably wouldn’t be here. You were one of the individuals who came to me early in my campaign to inspire me to run for office. You gave me a lot of inspiration to run for office. You gave me a lot of your insight. I appreciate that. I know you are going to miss me. It was an honor serving with you Alderman Gonzalez. I appreciate everything you have done and working with me over the past couple years. I will miss you as a colleague. I am sure I will see you around.”

Alderman Manousopoulos: “I can’t say I am going to miss Eddie, the only change that we are actually going to have in our friendship instead of having coffee at nine we will have coffee at eight, so you can be at work at nine.”

Alderman Collins. “I would like to tell Alderman Gonzalez congratulations and thank you for your service to the city. You are historical in your ward and for the city. Your was grateful to have you and I have been grateful to develop a relationship with you over the last couple years. I do wish you the best and thank you again for the service to the city.”

Treasurer Tarka: “Thank you Mayor. Eddie you and I have had a long run together. Looking back at it, we have not always agreed on every issue, but somehow we were always able to go out after the meeting and have a soda pop or three. I wish you all the best luck in your future endeavors.”

City Attorney Odelson: “I look forward to the transition. Dennis and I look forward to working with you in your new capacity. As you know, the Inspector General ordinance has been around for a while. It is not new, we are just amending it to accommodate the lawsuits and things that we have. We look forward to working with you. You have been a great alderman and good friend.”

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush: “Alderman Gonzalez, I would like to thank you for the many years of service that you have given to the first ward. We have been through 12 years of serving together as elected officials and we have been through some really tough decisions. We have not always agreed sometimes publicly. I look forward to working with you in your new capacity. As I told you on the phone, it will be a little bit of a transition, but we have a lot of work for you to do. Come ready to work, and we expect you there at 9:01 a.m. I am kidding. I look forward to working with you. On behalf of the first ward residents, I think I can say thank you for all of you years that you dedicated.”

Appointment of First Ward

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush: “I hereby appoint Eric W. Schneider as First Alderman. Is there a motion to confirm my appointment.”

Alderman Manousopoulos moved, seconded by Alderman Wosczyński, to confirm the appointment of Eric W. Schneider as First Ward Alderman for a term ending April 30, 2013.

ROLL CALL

YEAS:	6	ALDERMEN:	Wosczyński, Jones, Wilson, Munda, Manousopoulos, Collins
NAYS:	0	ALDERMEN:	None
ABSENT:	0	ALDERMEN:	None

MOTION CARRIED

Swearing in First Ward Alderman/E. Schneider

At this time in the meeting, Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush swore in Eric W. Schneider as First Ward Alderman.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Res. #1: approving Real Estate Sales Contract 233-153rd Street (Res. #11-55) Resolution approving a Real Estate Sales Contract for the property at 233-153rd Street. (see attached page 7A)

Ord. #2: handicap parking by adding: 494 Ingraham (Ord. #11-62) Ordinance amending Chapter 90, Handicap Parking, by adding 494 Ingraham Avenue. (see attached page 8A)

Ord. #3: rezoning 311 Pulaski Road (Ord. #11-63) Ordinance authorizing the Rezoning of property commonly known as 311 Pulaski Road from B-1 Commercial District to R-1 One- Family Residence District in the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois. (see attached page 8B)

Ord. 4: approving agreement by Calumet City & Southland Casino Development (Ord. 11-64) Ordinance of the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois, Approving an Agreement by and between the City of Calumet City and Southland Casino Development Corporation. (see attached page 8C)

Ord. #5: amending Ord. salaries and other fringe benefits of appointed officials (Ord.#11-65) Ordinance amending an Ordinance establishing the Salaries and other Fringe Benefits of Appointed Officials, Supervisory Personnel, and other Full-Time and Part-Time Employees Not Covered by a Collective Bargaining Agreement for the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois. (see attached page 8D)

Ord. #6: establishing Office Independent Inspector (Ord. #11-66) Ordinance amending an Ordinance Establishing the Office of Independent Inspector General (07-67) in the City of Calumet City, County of Cook, Illinois. (see attached page 8E)

Pass resolutions/adopt ordinances Alderman Manousopoulos moved, seconded by Alderman Wilson, to pass the resolutions and adopt the ordinances as presented without the necessity of prior posting.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: 7	ALDERMEN: Schneider, Wosczynski, Jones, Wilson, Munda, Manousopoulos, Collins
NAYS: 0	ALDERMEN: None
ABSENT: 0	ALDERMEN: None

MOTION CARRIED

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Remit payment/J & J
Newell/\$5,455.20

Approve fire hydrant repair at 606 Saginaw Avenue and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to J & J Newell Concrete in the amount not to exceed \$5,455.20 charge to account #030-36-2-349.

