

SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

HELD ON JULY 28, 2026

204 PULASKI ROAD, CALUMET CITY, ILLINOIS

CALL TO ORDER The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. on July 28, 2026, by Mayor Thaddeus Jones.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT 7 ALDERMEN: Harvey, Wilson, Tillman, Williams, Gardner, Nelson,
 Phillips.

ABSENT: 0 ALDERMEN: None

Also present were: City Clerk Dr. Figgs, City Treasurer Tarka, Deputy Treasurer Nicole Rudder, City Administrator Deanne Jaffrey, Police Chief Kolosh, Fire Chief Bachert, ESDA Director Ashley Allen, Crime Free Housing Director Mike Banshee, Deputy Fire Chief Sam Vega, Corporation Counsel Maurie Hunt, Payroll Coordinator Diana Gonzalez Finance Director John Kasperek, and Deputy Clerk I Jessica Coffee.

PUBLIC COMMENT None

Motion to Enter Into Closed Session Alderman Nelson moved, seconded by Alderman Gardner to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing the employment of specific individuals.

Executive Session The city council met in executive session from 6:04 p.m. to 7:58 p.m.

Return to Regular Order of Business Alderman Harvey moved seconded by Alderman Wilson to return to the regular order of business at 7:58 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Appointments

Alderman Nelson moved seconded by Alderman Harvey to appoint and Laverne Murphy for a 1-year term to end on April 30, 2027 as the Economic Development Director and to appoint and directly hire Sonia Khalil as the Assistant Director of Economic Development for a 1-year term to end April 30, 2027.

ROLL CALL

AYES:	7	ALDERMEN:	Harvey, Wilson, Tillman, Williams, Gardner. Nelson, Phillips
NAYS:	0	ALDERMEN:	None
ABSENT:	0	ALDERMAN:	None

MOTION CARRIED

RECESS

The council took a recess at 8:03 p.m.

Return to the Regular Order of Business

The council returned to the regular order of business at 8:15 p.m.

Motion to Enter Into Closed Session

Alderman Phillips moved, seconded by Alderman Harvey to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing the employment of specific individuals, salary ordinance, personnel and fulltime and part time employees at 8:16 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Executive Session

The city council met in executive session from 8:16 p.m. to 11:31 p.m.

Return to Regular Order of Business

Alderman Gardner moved seconded by Alderman Phillips to return to the regular order of business at 11:31 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

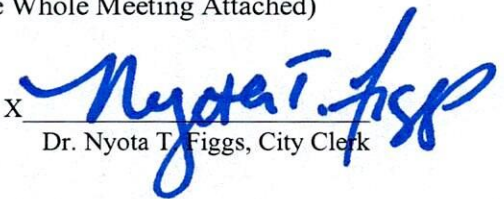
RECESS

The council will recess the Special Committee of the Whole meeting on July 28, 2026, until the Special Committee of the Whole meeting at 6:00 p.m. on July 29, 2026, on a motion by Alderman Phillips, seconded by Alderman Nelson.

MOTION CARRIED

(Please see the continuation of the July 28, 2026, Special Committee of the Whole Meeting Attached)

X


Dr. Nyota T. Figgs, City Clerk

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING JULY 28, 2026
CONTINUED ON JULY 29, 2026, AT 7:01 P.M.
204 PULASKI ROAD, CALUMET CITY, ILLINOIS**

Return From
Recess

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting from July 28, 2026, continued at 7:01 p.m. on July 29, 2026, by Mayor Thaddeus Jones.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT	7	ALDERMEN: Harvey, Wilson, Tillman, Williams, Gardner, Nelson, Phillips.
ABSENT:	0	ALDERMEN: None

Also present were: City Clerk Dr. Figgs, City Treasurer Tarka, City Administrator Deanne Jaffrey, Police Chief Kolosh, Fire Chief Bachert, ESDA Director Ashley Allen, Crime Free Housing Director Mike Banskee, Deputy Fire Chief Sam Vega, Corporation Counsel Maurie Hunt, Corporation Counsel Paul O'Grady, Finance Director John Kasperek, and Deputy Clerk I Jessica Coffee.

PUBLIC COMMENT None

Health Insurance
Program Presentation
Presentation

Insurance Broker Cliff Taylor gave a presentation regarding the City of Calumet City's privately funded insurance. Cliff Taylor gave the council a report on insurance costs from the previous years and recommended the council select the option that has a \$175,000.00 Stop Loss; he stated this will benefit the city and is the most cost effective.

Finance Director
Insurance Discussion

Finance Director Kasperek gave a brief overview of the insurance cost for the city and why the city continues to choose Blue Cross Blue Shield year after year. Finance Director Kasperek reported to the council that the city's renewal date is August 1st of every year.

