

SPECIAL MEETING
HELD ON JUNE 04, 2026
204 PULASKI ROAD, CALUMET CITY, ILLINOIS

CALL TO ORDER The Special meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.
on June 04, 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 (Remote-Audio), Deputy Treasurer Nicole Rudder, Legislative Counsel Attorney Avery, City Administrator Deanne Jaffrey, Building and Zoning Director Tillman, Fire Chief Bachert, Deputy Jessica Coffee, and Human Resource Director Deston Dorchak.

PUBLIC COMMENT Whitney Helm of the 2nd ward commented regarding the need for speed bumps near the Skate Park at 540 Campbell Avenue.

Kendra Freeman of the 5th ward requested the Council have a State of the Budget meeting so that the residents can have a clear understanding of the city's financial situation.

Aaron Guyrin from Local 150 commented regarding the recent layoffs of Local150 members. Aaron Guyrin expressed his disappointment with Calumet City for not communicating the need to lay people off. worked Aaron Guyrin stated if the union had been notified, they would have attempted to work with the city to come up with an amicable solution.

Calumet City Police
Department Update
Deputy Chief Black's
Report

Calumet City Police Department Deputy Chief Black gave a report on crime and ticketing; there has been a 100% increase in DUI arrest and 3,034 traffic stops through the end of May in the city of Calumet City. Deputy Chief Black reported the department is currently down two officers and at the end of June the department will lose two more officers due to retirement.

Discussion Regarding
Calumet City Police
Department Actions

Alderman Wilson asked for the record "how did the fire in the police garage about a month in a half ago start."

Deputy Chief Black advised that he was not a part of that investigation he is not a firefighter.

Alderman Nelson reported there has been loitering on the corner of Burnham Avenue and River Oaks Drive and the residents don't want that in our city. Alderman Nelson requested there be more of a police presence on that corner.

Alderman Wilson inquired about orange stickers being placed on resident's vehicle when receiving a ticket.

Deputy Chief Black gave a report on the specific process of stagnant cars.

Alderman Wilson stated that her ward is an older ward and they might not move their vehicles every day. Alderman Wilson suggested the ordinance that allows tow stickers to be placed on residents' vehicles be reviewed.

Direct Legislative
Counsel to Review
The Ordinance
Regarding Ticketing

Alderman Nelson moved, seconded by Alderman Wilson to direct Legislative Counsel to review the ordinance and return to the Ordinance and Resolution Committee with any recommendations.

ROLL CALL

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

MOTION CARRIED

Calumet City Fire
Department Update

Calumet City Fire Chief Bachert gave a report on the over 10,000 calls the department has gone on with only two stations.

Chief Bachert announced the department is currently down three firefighters. Fire Chief Bachert commented regarding the collaboration with Calumet Memorial Park where the park will be renamed Fireman Pete's Park; this park will be handicap accessible and have a fire truck theme. Fire Chief Bachert reported the training center brought in over \$60,000.00 just off of classes alone. Fire Chief Bachert reported the department has ordered 2 new ambulances because they are on back order the ambulances are expected to be received in the next two years.

Calumet City Fire
Department
Investigation
Discussion

Alderman Wilson stated for the record “how did the fire start in the Police Department garage?”

Fire Chief Bachert reported to the council the fire started on a pallet

Economic
Development Update

Mayor Jones requested the economic development update be allowed to be given at a later time since majority of the Economic Development Department took a voluntary layoff.

Alderman Nelson requested a list of all the businesses opened in Calumet City from 2024 to present.

Alderman Nelson requested the retrieval of Class 8 monies if the businesses are closed and they were given taxpayer dollars.

Alderman Harvey stated that Cleo Jones will provide a list of the businesses per ward.

Alderman Nelson requested a list of all city owned property which would include residential commercial or private and the address;

Alderman Nelson also requested the price the properties were bought and sold for before the next meeting.

Alderman Nelson requested a list of properties that were gifted.

Alderman Nelson stated the council needs to have a discussion on the different ways the city is acquiring property.

Alderman Wilson inquired about TIF money given to businesses that are no longer operating in the TIF area they were given the funds from.

Alderman Nelson requested a list of any businesses that were given taxpayer dollars from 2024 to present on the list a dollar amount and the recipients.

Building and
Zoning Update

Building and Zoning Director Sheryl Tillman announced that there are 14 people in her department. Director Tillman reported that inspections for the department begin at 8:15 a.m. every morning. Director Tillman announced there were 215 citations written in the month of May. Director Tillman reported that in the month of May there were 82 transfer stamps completed.

Alderman Gardner inquired if all inspectors are certified?

Director Tillman reported that all of the inspectors are not certified but as of January 2027, they will be required by the State of Illinois to be ICC certified.

