
**THE CITY OF CALUMET CITY
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**ORDINANCE
NUMBER 25-22**

**AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE POSITION OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BY
AMENDING ARTICLE VI ("DEPARTMENTS"), DIVISION 2 ("DEPARTMENT OF
LAW") OF CHAPTER 2 ("ADMINISTRATION") OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE
CITY OF CALUMET CITY**

THADDEUS JONES

NYOTA T. FIGGS, City Clerk

**SHALISA HARVEY
MONET S. WILSON
DEANDRE TILLMAN
RAMONDE WILLIAMS
DEJUAN GARDNER
MIACOLE NELSON
MELISSA PHILLIPS**

Alderspersons

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WHEREAS, the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois (the "City") is a home rule municipality pursuant to Section 6(a), Article VII of the 1970 Constitution of the State of Illinois, and as such may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs (the "Home Rule Powers"); and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Calumet City (the "Corporate Authorities") may from time to time amend the text of the Municipal Code of the City of Calumet City, Illinois when it is in the best interest of the City; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 2-581 of the Municipal Code of the City of Calumet City establishes and governs the Department of Law, which embraces the city attorney and the city prosecutor, who are appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City currently also employs a Corporation Counsel, who was also appointed by, and serves at the discretion, of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the Alderpersons of the City Council may, from time to time, choose not to seek legal counsel from the City Attorney or Corporation Counsel; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has concerns with the manner in which parliamentary procedure is followed or ruled upon during full City Council Meetings and seeks to retain independent counsel to provide opinions on parliamentary procedure and other such matters as may be requested by the City Council; and

ORDINANCE NO. 25-22

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the City of Calumet City for the City Council to have an attorney they, and other officers, may consult with for legal opinions, ordinances, and other matters as requested by the City Council and further provided below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois, by and through its home rule powers, as follows:

Section 1: That the above recitals and legislative findings are found to be true and correct and are hereby incorporated herein and made a part hereof, as if fully set forth in their entirety.

Section 2: Division 2 "Department of Law" of Article VI "Departments" of Chapter 2 "Administration" of the Municipal Code of the City of Calumet City is hereby amended adding the underscored text as a new Subdivision V, Section 2-655 of the Municipal Code of the City of Calumet City, as follows:

Subdivision V. – Legislative Counsel.

Section 2-655. Position, Powers, and Duties.

- (a) It is in the best interests of the City of Calumet City for the City Council to retain legislative counsel to independently advise Alderpersons on matters relating to their legislative duties and, therefore, there is hereby created the position of Legislative Counsel who shall be an independent contractor hired by majority vote of the City Council. The Legislative Counsel shall be independent, and not subject to the direction of the City Attorney, the Corporation Counsel, and the City Prosecutor.
- (b) The Legislative Counsel shall have the following duties and shall be subject to the following requirements:
 - (i) It is in the best interests of the City of Calumet City for the City Council to retain legislative counsel independently to serve as legal advisor to the City Council and counsel on matters relating to their legislative duties, which may include, but are not limited to, the drafting of ordinances, contract documents, opinions on the powers of the legislative branch, analysis of the validity of actions taken by the City, review of litigation issues, representation of the corporate

ORDINANCE NO. 25-22

authorities regarding legislative matters in litigation, defend the City Council and its members against claims and lawsuits, advise the City Council on other proposed amendments to the Municipal Code of Calumet City, settlement of litigation, tax increment financing, economic development, other economic, finance, and tax related issues as may come before the City Council and any committees thereof, and providing other advice on matters within the purview of the legislative branch of municipal government.

- (ii) The Legislative Counsel shall attend meetings of the City Council, and any committees thereof, as requested by the members of the City Council. The Legislative Counsel shall be parliamentarian of the City Council and, upon request, shall render opinion and advice on questions of parliamentary law and procedure applicable to matters arising before the City Council.
- (iii) Alderspersons shall each be authorized to direct questions related to their legislative duties to the independent Legislative Counsel. Alderspersons may seek legal counsel regarding any matters within the range of items specified above.
- (iv) The City Clerk is hereby authorized to seek counsel and direct questions to the independent Legislative Counsel at the City Clerk's discretion. The City Council may authorize any other City officer or employee to utilize the independent Legislative Counsel, as the City Council may deem necessary and proper.
- (v) The independent Legislative Counsel shall be retained at a rate authorized by the City Council for any term but not exceeding the term of the Mayor. The Legislative Counsel shall be hired by a majority vote of the members of the City Council.

Section 3: That the City Council hereby appoints and retains the law firm, Odelson, Murphey, Frazier and McGrath, Ltd. as Legislative Counsel pursuant to Section 2-655 of the Municipal Code of Calumet City, as amended herein; and that the City Council hereby finds and determines that the foregoing appointment conforms in all respects with Illinois law.

Section 4: If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity thereof shall not affect any other provision of this Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-22

Section 5. That the retention agreement (the "Agreement") between the City and Odelson, Murphey, Frazier and McGrath, Ltd. is hereby authorized and approved.

Section 6: All ordinances, resolutions, motions, or orders in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 7: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage due to the urgency of this matter as found by the City Council pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/1-2-4 and as otherwise provided by law.

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ORDINANCE NO. 25-22

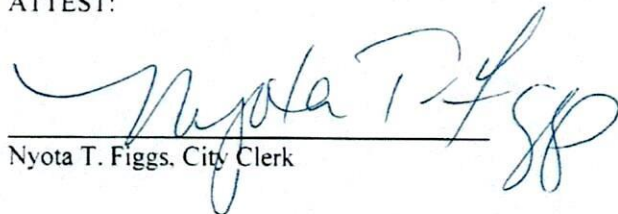
ADOPTED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois this 18th day of December, 2025, pursuant to a roll call vote, as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	PRESENT
HARVEY	X			
WILSON	X			
TILLMAN				X
WILLIAMS	X			
GARDNER	X			
NELSON	X			
PHILLIPS	X			
(JONES)				

APPROVED this 18th day of December, 2025.


Thaddeus Jones

ATTEST:


Nyota T. Figs, City Clerk

Approval of Public Works Overtime

Alderman Williams moved, seconded by Alderwoman Wilson to approve overtime at Public Works on December 20, 2025, for the annual Christmas Toy Drive for the 4th ward.

ROLL CALL

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

MOTION CARRIED

Adjournment

Alderwoman Nelson moved to adjourn, seconded by Alderwoman Wilson at 6:19 pm.

MOTION CARRIED

X 

Dr. Nyota T. Figgs
City Clerk