

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

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

**AUGUST 26, 2021  
6:00 P.M.**

Pledge Of Allegiance

The City Council of the City of Calumet City met in the City Council Chambers at 6:02 p.m. in a regular meeting on August 26, 2021 with Mayor Thaddeus Jones, present and presiding.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 6 ALDERMEN: Navarrete, Wilson, William ,Gardner, Patton ,Smith

ABSENT: 1 ALDERMEN: Tillman (excused)

Also present was City Clerk Figgs, City Treasurer Tarka, City Administrator, City Attorney Shaunte Rainez , City Engineer Chaslair, Police Chief Kolosh, Assistant Police Chief Andre Black, Fire Chief Bachert, Director Economic Development Val Williams, FOIA Officer, Christopher Clark, Media Consultant Sean Howard.

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

Deviate From Regular Order of Business

Alderman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Smith to deviate from the regular order of business.

ShotSpotter Presentation

Trish Layne and Ron Teachman representatives from ShotSpotter gave a brief presentation on ShotSpotter and its benefits.

Recognition of Fire Chief & Deputy Fire Chief

Mayor Jones recognized Fire Chief Bachert for saving a life and Deputy Chief Bendinelli for his grant writing contributions.

Recognition of Val Williams & Richard Chambers  
Moment of Silence

Mayor Jones recognized the Economic Development team for their hard work.  
The City Council observed a moment of silence for transitioned and fallen law enforcement.

Return to Regular Order of Business

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

Approval of Minutes

Alderman Williams moved, seconded by Alderman Gardner to approve the minutes as presented:  
Finance Committee of the Whole July 14, 2021  
Finance Committee of the Whole July 15, 2021  
Finance Committee of the Whole July 21, 2021  
Regular City Council Meeting July 22, 2021  
Finance Committee of the Whole July 26, 2021  
Public Hearing & Special Meeting July 29, 2021

Regular City Council Meeting August 12, 2021 (removed from the agenda).

ROLL CALL

AYES:	6	ALDERMEN: Navarrete, Wilson, Williams, Gardner, Patton ,Smith
NAYS:	0	ALDERMEN: None
ABSENT:	1	ALDERMEN: Tillman

**MOTION CARRIED**

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Finance Alderman Gardner will be holding a tax seminar on tax appeal on 09/7/2021 at TFN High School located at 755 Pulaski Rd from 6:30-8:30.

Public Safety Alderman Williams thanked ShotSpotter for the presentation.

Public Utilities Alderman Smith reported there will be a Public Utilities Committee meeting at the first available date in September.

Ord. & Res. Alderman Tillman was absent.

H.E.W Alderman Patton had no report.

Permits & Licenses Alderman Wilson held a Business and Licenses meeting in regards to applications on August 19,2021 follow up meeting to be scheduled.

Public Works Alderman Navarrete no report.

**CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

City Treasurer Tarka City Treasurer Tarka informed residents of the Electrical Aggregation (EA) letters contents; questions concerning EA can be directed to his office at 708-891-8130.

Alderman Navarrete Alderman Navarrete thanked the Superintendent of School District 155 for the booth invite to set up for the back to school event that will take place on September 10, 2021 4-6 p.m.

Walk the Ward Event will take place September 18, 2021 from 11- 2 p.m.

Alderman Wilson

Alderman Wilson thanked Higher Ground Community Church for hosting 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward back to school block party on Sunday August 22, 2021 as well as City Clerk Nyota Figgs, Alderman Gardner, Police Chief Kolosh, and Deputy Chief Black.

Alderman Wilson wished all the students in Calumet City a happy productive school year.

Alderman Wilson announced 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward Town Hall meeting will be Wednesday September 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the public safety training center at 24 State St.

Alderman Wilson announced new Business Urban Art Studios grand opening Saturday August 28, 2021 in River Oaks Mall at 1 p.m.

Alderman Williams – 4<sup>th</sup> Ward

Alderman Williams gave honor to God and thanked the sponsors of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Ward. Sponsors will be recognized at a later meeting.

