

**SPECIAL MEETING
HELD ON AUGUST 15, 2024
204 PULASKI ROAD, CALUMET CITY,
ILLINOIS**

CALL TO ORDER The Special Meeting of the City Council was called to order at 6:13p.m. by Mayor Jones.

PRESENT 7 ALDERMEN: Navarrete, Wilson (6:30 p.m.), Tillman, Williams Gardner (6:21 p.m.), Patton (6:19 p.m.), Smith

ABSENT: 0 ALDERMEN: None

Also present were Mayor Jones, City Clerk Figgs, City Treasurer Tarka, (Remotely) Deputy Clerk I Jessica Coffee, City Administrator Deanne Jaffrey, Police Chief Kolosh, Attorney Anthony Bass, Director Tillman.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Mayor's Report Mayor Jones reported all the rights to Wentworth Woods have been awarded to the City of Calumet City and the city has received a Judicial Deed. Mayor Jones commented regarding the second meeting in September; the council will discuss the headhunter for the Economic Development Director position and IML. Mayor Jones invited the council to the soft opening of Sunset at 1455 Ring Road it will be from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on August 20, 2024 for Elected Officials and City Staff. Mayor Jones announced there will be a meeting held on August 20, 2024 to discuss IMRF and Shoppers World at 5:30 p.m.

Taxpayers Ordinance There was a lengthy presentation of the 2024-2025 Calumet City Tax Payers Ordinance by Attorney Anthony Bass. Attorney Bass commented regarding his task given to him by Mayor Jones to find a solution to give the residents relief. Attorney Bass explained how utilizing the surplus funds will assist the residents more than it would impact the city.

Alderman Tillman Taxpayers Ordinance Alderman Tillman expressed concerned about the amount of time the Taxing Bodies have to waive their interest in the TIF and asked for case law.

Attorney Bass Taxpayers Ordinance Attorney Bass reported the Taxing Bodies have 14 days to waive their interest in the TIF. Attorney Bass informed the council that the 14 days can be extended.

Alderman Wilson Discussion Alderman Wilson would like to know if ARPA funds are able to be used for the tax relief program. Alderman Wilson stated she would feel more comfortable voting on a program with guidelines already in place. Alderman Wilson feels that more should be done on the state level to fund the schools.

Attorney Bass ARPA Funds Attorney Bass reported that after researching the matter ARPA funds cannot be used for this program.

Alderman Patton TIF Funds Alderman Patton inquired about the growth of the TIF funds on a yearly basis. Alderman Patton expressed concerned about the number of homeowners in the TIF districts and what rate will be added back to the TIF funds. Alderman Patton expressed concerns about the city being able to be sued because of this program.

Finance Director TIF Funds Finance Director John Kasperek commented regarding the TIF becoming a surplus and how the guidelines change once that happens. Director Kasperek stated that using this surplus is a one time occurrence so the funds will continue to grow going forward. Director Kasperek mentioned that the River Oaks TIF receives 1.5 million to 2 million a year.

Alderman Gardner TIF Usage Alderman Gardner commented regarding utilizing 80 percent of the TIF being a high amount. Alderman Gardner suggested waiting 30 days until the deadline past to gage how much assistance is needed by the residents at that point.

Alderman Tillman TIF Usage Alderman Tillman requested the TIF Attorney be present at future meetings regarding the use of TIF funds.

Motion for Closed Session Alderman Williams moved, seconded by Alderman Wilson to enter into executive session at 7:47 p.m. for the purpose of potential litigation and acquisition of property.

MOTION CARRIED

Executive Session The council met in executive session from 7:47 p.m. to 8:44 p.m.


Return to Regular Order Alderman Smith moved, seconded by Alderman Williams to return to the regular order of business at 8:44 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Adjournment

Alderman Gardner moved to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Smith at 8:45 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

X 

Dr. Nyota T. Figs
City Clerk