Remit payment/SNI
Solutions/\$6,696.00

Approve the purchase of 864 bags of salt and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to SNI Solutions, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$6,696.00 and charge to account #010-41-3-303.

Remit payment/Mesirow
Financial/\$82,708.00

Approve the Excess Worker's Compensation Renewal from November 14, 2011 thru November 14, 2012 and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to Mesirow Financial in the amount of \$82,708.00 for renewal premium and charge to account #010-50-1-130.

Authorize the Mayor to execute the Annual Service Agreement Letter with Mesirow Financial and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to Mesirow Financial in the amount of \$25,000 for the annual service and charge to account #010-50-2-271.

Approve Collective
Bargaining Teamsters
Local 700

Approve a collective bargaining agreement by and between Teamsters Local 700 and the City of Calumet City for a one year term.

Remit payment/J & M
Industries/\$9,300.00

Approve the demolition of 215-154th Place and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount not to exceed \$9,300.00 and charge to account #010-99-2-645.

Remit payment/Robinson
Engineering/\$13,111.68

Approve payment #4 for construction engineering on the River Oaks Drive at Paxton Avenue project and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to Robinson Engineering in the amount of \$13,111.68 and charge to account #098-09-2-600.

Remit payment/Robinson
Engineering/\$8,920.07

Approve payment #5 for construction engineering on the River Oaks Drive at Paxton Avenue project and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to Robinson Engineering in the amount of \$8,920.07 and charge to account #098-09-2-600.

Remit payment/Robinson
Engineering/\$13,044.33

Approve payment #2 for construction engineering on the River Oaks Drive at Paxton Avenue project and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to Robinson Engineering in the amount of \$13,044.33 and charge to account #098-09-2-600.

Remit payment/Robinson
Engineering/\$12,559.67

Approve payment #3 for construction engineering on the River Oaks Drive at Paxton Avenue project and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to Robinson Engineering in the amount of \$12,559.67 and charge to account #098-09-2-600.

<u>Approve yearly lease/ Commercial 7th Ward printing/\$2,564.04</u>	Approve the yearly lease for copier (7 th Ward printing) with Leaf Capital, Inc. thru 2013 at a cost of \$2,564.04 per year and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment and charge to account #010-10-2-327.
<u>Approve payroll</u>	Approve payroll (\$746,559.63)
<u>Approve bill listing</u>	Approve bill listing (\$425,607.31)
<u>Approve legal bill listing</u>	Approve legal bill listing (\$859.50)
<u>Remit payment/Wingfoot \$5,200.00</u>	Approve the purchase of ten tires for Ladder Truck #309 for the fire department and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to Wingfoot in the amount not to exceed \$5,200.00 and charge to account #066-17-4-110.
<u>Approve collective bargaining agreement/ F.O.P. Telecommunicators</u>	Approve a collective bargaining agreement by and between F.O.P. Telecommunicators Union and the City of Calumet City for a one year term.
<u>Approve attendance Alderman Collins/ conference: March 1-6, 2012</u>	Approve the attendance of Alderman Antoine Collins to the American Society of Public Administrations Conference on March 1 thru March 6, 2012 and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to Alderman Collins in the amount of \$2,500.00 for travel/hotel/expenses and \$399.00 for the conference fee made payable to the American Society of Public Administration; to be charged to account #010-10-2-300.
<u>Remit payment/J & M Industries/\$11,800.00</u>	Approve the emergency demolition of 424 Sibley Boulevard and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to J & M Industries in the amount not to exceed \$11,800.00 and charge to account #010-99-2-645.
<u>Remit payment/Holland Asphalt/\$17,900.00</u>	Approve the demolition of 512 Douglas Avenue and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to Holland Asphalt Services in the amount not to exceed \$17,900.00 and charge to account #010-99-2-645.
<u>Remit payment/Holland Asphalt/\$9,800.00</u>	Approve the demolition of 336-154th Place and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to Holland Asphalt Services in the amount not to exceed \$9,800.00 and charge to account #010-99-2-645.
<u>Remit payment/Holland Asphalt/\$12,600.00</u>	Approve the demolition of 221-153rd Street and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to Holland Asphalt Services in the amount not to exceed \$12,600.00 and charge to account #010-99-2-645.
<u>Remit payment/Illinois Municipal League/</u>	Approve the membership for Illinois Municipal League Membership dues from 1/1/12 to 12/31/12 and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount not to exceed \$1,955.00 and charge to account #010-99-2-350.

Amend motion
payment/Leaf Commercial
Capital/7th Ward printing

Alderman Collins: "I would like to amend item #10. The lease with Leaf Commercial Capital should be thru 2013 and authorize the Purchasing Director to sign the necessary documents."