Alderman Williams thanked the residents for participating and supporting the event.

Alderman Williams announced that every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. food boxes will be given away at 1651 Sibley Blvd.

Alderman Williams announced they will be no meeting in the month of September due to the holiday. Meetings will resume October 4<sup>th</sup> 2021 at Downey Park 300 Jeffery Ave, at 6:30 p.m.

Alderman Williams announced the job and career fair for September will be reschedule to a later date due to Covid Restrictions.

Alderman Williams Publicly recognized Val Williams for a job well done and dedication in grant writing.

Alderman Gardner – 5<sup>th</sup> Ward

Alderman Gardner thanked the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward residents and School District for the support on the back to school give away; as well as the Mayor and City Council for attending; special thanks to Congresswomen Robin Kelly.

Alderman Gardner announced on September 13, 2021 there will be a Town-hall meeting and conversation with the Mayor held at Jesus Shepherd of Souls located at 155<sup>th</sup> Freeland from 6-7:30 p.m.

Alderman Gardner reminded 5<sup>th</sup> Ward residents to continue to call his office 708-891-8195 with concerns and complaints

Alderman Patton – 6<sup>th</sup> Ward

Alderman Patton thanked residents for attending Coffee and Conversation with the Alderman.

Alderman Patton announced that he will be implementing a landscaping contest; the best house in the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward.

Alderman Smith – 7<sup>th</sup> Ward

Alderman Smith thanked SD 157 for the back to school give away invite; over 100 book bags were given away to school age children.

Alderman Smith informed residents that his office has received new locations were

the 7<sup>th</sup> Ward meeting it will be published in the next up-coming newsletter.

Alderman Smith encouraged residents to continue to call his office 708-891-8197 to report vacant and unclean properties.

Alderman Smith reported there will be information regarding the previously announced September Job Fair forthcoming.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Mayor Jones

Mayor Jones recognized Police Chief Kolosh, Fire Chief Bachert, Assistant Police Black, Director Inspectional Services Sheryl Tillman, Grant Facilitator Val Williams, Public Works Director Randy Velasquez, Media Consultant Sean Howard, Police & Fire Commission members, Carol Condit and Stevon Grant.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS TO BE ACCEPTED AND PLACED ON FILE**

- A. City presentation of Shot Spotter technology for the city council and community.
- B. Fire Chief Glenn Bachert commendation for Thomas Stacker Sr. for his acts while performing duties as a Firefighter.
- C. Police and Fire commission notice to the City Council and the public on the upcoming Police Department hiring.
- D. New Harvest Investments commendation and letter of gratitude for Director Sheryl Tillman.
- E. Illinois Department of Community and Economic Development notice of the Illinois DCEO Back to Business Grant Application.
- F. Mayor's office recognizing the efforts of Deputy Fire Chief Pete Bendinelli for securing a \$200,000 grant for Fire Equipment.
- G. Mayor office recognizing the contributions of retired Fire Captain Telpri "Pitch" Piccirilli, Sr. and asking for the City Council and public support for his family.
- H. Mayor's office recognizing the death of Chicago Police officer Ella French and asking the City Council and the public support and prayers for her family.
- I. Com Ed announcing it plans for internships program for Engineering students and other internship and employment opportunities.

Accept & place on file

Alderman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Gardner, to accept items A-I and place on file.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Executive Session

Alderman Gardner moved, seconded by Alderman Wilson to enter in to executive session for the purposes of possible litigation and discussion of a specific employee.

The City Council met in closed session from 6:41 p.m. to 7:02 p.m.

Return To Regular Order Of Business

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

1): Executive order on Mask Mandates  
Removed from the agenda

This item was removed from the agenda.

2): Executive order on vaccination  
Removed from the agenda

This items was removed from the agenda.