Healthcare Cost
Discussion

There was a brief discussion regarding insurance costs for the city and its employees and the timeframe this matter has been presented to the council in.

Alderman Nelson asked the mayor why this is being presented to the council at the last minute when a decision has to be made by August 1st.

Mayor Jones stated that union negotiations affect how quickly this process can take place.

Members of the council requested time to look over the documentation received From Cliff Taylor to be able to make an informed decision.

RECESS

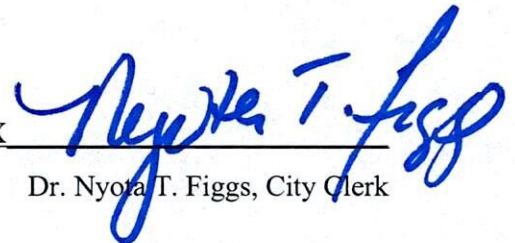
The council recessed until Special Committee of the Whole meeting at 5:59 p.m. on July 30, 2026, on a motion by Alderman Harvey, seconded by Alderman Gardner.

ROLL CALL

AYES:	7	ALDERMEN:	Harvey, Wilson, Tillman, Williams, Gardner. Nelson, Phillips
NAYS:	0	ALDERMEN:	None
ABSENT:	0	ALDERMAN:	None

a(Please see the continuation of the July 28, 2026, Special Committee of the Whole Meeting Attached)

MOTION CARRIED

X 
Dr. Nyola T. Figgs, City Clerk

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING JULY 28, 2026
CONTINUED ON JULY 30, 2026, AT 6:13 P.M.
204 PULASKI ROAD, CALUMET CITY, ILLINOIS**

Reconvened From The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting from July 28, 2026, continued at
The Special 6:13 p.m. on July 30, 2026, by Mayor Thaddeus Jones.
Committee of The
Whole Meeting
Recess

ROLL CALL

PRESENT 7 ALDERMEN: Harvey (Remote-Audio), Wilson, Tillman, Williams, Gardner,
Nelson, Phillips.
ABSENT: 0 ALDERMEN: None

Also present were: City Clerk Dr. Figgs, City Treasurer Tarka,
City Administrator Deanne Jaffrey, Police Chief Kolosh, Fire Chief Bachert
ESDA Director Ashley Allen, Crime Free Housing Director Mike Banskee,
Deputy Fire Chief Sam Vega, Corporation Counsel Maurie Hunt,
Corporation Counsel Paul O'Grady, Finance Director John Kasperek, and Deputy
Clerk I Jessica Coffee.

PUBLIC COMMENT None

Alderman Harvey Alderman Harvey requested remote access to the Special Committee
Request for Remote of the Whole due to work obligations.
Attendance for the
Special Committee
of the Whole Meeting

Approval for Remote Alderman Williams moved, seconded by Alderman Phillips to
Attendance For approve remote attendance for Alderman Harvey for the Special
Alderman Harvey Committee of the Whole Meeting continuance from July 28, 2026, at
6:13 p.m.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 ALDERMEN: Wilson, Tillman, Williams, Gardner. Nelson, Phillips
NAYS: 0 ALDERMEN: None
ABSENT: 0 ALDERMAN: None

MOTION CARRIED

Alderman Harvey Alderman Harvey was present in the Special Committee of the
Remotely Present Whole Meeting at 6:14 p.m.
in the Special
Committee of the
Whole Meeting

Health Insurance
Program Discussion

There was a brief discussion regarding the different pricing options for the city.

Alderman Wilson inquired if the rate negotiated was the lowest amount.

Broker Cliff Taylor reported that after negotiating with Blue Cross Blue Shield underwriting team for a few weeks the two options provided were the best options due to claim costs from the prior year.

Alderman Harvey inquired if the recent layoffs will alter the cost.

Broker Cliff Taylor stated the cost of the insurance will continue to fluctuate based upon employee enrollment.

Approval of the
2026-2027 Health
Insurance Program

Alderman Wilson moved, seconded by Alderman Gardner to approve the 2026-2027 Health Insurance Program for city employees from August 2026- August 2027.

ROLL CALL

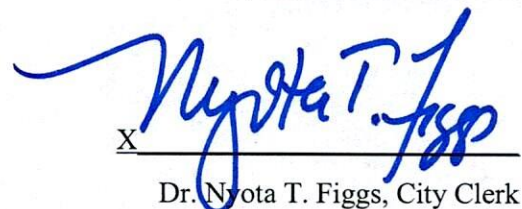
AYES:	7	ALDERMEN:	Harvey, Wilson, Tillman, Williams, Gardner. Nelson, Phillips
NAYS:	0	ALDERMEN:	None
ABSENT:	0	ALDERMAN:	None

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Nelson moved, seconded by Alderman Phillips to adjourn at 6:24 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

X 
Dr. Nyota T. Figs, City Clerk