Alderman Manousopoulos moved, seconded by Alderman Munda, to amend the motion as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

Approve financial matters
authorize city treasurer
remit payment

Alderman Wilson moved, seconded by Alderman Manousopoulos, to approve financial matters as presented and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: 7	ALDERMEN:	Woczynski, Jones, Wilson, Munda, Manousopoulos, Collins, Schneider
NAYS: 0	ALDERMEN:	None
ABSENT: 0	ALDERMEN:	None

MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Appointment of City Clerk

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush: "I submit for my appointment of City Clerk Nyota T. Figgs for a term to expire April 30, 2013.

Alderman Wilson moved, seconded by Alderman Collins, to confirm the appointment of Nyota T. Figgs as City Clerk for a term to expire April 30, 2013.

Mayor - statement

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush: "I would like to make some comments if I could. Nyota has a Master of Science and Criminal Social Justice from Lewis University. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree, Criminal Social Justice, Minor Psychology from Lewis University.

She has many certifications. She is active in the City of Calumet City. She is a Commissioner for Calumet Memorial Park District since 2010. She is a member of the Calumet City Library Board. Which if her appointment is confirmed, she will resign. She was a Program Coordinator in the Third Ward under Alderman Jones. She belongs to many organizations. It is for all these reasons that I proudly appoint Nyota T. Figgs.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: 7	ALDERMEN:	Jones, Wilson, Munda, Manousopoulos, Collins, Schneider, Woczynski
NAYS: 0	ALDERMEN:	None
ABSENT: 0	ALDERMAN:	None

MOTION CARRIED

Swearing in City Clerk

At this time in the meeting, Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush swore in Nyota T. Figgs as City Clerk for a term to expire on April 30, 2013.

City Clerk Figgs - statement

City Clerk Figgs: "I would first like to thank God, because without him nothing is possible. I would like to thank my parents for the strong foundation that they built. My father who is no longer with us, may God be pleased with him. My mother that is in the audience. To my family, my friends, my mentors, thank you so much for your support. To my fellow commissioners at Calumet Memorial Park District and the Library Board, thank you for supporting me and working with me in the community. To the city council, thank you for your support today.

I look forward to working with each one of you. Gloria Dooley set the bar really high. I have some huge shoes to fill. She was a great City Clerk who provided excellent service. I would like to thank Mayor Michelle for having faith in me and I really appreciate that. To the residents of Calumet City, thank you for supporting me previously. I ask for your continued support. I promise to deliver the best service I can and I look forward to serving. Thank you."

Ald. Schneider - statement

Alderman Schneider: "First I would like to thank Mayor Michelle and the City Council for your vote of confidence tonight. I look forward to working with each of you as we do our best to serve the needs of our neighbors and community.

I'd like to wish Ed Gonzalez well in his new role. The people of the First Ward have been well served by Ed over the years, and he has been a trailblazer in the Latino community. He has always been on the side of the people of the First Ward and now he will work on behalf of all residents of Calumet City.

I'd like to wish Clerk Nyota Figgs the best of luck in her new role as City Clerk. Nyota is an amazing person and she is compassionate, dedicated, selfless, and enthusiastic about changing the world. I am very excited for you and I know that you are going to do great and I know the residents will agree with me.

I would like to thank everyone who came out tonight. My Calumet City family across the board, Everyone knows who they are, especially my family from St. Victor. St. Victor is a very special place to me in the first ward. It is a place where a lot of different cultures and languages come together to worship and work for a better world and very blessed to be a part of it.

My extend family that is here in the back. I can't speak enough. In this role of public service. I come from a whole family of public servants from Superintendents to School Board members, from Lions Club and service organizations. The apple doesn't fall far from the tree. I appreciate their support.

To my parents, Hank and Nancy Schneider, I am not even going to attempt to put into words my love and admiration and thankfulness to you for supporting me and getting me to this point.

In my family, when we say grace, we say “God bless the absent ones” afterwards. I am missing someone tonight. It is my grandfather. He died at 91 years old and we were shocked that a 91 year old died. He died so suddenly. He would have loved and eaten this up tonight.

He loved Calumet City, and even more the idea of Calumet City. That a community of blue collar, hard working people live together, raise their families, be of service to one another, and have fun doing it.

That is the kind of ward and kind of city that I hope we all work towards. No matter your race, religion or upbringing, a community that lives together, play together, pray together and do the best as we go along.

In my opinion, there is no better undertaking than the role of public servant. The duty and honor of working everyday to make your community better. It is the best duty and job that you could ever have.

My cousin Cory just received his Eagle Scout award. And at his court of honor, they talked about when the cub scouts and boy scouts go camping or go on a trail. They always make sure to leave the place better than it was when they came in. I think that is all of our roles to leave the world a little better than we found it. Also to accept the challenge and duty of office with honesty, integrity, fairness and humility and with an understanding that for a short time here we have a mission to leave this world a better place.