3): Approve D & T Snowplowing and  
Lawn Care

Approve the D & T Snowplowing and Lawn Care as the contracted 4th Ward vendor for the vacant lot and abandoned grass cutting pilot program, not to exceed \$2,000.00 a month, for the following addresses (\$20.00 per residential /abandoned lots, \$100.00 per vacant lot).

Vacant Lots: 1774-1874 Michigan City Rd.; 334 Torrence Ave.; 1601 Dolton Rd.(Crandon & State St.); 1701 Sibley Blvd (Sibley & Crandon)

Residential (Abandoned/Vacant): 394 Crandon Ave.; 283 Crandon Ave.; 337 Calhoun Ave.; 327 Bensley Ave.; 306 Yates Ave.

Residents Lots: 364 Yates Ave.; 380 Yates Ave.; 565 Oglesby Ave.; 490 Crandon Ave.; 515 Paxton Ave.; 507 Merrill Ave

4): Approve termination the services of  
Alfred G. Ronan and Associates

Approve to terminate the services of Alfred G. Ronan and Associates.

5): Approve contract for lobbying services  
for Maren Ronan

Approve contract for lobbying services for Maren Ronan at a cost of\$4,500 a month ending on April 30, 2022; and to direct the City Treasurer to remit payment from the appropriate account.

6): Approve donation of the following  
DISREPAIRED vehicles to South  
Suburban College(Removed from agenda)

This item was removed from the agenda.

7): Approve out of service vehicles to the  
Village of Phoenix(Removed from  
agenda)

This item was removed from the agenda.

Approve New Business items #3 - #5

Alderman Williams moved, seconded by Alderman Wilson, to approve new business items #3-5 as presented.

**ROLL CALL**

AYES: 6

ALDERMEN: Smith, Patton, Gardner , Williams, Wilson, Navarrete

NAYS: 0

ALDERMEN: None

ABSENT: 1

ALDERMEN: Tillman

**MOTION CARRIED**

**BUILDING PERMITS**

NONE

**NEW FENCE CONSTRUCTION**

Approve Permits

Alderman Tillman moved, seconded by Alderman Gardner, to approve the building permits as presented.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 5  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 2

ALDERMEN: Patton Smith, Tillman, Williams, Gardner  
ALDERMEN: None  
ALDERMEN: Navarrete, Wilson

**MOTION CARRIED**

CJ Kari seeking Class 8 Real Estate Tax Assessment

CJ Kari spoke briefly to the City Council regarding request for Class 8 Real Estate Tax Assessment for property located at 626 River Oaks Dr. (Former Walgreens), Calumet City, Illinois.

Phillip DeGeratto seeking Class 8 Real Estate Tax Assessment

Phillip DeGeratto spoke briefly to the City Council regarding request for Class 8 Real Estate Tax Assessment for property located at 382-412 Torrence Avenue, Calumet City, Illinois.

**RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES**

1): Ordinance authorizing the donation of said out of service and disrepair vehicles to South Suburban College

This item was removed from the agenda.

Removed from the agenda

2): Ordinance authorizing the donation of said out of service and disrepair vehicles to the Village of Phoenix Police Department;

This item was removed from the agenda.

Removed from agenda

Motion to table Ordinances

Alderman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Williams to table ordinances 1-2 as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

#1): Approve repairs for Fire Service vehicles

Approve payment to Fire Service for repairs to vehicle E12; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of \$14,795.37 and charge account #06617-54150.

#2): Approve payment to Stryker Pro-Care for annual maintenance

Approve payment to Stryker Pro-Care for annual maintenance on power loads and power costs; authorize the City Treasure to remit payment in the amount of \$5,262.87 and charge account #06607-52482.

#3): Approve assessments for the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission s

Approve assessments for the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission' s Rate Adjustment and Second Injury Funds; authorize the City Treasure to remit payment no later than September 15, 2021, in the amount of \$5,599.88 and charge account #01050 -52131.

