

PUBLIC HEARING

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

JULY 26, 2018

Public Comment

Joe Balkis of 117 155th Pl Calumet City, Illinois, wants to lower wages for elected officials. Joe States tax breaks should be given to the residents and not major corporations.

Mike Cavalier of 451 Saginaw, Calumet City, Illinois, would like something done about his neighbor's unkempt property.

Francisco Reesio of 225 Webb St, Calumet City, Illinois, would like speed bumps put on his street, because there are a lot of kids playing. In addition, Francisco would like the other half of the sidewalk fixed that was caused from the flooding.

Sherry Tate of 365 Oglesby, Calumet City, Illinois, has a problem with wildlife; skunks, possums, and raccoons. Longer cage access is needed for the residents

CALL TO ORDER

The City of Calumet City met for a Public Hearing on Thursday, July 26, 2018 at 7:15 p.m. called to order by Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 6 ALDERMAN: Patton, Williams, Tillman, Gardner, Smith, Navarrete

ABSENT: 1 ALDERMAN: Wosczyński

Also present was Mayor Michelle Qualkinbush, City Clerk Figgs, City Treasurer Tarka, City Attorney Horvath, Police Chief Fletcher, Purchasing & Personnel Director Murray, Mayor's Assistant Bonato, Inspectional Services Director Manousopoulos.

Finance Director Kasperek -
Statement

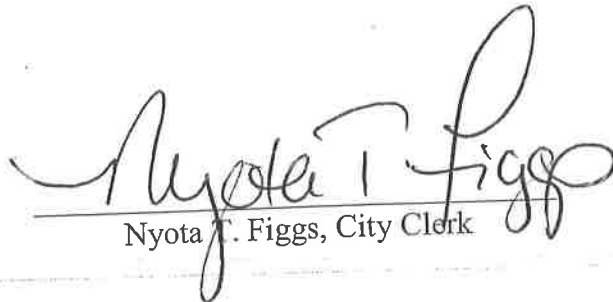
“Budget/Appropriation Overview for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2019. Tonight, on the City Council agenda, is the Annual Appropriation Ordinance covering the fiscal year of May 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019. Let's first start off with an overview of the past years. For the last three years, the City's Corporate Fund has run a deficit. In 2016 it was \$620,298, in 2017 it was \$3,039,446 and this past year the unaudited number is \$4,033,967. We are still moving forward, however, cash reserves have dwindled. The Mayor and the City Council have been working together to create a balanced budget. Through attrition, reducing other expenditures and some revenue increases, the budget before the city council today reflects a slight surplus of \$103,000. Let's keep in mind that the revenue and expenditures are based on history, cuts made and revising new estimates. We will monitor the progress of working within the estimated revenue/expenditures moving forward. But even with a balanced budget, the cash flows of the City are not yet addressed.

Finance Director Kasperek

While we do not anticipate our cash flows to get worse, balancing the budget doesn't address the unpaid bills facing the City. While we are by no means broke, the time to pay vendor bills continues to grow. The City entered the new year with more the \$3,000,000 of unpaid bills. While these bills will get paid in the new fiscal year, that will leave this fiscal year short by the same amounts. With that said, the Mayor and the City Council will continue to look for ways to cut spending. Only by cutting our expenditures can we get caught up on our unpaid bills. But again, let me assure the residents of the City, we continue to pay our bills. While we might be a month or two behind in some of our large bills like water and refuse, we are not years behind like some communities. Many of you may have seen the major infrastructure improvements to our roads and water system. Yes, we issued bonds, but we have alternate funding sources so the principal and interest payments are not going on the tax rolls. The City recently abated over \$800,000 of real estate taxes related to the bonds. Last year the Appropriation had expenditures of \$37,909,984 while this year the amount appropriated is \$36,275,106. The new appropriation is 4.3% lower. Please note that majority of the labor unions received a 1.9% pay increase. So, the reduction includes the pay raises. While the estimated revenue is less then last year's estimate by about a \$1,000,000 we do estimate receiving more operating revenue over \$1.4M more then prior year's actual revenue received. There has been a lot of thought on the new budget. But again, the City is still not done cutting expenditures for the reasons mentioned above. The goal is to stay balanced and get the unpaid bill listing paid down."

ADJOURNMENT

The public hearing adjourned at 7:28 p.m.


Nyota T. Figgs, City Clerk

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