

**SPECIAL MEETING
HELD ON JUNE 23, 2025
204 PULASKI ROAD, CALUMET CITY,
ILLINOIS**

CALL TO ORDER The Special Meeting of the City Council was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Mayor Thaddeus Jones.

PRESENT: 7 ALDERMEN: Harvey, Wilson, Tillman (6:11 p.m.),
 Williams (Remote at 6:24 p.m.), Gardner (6:10 p.m.)
 Nelson, Phillips.

ABSENT: 0 ALDERMEN: None

Also present were: City Clerk Dr. Figgs, City Treasurer Tarka, Fire Chief Bachert, Police Chief Kolosh, Deputy Clerk I Jessica Coffee, Deputy Clerk II Quentin Dailey, City Administrator Deanne Jaffrey, Attorney Mark Sterk, Economic Development Val Williams, Christina Signorelli, Bernadette Fortuna, and Finance Director John Kasperek.

Public Comment: None

Val Williams Economic Developments Val Williams gave a report regarding
Explanation of record keeping for the 147 grants the city has obtained. Val Williams
Record Keeping reported that all grants are assigned a number and placed in a shared file
For Grants with the Finance Department. Val Williams spoke about a personnel
 change in March 2023 that ceased grant reporting for a period of time.

Nicole Rudder Deputy Treasurer Nicole Rudder reported on the Department of
Deputy Treasurer Justice Corrective Action Plan the City of Calumet City has been
 placed on. Deputy Rudder gave a summary regarding the polices and
 the training requirements for all individuals involved with the Grant
 Reporting process. The Department of Justice will come in and test
 the process in a few months to make sure the city is in compliance.
 Deputy Treasurer Rudder stated she believes a centralized person is
 needed that signs off on the grants monthly and keeps up with the
 expenditures and draw downs.

Alderman Alderman Williams requested remote access to the June 23, 2025
Williams Special Meeting because he is out of town for work.
Requested
Remote
Participation

Approval of
Remote
Participation for
Alderman
Williams

Alderwoman Nelson moved, seconded by Alderwoman Harvey to allow Alderman Williams to participate remotely in the Special meeting held on June 23, 2025.

ROLL CALL

YEAS:	5	ALDERMEN:	Harvey, Tillman, Gardner, Nelson, Phillips
NAYS:	0	ALDERMEN:	None
ABSENT:	0	ALDERMEN:	None
PRESENT:	1	ALDERMEN:	Wilson

MOTION CARRIED

Alicia Benford
Benford Brown
And Associates

Alicia Benford gave a report on her history with grant reporting for Calumet City. Alicia Benford commented regarding her company's credentials.

City Treasurer
Gerald Tarka

Treasurer Tarka stated his predecessor created a position where there was a centralized person who monitored the city's grants and received a stipend for the work.

Finance Director
John Kasperek

Finance Director Kasperek commented regarding the departments being clear on duties and responsibilities as it relates to grants. Director Kasperek reported on the importance of being compliant and being accurate with the grant reporting. Director Kasperek reported there will be a lock on certain funding until the city is in compliance with the Department of Justice.

Alderwoman
Wilson

Alderwoman Wilson stated that she felt there was a conflict of interest due to Benford Brown and Associates being apart of active litigation with the City Of Calumet City. Alderwoman Wilson stated she believes the company is Capable but there is an integrity issue.

Alderman
Gardner

Alderman Gardner stated he would prefer to have John Kasperek's firm handle the city's grant reporting.

Mayor Jones
Review of the
Regular City
Council Meeting
Agenda

Mayor Jones led a brief discussion regarding the upcoming agenda for the Regular City Council Meeting on June 26, 2025. Mayor Jones requested that any changes or additions to the agenda be emailed to him in a timely manner.

Alderman
Gardner

Alderman Gardner inquired about how much money Mayor Jones set allotted for Calumet City as a State Representative.

Mayor Jones

Mayor Jones stated he will send Alderman Gardner an email with with an accurate list. Mayor Jones gave a brief report on the previous funding for Calumet City via the State Budget.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Jones reported the 6th and 7th ward Alderwomen will be having a joint meeting on June 28, 2025, at DA's Banquet Hall.
Mayor Jones announced the 4th of July event on July 03, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Sears Parking lot.

Adjournment

Alderman Williams moved to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Harvey at 7:35 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

X

Dr. Nyota T. Figgs
City Clerk