#4): Approve payment for miscellaneous marking items;

4. Approve payments 4 imprints for miscellaneous marketing items; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of \$6,679.86 and charge account #010852502-

#5): Approve payment to Calumet City Plumbing for the location of 163<sup>rd</sup> St. & Greenbay Ave;

Approve payment to Calumet City Plumbing for the location of 163rd St. & Greenbay Avenue; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of \$6,943.61 and charge account # 03036-52349.

#6): Approve payment to Calumet City Plumbing for the location of 364 Torrence water leak

Approve payment to Calumet City Plumbing for the location of 364 Torrence water leak; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of \$5,904.75 to Calumet City Plumbing and charge to account #03036-52349.

#7): Approve the D&T snowplowing and Lawn Care the contracted 4<sup>th</sup> Ward vendor;

Approve the D&T Snowplowing and Lawn Care as the contracted 4<sup>th</sup> Ward vendor; authorize the City Treasurer in the amount not to exceed \$2,000 a month for the following addresses (\$20.00 per residential / abandoned lots, \$100.00 per vacant lot

#8): Approve payments in the renewal of the ShotSpotter Annual Subscription Services

Approve the renewal of the ShotSpotter Annual Subscription Services in the amount of \$187,725.00, for the period of 04/27/2021 – 04/26/2022; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment to ShotSpotter in the amount of \$225,225.00 to be charged to Account 06860-57117.

#9): Approve payment to Advantage River Oaks Toya as required by the economic incentive agreement.

Authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment to Advantage River Oaks Toyota in the amount of \$114,020.16 as required by the economic incentive agreement for the calendar year 2020 to be paid through the City's Corporate Fund and be charged to Acc.#01099-52696.

#10): Approve final payment to JLP River Oaks West, LLC (Sam's Club)

Authorize the City Treasurer to remit the 11th and final payment to JLP-River Oaks West, LLC (Sam's Club) in the amount of \$420,660.43 representing 43% of sales tax revenue received by the City in Municipal and Home Rule Sales Tax for the calendar year 2020 above and beyond the first \$200,000.00 retained by the City per the economic incentive agreement to be charged to the Corporate Fund-Contractual Obligations line item #01099-52696.

#11): Approve payment to Health Endeavors, SC

Approve authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment to Health Endeavors, SC in the amount of \$16,970.00 for annual physicals for firefighters to be charged to line item#06607-52484.

#12): Approve to Mott MacDonald for the Calumet City Industrial Park Utility Improvements

Approve costs payable to Mott MacDonald for the Calumet City Industrial Park Utility Improvements, in the amount of \$20,712.09 and direct City Treasurer Tarka to remit payment from account 01099 52600.

#13): Approve contract for lobbying for Maren Ronan

Approve the contract for lobbying services for Maren Ronan at a cost of \$4,500 a month ending on April 30, 2022; and to direct the City Treasurer to remit payment from account #01099-52990

#14): Approve payment to Steve Wheaton in a settlement v Calumet City

Approve settlement in the case of Steve Wheaton v Calumet City; as discussed in executive session (Amended).

Approve Financial item #14

Alderman Gardner moved, seconded by Alderman Smith to approve financial item #14.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6

ALDERMEN: Smith, Gardner, Williams, Patton, Wilson, Navarrete

NAYS: 0

ALDERMEN: None

ABSENT: 1

ALDERMEN: Tillman

#15): Approve payment to JJ Newell Concrete

Approve payment to JJ Newell Concrete in the amount of \$73,519.70; further direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to JJ Newell from account#04007-52452.

#16): Approve payment to bill listing

Approve bill listing (\$997,031.76)

#17) Approve payroll

Approve payroll ( \$775,609.06)

Approve Financial Items 1-13 & 15-17

Alderman Gardner moved, seconded by Alderman Smith to approve financial items 1-13 & 15-17.

**MOTION CARRIED**

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6

ALDERMEN: Smith, Gardner, Williams, Patton, Wilson, Navarrete

NAYS: 0

ALDERMEN: None

ABSENT: 1

ALDERMEN: Tillman

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Appointment of Assistant Police Chief

Mayor Jones appointed Officer Kwiatkowski as the second assistant fire chief to expire on April 30, 2022.

