## **SPECIAL MEETING**

## HELD ON NOVEMBER 7, 2019, IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS 204 PULASKI ROAD, CALUMET CITY, ILLINOIS

**CALL TO ORDER** 

The Special Meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by Mayor Michelle

Markiewicz Qualkinbush.

ACCEPT CALL

Alderman Tillman moved, seconded by Alderman Gardner, to accept call

as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED** 

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals addressed the City Council:

Sharon Carney- regarding the new construction in the city.

Joe Blakis- regarding minimum wage and jobs.

**ROLL CALL** 

YEAS:

7 A

ALDERMEN:

Navarrete, Swibes, Tillman, Williams, Gardner

Smith (5:30), Patton.

ABSENT:

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ALDERMEN:

None

Also present were Mayor Michelle Qualkinbush, City Clerk Nyota Figgs, City Treasurer Tarka, City Administrator William Murray, Economic Development Coordinator Joe Wisowaty, Economic Development Consultant Val Williams, Mayors Assistant Rose Bonato, Fire Chief Bachert, Jason Reynolds & William Warren from Reynolds Power.

**Public Hearing** 

There was a detailed presentation regarding the City of Calumet City, US

EDA Grant Submission by William Warren from the U.S. Economic

Development Administration. A discussion took place regarding the grant

and its implementation.

Val Williams

"About a year ago we all were in a meeting, and the Mayor was approached by William Warren with the U.S Economic Development Administration. So he came in today to offer us an opportunity to prepare a grant for us in the amount for about 200 to 300 million dollars. This is to assist in helping with the infrastructure for the River Side Drive

area. That is why we are here today, I'll have him tell you a little bit more about the EDA."

William Warren

(<u>inaudible</u>) William Warren a presentation the grant, the application process, and the area and project to be covered.

Mayor Michelle

"If someone has a specific question about the grant itself they can ask questions."

Val Williams

"Richard has done a lot of work on this so he will give you a quick summary of everything."

Richard Chambers

"So, as in term of the industrial jobs and high paying jobs, that aligns with some of the EPA priorities. We thought this project would fit very well with those, and I printed out a list of those priorities. They went recovery and resilience, industrial is growing a lot, critical infrastructure which would include the expansion of the road. Work force development and manufacturing, higher paid jobs was an issue, and that is a TIF area so there will be an opportunity for those jobs. Export is their other priority, both businesses there have international customers, so it qualifies.

Val Williams

"William is going to show us a quick YouTube video about the project. The one thing about this grant is that we need to do an environmental narrative and a budget narrative in phase one. We will save you money, this project gets bigger and bigger but it will be worth it."

William Warren

"I gave you a copy of the Conceptual plan and you will see an overview of the plan in the video. However the conceptual plan gives you an idea of the existing condition of the property are now. And the conceptual plan, I need to see what it will look like after it's completed. Matt put together this plan and we will use it for the EDA grant and as a guide for future development along that corridor. The builds that are there is a concept to give you an idea of what it could be."

**Sharon Carney** 

When will you start?

William Warren

"Right now! We are working on it right now, the total cost of the project is about 7 million dollars."

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Val Williams

"That's why we getting the application together and we need that help from the federal government for the project. I am going to ask Bill to talk about the impact and why this is important"

William Murray

"Actually when we were approached by the EDA on it, we were just looking for feedback on our plans. We were looking at this as a singular project just on State Street, but now we are looking at it globally, including Marble Street. We want the entire area to be an industrial area. Its more opportunities to develop, more grant opportunities to develop north toward Gelita, HB Taylor, and more acres to fit into grant funding. So hopefully we are going to use federal dollars to match our dollars; and still have grants out there in order to pay for this. There's two phases a northern phase and east to west we are talking about developing from Stateline road to 94. We have a plan for the interchange at 94. We are looking at State Street being three phases it was estimated for around 6 million dollars to complete just for State St. We are working on our Grant proposal for SSMA that opens in January and we will find out in March. In March if we quality that will be included and we will have a stronger submission, so we hope to have a couple different project going on in the next few years. We are looking at it as a regional approach, more than just a section, the potential for jobs, potential for retention is high. We talked to all the stakeholders and they only concern they had was a road and access regarding the roadway, so we discussed expansion of the roads. There's 40-50 acres to be developed which will bring a lot of jobs.

Ald. Swibes

"(inaudible) The land and the condition of today is not developable. Is the purpose to develop the land to make it more attractive and capable of being developed on?"

William Murray

Correct the first thing you are going to need is access to the property. The other part again with grants is that we need to partner with people to give us access to land so we can receive grants on the property.

Joe Balkis

(inaudible) "Would it be possible to have corporate partners to commit to renting space or land prior to the land being developed? Is Calumet City matching grant?"

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William Murray

All those things are ideal. The monies is 50/50 grant and it doesn't mean we will use all the monies, we will be looking for other grants. We need to have access to the land in order to develop.

There was a presentation at this time.

Public Hearing Adjournment

The Public Hearing adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

**Closed Session** 

Alderman Smith moved, seconded by Alderman Gardner to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing conveyance of property.

**MOTION CARRIED** 

**Executive Session** 

The council met in closed session from 5:52 p.m. -6:26 p.m.

Return To
Regular Order
Of Business

Alderman Smith moved, seconded by Alderman Gardner, to return the regular order of business.

**MOTION CARRIED** 

Adjournment

Alderman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Swibes, to adjourn at

6:27 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED** 

Nyota T. Figgs