Water Department
Update

Water Commissioner Gerry Surfka gave an update on the IEPA and USEPA requirements. Commissioner Surfka commented regarding the letter Farnsworth is drafting on the city's behalf that lays out the City's next course of action to be compliant with the USEPA and IEPA. Commissioner Surfka gave a detailed explanation regarding the process of changing the city's water source to one source and eliminating the use of two vendors Chicago and Hammond to one vendor.

Public Works
Update

Deputy Commissioner Kevin Embry introduced Director Chris Pinner from Lyons and Pinner. Director Chris Pinner reported on the state of the street lighting and traffic systems which Lyons and Pinner maintain for the City of Calumet City. Chris Pinner reported that the company does not have a current contract and has been operating off of the previously expired contract. Lyons and Pinner proposed the city replace 25 lights for the amount of \$9,348.00. Alderman Nelson requested the proposal and the previous contract.

Deputy Commissioner Kevin Embry gave a brief overview regarding the department's day-to-day work. Commissioner Embry reported the department is down 15 employees. There was a brief discussion regarding the sidewalk list and if the city will have the manpower to repair the sidewalks.

Recess

The city council took a 5-minute recess at 7:58 p.m.

Return to the Regular
Order of Business

The city council returned to the regular order of business at 8:07 p.m.

Discussion an Action
On Employee Vehicle
Use Policy

Alderman Nelson requested the City Administrator Deanne Jaffrey comprise a list of all the city vehicles, the drivers, and if that driver has permission or the need to take the vehicle home.

Discussion an Action
On Vehicle Policy

Alderman Nelson requested the City Administrator Deanne Jaffrey comprise a list of all the city vehicles, the drivers, and if that driver has permission or the need to take the vehicle home.

Deputy Commissioner Kevin Embry reported that the department is almost done updating the city vehicles with the seal and plates.

Alderman Tillman suggested the council needs to be made aware of the circumstances that allow city vehicles to be taken home.

City Administrator Deanne Jaffrey stated department heads have been given a form to outline who is in possession of all city property including vehicles.

Alderman Gardner recommended the council wait on the list to be provided before the policy is changed.

City Administrator Jaffrey was directed to provide the list to the by June 17, 2026.

Alderman Wilson expressed that the Ordinance should be updated to have the council approved people to take home vehicles the decision should not be made by one person.

Discussion and Action
On the Ordinance
26-07 Enumerating
the Powers and
Authorities of the
City Clerk

City Clerk Figgs reported to the council that she has requested access to all platforms to be able to regain control of her office; the request has gone unanswered. City Clerk Figgs commented on the unanswered request for a hard copy key to the doors.

Alderman Wilson requested that amendments be made to Ordinance 26-07 to reflect the Clerk creating the agendas.

Alderman Gardner requested that an amendment be made to Ordinance 26-07 to have the City Clerk Supervise the Water Clerks.

Amendment of
Ordinance 26-07

Alderman Nelson moved, seconded by Alderman Tillman to amend Ordinance 26-07 to include the City Clerk will supervise the Water Clerks, the City Clerk will in addition to posting the agenda create the agenda, and the City Clerk will have the provision of no interference with the operation of the Clerk's office.

ROLL CALL

AYES:	6	ALDERMEN:	Harvey, Wilson, Tillman, Gardner, Nelson, Phillips
NAYS:	0	ALDERMEN:	None
ABSENT:	0	ALDERMAN:	None
PRESENT:	1	ALDERMAN:	Williams

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion and
Action on

Alderman Tillman announced Mayor Jones was given a two week extension to provide receipts and back up documentation for

Regarding Credit
Card Reimbursement

the city credit card usage the due date is the 19th of June.

Discussion Regarding
A Municipal Hiring
Policy

Alderman Nelson requested the council make time to create Job Descriptions and qualifications for all positions.

Alderman Wilson requested to address job descriptions and qualifications during budget season.

Alderman Tillman agreed that the Job Descriptions can wait until budget season due to the hiring freeze.

Discussion and
Action on River
Realty LLC and The
City Of Calumet City

City council members commented regarding the need for Corporation Council to attend all meetings. Alderman Nelson raised concerns about River Oaks Realty LLC and The City of Calumet City and the need for an update and review of documentation

Approval of
Document Release
Regarding River
Oaks Realty LLC
And Local 700
Brotherhood

Alderman Nelson moved, seconded by Alderman Phillips to direct the City Attorney to release legal documents to Legislative Counsel and the City Council regarding River Oaks LLC. And Local 700 Brotherhood.

ROLL CALL

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

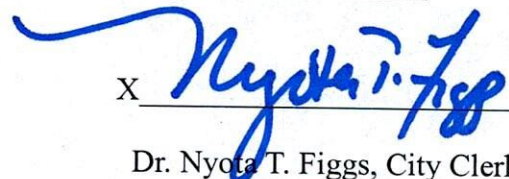
MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment was at 8:15 p.m., on a motion by Alderman Harvey, seconded by Alderman Wilson.

MOTION CARRIED

X



Dr. Nyota T. Figgs, City Clerk