Police Chief Kolosh gave brief remarks regarding Chief Kwiatkowski.

Assistant Chief Kwiatkowski gave remarks regarding appointment.

Approve appointment of Assistant Police Chief

Alderman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Williams to appoint Sgt. Kwiatkowski to Assistant police Chief to expire on April 30, 2022.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6

ALDERMEN: Smith, Gardner, Williams, Patton, Wilson, Navarrete

NAYS: 0

ALDERMEN: None

ABSENT: 1

ALDERMEN: Tillman

**MOTION CARRIED**

Appointment of Superintendent Maintenance & Economic Development Assistant

Mayor Jones appointed Jesse Tate for both Superintendent of Maintenance & Economic Development Coordinator to expire on April 30, 2022.

Jesse Tate gave remarks regarding appointment.

Approve Appointment of Superintendent Maintenance & Economic Development Assistant

Alderman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Smith to approve the appointment of Jesse Tate for both Superintendent of Maintenance & Economic Development Coordinator to expire on April 30, 2022.



ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 ALDERMEN: Smith, Gardner, Williams, Patton, Wilson, Navarrete  
NAYS: 0 ALDERMEN: None  
ABSENT: 1 ALDERMEN: Tillman

**MOTION CARRIED**

Mayor Remarks

Mayor Jones reported the EAV has increased 70 million dollars. Thanked Alderman for their support in building Calumet City.

Governor will issue mask mandate starting on Monday, please take head. Educational programs on vaccinations will be forthcoming.

Thanked Public Works for keeping the city clean, and asked resident to assist in keeping the city clean.

Thanked the Fire Department and Fire Chief Bachert.

Fire Chief gave an update on St. Margaret closing and transferring patients to nearest hospital.

Thanked Residents for patience

Alderman Navarrete thanked his residents for their patience in returning phone calls while he was on a retreat.

Highway Clean-up

Ald. Navarrete commented regarding IDOT keeping our highway ramps clean.

Prayers for College drop off

Alderman Wilson thanked residents for praying for her dropping her son off at Morehouse college.

Keep Alley's and Yards Clean

Alderman Wilson encourage residents to keep alleys and the front yards clean.

Stop Signs are not options

Alderman Wilson encouraged resident to stop at stop signs.

Congratulations to appointed individuals

Alderman Williams congratulated appointed individuals.

School Supply Giveaway

Alderman Williams informed residents they can obtain school supplies by contacting his office.

Thanks for donations and participation

Alderman Gardner thanked all sponsors, Police and Fire departments, and Network Barber College.

Prayers for military

Alderman Patton requested all to pray for our military.

Congratulations to appointees

Alderman Patton congratulated appointments.

Congratulations

Alderman Smith congratulated Val Williams on all the work completed on 600 Buffalo.

Employment opportunities

Alderman Smith informed residents to call his office for employment opportunities.

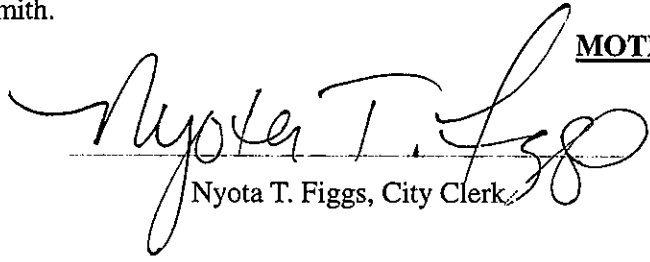
Resurfacing Project

Alderman Smith informed residents of the 600 block of Buffalo Avenue that he is working with the Mayor and City Engineers to get the Resurfacing Project back on track and more information will be available soon.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m. on a motion by Alderman Patton, seconded by Alderman Smith.

**MOTION CARRIED**



Nyota T. Figs, City Clerk