

SPECIAL MEETING

HELD ON OCTOBER 23, 2023
204 PULASKI ROAD, CALUMET CITY,
ILLINOIS

CALL TO ORDER The Special meeting was called to order at 6:05p.m. by Mayor Jones.

PUBLIC COMMENT NONE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 7 ALDERMEN: Navarrete, Wilson, Tillman, Williams, Gardner, Patton, Smith

ABSENT: 0 ALDERMEN: NONE

Also present were Mayor Jones, City Clerk Figgs (via zoom), City Treasurer Tarka, Fire Chief Glenn Bachert, City Attorney Patrick Walsh (via zoom), Deputy Clerk, Jessica Coffee, Deputy Clerk Quentin Dailey, Deputy Chief Bendinelli, Collections Manager Cleo Jones

Collections and
Business Report
By Cleo Jones

Collections Manager Cleo Jones gave a report on the collections efforts that he has made in 2023. Manager Jones reported that as today the Clerks office has collected millions and millions of dollars in delinquent taxes. Businesses can start submitting their 2024 applications for their license on November 01, 2023. Manager Jones gave a list of requirements for a business to be issued a license and maintain that license. Manager Jones reported that over 40 million dollars in delinquent taxes has been collected.

The Aldermen will receive a spreadsheet that highlights the businesses in their wards. Manager Jones informed the council of a Share point file where the council will have access to the businesses in their wards.

Recovery Efforts
Report from
Chief Bendinelli

Assistant Chief Bendinelli reported on the timeline of events from the September 17, 2023 flood event. Assistant Chief Bendinelli immediately contacted the county and started the process of getting Calumet City's flood deemed as a natural disaster. their damages. There has been 1451 residents who completed the damage assessment form. The damage assessment form was created by IT Megan Wilson and Assistant Chief Bendinelli for the residents to document damages. On September 20, 2023 the council voted to assist residents by using one million dollars of the American Rescue Plan Act funds (ARPA) for restoration and recovery. The American Red Cross distributed kits to aid residents in cleaning their homes. On October 04, 2023 Cook County declared the flood event a disaster. Between October 11, 2023 and October 17, 2023 the county and FEMA walked calumet city neighborhoods and knocked on residents doors to get an account of the damages. It was documented that 499 homes sustained damages. Due to the ARPA funds the city has been able to complete 43 homes. Assistant Chief

Bendinelli recommended that residents be educated on homeowners insurance.

There was a brief discussion regarding reimbursement for residents that paid out of pocket for repairs.

Assistant Chief Bendinelli informed the council of the difference between the SBA Loan and the FEMA grant.

There was a brief discussion regarding the invoices that came in over the \$9,000.00 maximum the council agreed upon.

Discussion

Alderman Navarrete motioned for discussion regarding reimbursing residents that have already paid for repairs. The Council decided that the last day to apply for with the city will be October 31, 2023.

Direct Treasurer to Remit Payment to Restore

Alderman Gardner moved, seconded by Alderman Smith to direct the city Treasurer to remit payment to Restore in the amount of \$307,155.32 from the ARPA account#01099-52738 (Cares Act Funding).

ROLL CALL

YEAS: 7 ALDERMEN: Navarrete, Wilson, Tillman, Williams, Gardner, Patton, Smith
NAYS: 0 ALDERMEN: NONE
ABSENT: 0 ALDERMEN: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion Regarding Benford Brown & Associates Contract

There was a brief discussion regarding contract approval for Benford Brown & Associates. The Treasurer advises that the Benford Brown & Associates would be paid of the Special Corporate Audit line item.

Alderman Wilson

Alderman Wilson requested to enter into executive session.

Mayor Jones

Mayor Jones stated "executive session is not on the agenda."

Alderman Wilson

Alderman Wilson stated executive session is listed under item 10 and proceeded to read the item.

Alderman Navarrete

Alderman Navarrete motioned for discussion; he inquired about not being able to go into executive session.

Alderman Navarrete asked Attorney Walsh "why the council could not enter into

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executive session.”

Mayor Jones

“The answer is no.”

Contract Approval
For Benford Brown
& Associates

Alderman Williams seconded by Alderman Smith to approve the contract for Benford Brown & Associates.

ROLL CALL

YEAS:	2	ALDERMEN:	Williams, Smith
NAYS:	4	ALDERMEN:	Navarrete, Wilson, Gardner, Patton
ABSENT:	0	ALDERMEN:	NONE
PRESENT:	1	ALDERMEN:	Tillman

MOTION FAILED

Direct Treasurer
To Remit Payment
To Benford Brown
& Associates
(Tabled)

Motion to approve payment to Benford Brown & Associates for invoice #18220 #18220 authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of \$4,750.00 and charge account #01099-52610. (Tabled)

Direct Treasurer
To Remit Payment
To Beford Brown
& Associates
(Tabled)

Motion to approve payment to Benford Brown & Associates for invoice #18222; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of \$7,125.00 and charge account #01099-52610 (Tabled)

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Jones asked the council to email him with any last minute items to be added to the agenda.

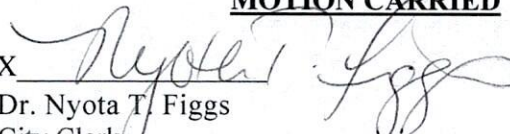
Halloween hours for City Hall are 3p.m. to 6 p.m.

Engineers recommended Wes Towing for the City’s Towing contract.

Adjournment

Alderman Smith moved, seconded by Alderman Gardner to adjourn at 7:21 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

X 
Dr. Nyota T. Figgs
City Clerk