As everyone has said tonight, even greater than duty to community, is duty to country. Tomorrow is Veteran’s Day. Take time to thank a vet and reflect on what they have done for the people of this country and the people of this world. Through their selfless acts of heroism and sacrifice, they have made it possible for freedom loving people to live in a free society, to assemble, to have a voice and to have the opportunity to work for a world that gives as much as we put into it.

Ald. Collins - statement

Alderman Collins: “I want to congratulate Alderman Schneider and Clerk Figgs their appointment. I know that they are going to do a great job for the city. Eric has a very solid heart and that is what we need. We need public servants who have a heart and care about the city as his predecessor did. . It is really important.

The same with the City Clerk. We are here to provide services to the best of our ability. I know that they are both going to continue to hit that mark. Congratulate to you both. In honor of my colleague. I am going to cut everything off and say buy American and shop Calumet City.”

Ald. Manousopoulos - comment

Alderman Manousopoulos: “I would like to congratulate the new Alderman and City Clerk and looking forward to working with them in the future. I am sure they will both do a fine job.”

Ald. Munda - comment

Alderman Munda: "Congratulations to both the appointments. Nyota you are going to be a great City Clerk. I am sure Clerk Dooley will be ecstatic that you were the choice to replace her. You are going to do a great job. All the values and characteristics that a City Clerk needs to possess, I truly believe you do possess.

You need to be strong, firm and sometimes sensitive and understanding. You also have to have the know how and determination to follow through on things and get them done. The Clerk position is a very difficult position. I can't think of anyone who can handle it more than you. Congratulations on your appointment."

Alderman Schneider, you my friend are a legend. I am so honored to be a colleague and serve on this city council. Congratulations on your appointment. You are an outstanding individual, a great friend to me. The Schneider family in this community sets the bar as far as family involvement in this community. I could not be happier with any other selection. I wish you all the luck in the world and look forward to serving with you as your equal and colleague."

Ald. Wilson - comment

Alderman Wilson: "I know both of them will do well. I congratulate them on their appointments and look forward to serving with both of them and being part of our council family."

Ald. Jones - comment

Alderman Jones: "Let me start with Eric. I am sure those speeches will get longer as we get into more and more council meetings. I want to congratulate Eric Schneider as appointment of First Ward Alderman. We know that the challenges that we face as a city we overcome together and looking forward to the positive things that we can do together as colleagues as we look together to bring this city to a better place.

To Nyota, I want to congratulate you on being the new City Clerk in Calumet City. As I stated the challenges that we face. We are going to have to overcome together. I pledge my support to you, despite some of the differences that we have had in the past. But I look forward to working and making sure whatever I can do with you being the third ward resident and City Clerk, to make sure that we make this the best city that we can. I know you are a hard worker, determined and make sure that the City Clerk position is the best. Congratulations on being City Clerk and look forward to working with you."

Contact ward issue

Alderman Jones encourages residents to contact his office regarding Senate Bills that will affect the State of Illinois.

Ald. Wosczyński - statement

Alderman Wosczyński: "I also would like to congratulate our new City Clerk Nyota, welcome aboard. I pledge my support to you, whatever I can help you with. I will be there for you. I am looking forward to a good working relationship.

Alderman Schneider, I am going to have to get used to saying that. I hope that I make a mistake and say Alderman Gonzalez. I am hoping you will be here for many years. I congratulate you and wish you well. If you have any questions or concerns or help you in my aldermanic capacity. I will be certainly be happy to do so."

Mayor Michelle - comment

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush: "I would like to congratulate Alderman Schneider. I know he has been blessed with a huge heart for Calumet City. I know that you will do well for our city. Welcome aboard.

I would like to thank Roseann who has been holding down the fort. We all miss Gloria. We are still emotional. But Rosie you have done a great job and thank you. I know that you will be a great asset to Nyota and as always to the City.

Rosie has been here a long time, for those of you that don't know. But Rosie has kept it all together. I am truly grateful.

To Nyota, I really look forward to working with you. As I said on a daily basis. I think I can speak for Treasurer Tarka as well, we do a lot of interaction on a daily basis and look forward to your energy and enthusiasm. She has a great heart for this city. I am sure you are going to do a great job for us. You have got Rosie and a good staff in the City Clerk's Office and I am sure that they going to support you through this whole learning experience and journey."

City Treasurer Tarka - comment

City Treasurer Tarka: "Welcome to our new City Clerk and to our new First Ward Alderman. Welcome to the wonderful world of municipal government in Calumet City. Rest assured from this day forward, you will no longer every be bored. I look forward to working with you both."

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment was at 8:25 p.m. on a motion made by Alderman Wosczyński, and seconded by Alderman Collins.

MOTION CARRIED

Nyota T. Figgs, City Clerk

/rb