

**FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
HELD ON JULY 22, 2025
204 PULASKI ROAD, CALUMET CITY,
ILLINOIS**

CALL TO ORDER The Finance Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Mayor Jones.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT	7	ALDERMEN: Harvey, Wilson (6:49 p.m.), Tillman, Williams, Gardner (6:22 p.m.), Nelson, Phillips.
ABSENT:	0	ALDERMEN: NONE

Also present were : City Clerk Dr. Figgs, City Treasurer Tarka, Deputy Clerk I Jessica Coffee, Deputy Clerk II Quentin Dailey, Attorney Lanzito, Police Chief Kolosh, Fire Chief Bachert, Economic Development Val Williams, Economic Development Interim Director Christina Signorelli, Public Works Commissioner Jericho Thomas, Finance Director Kasperek, City Administrator Deanne Jaffrey, Attorney Lanzito, Deputy Commissioner Josh Brown, Deputy Commissioner Scott Nnamah, and Water and Sewer Commissioner Gerry Surfka.

PUBLIC COMMENT None

Discussion and Review of 2025-2026 Annual Appropriation Finance Director John Kasperek led a discussion and Review of the 2025-2026 Annual Appropriation Ordinance for the following Departments:

Inspectional Services Finance Director Kasperek gave a brief overview of the Inspectional Service Department

Inspectional Services Alderman Williams inquired if positions were removed from
Position Inquiry Inspectional Services.

Mayor Jones informed Alderman Williams that no positions were removed from Inspectional Services.

<u>Inspectional Services</u>	Finance Director Kasperek stated the budget has decreased for the
<u>Decreased Budget</u>	Inspectional Services Department upcoming fiscal year; the budget is about \$47,000.00 less.

Community
Development
Department

Finance Director Kasperek gave a review of the Community Economic Development Department. There was a detailed discussion regarding salaries, contractual workers, and positions.

Finance Director Kasperek stated the budget has decreased by approximately \$100,000.00 in salaries but there was an overall increase in the total budget.

Alderwoman Nelson inquired about \$310,000.00 that is being spent on contracted workers training and salaries and if the current contractors have done any work.

Interim Director of the Community Development Department Christina Signorelli replied that the contractors have not done any work but monies have been paid out of that line item.

Mayor Jones

Mayor Jones requested the council allow the Community Economic Development department a year to get things in order.

IT Department

Finance Director Kasperek stated the IT Department budget has increased due to an IT Maintenance Fee line item being added for this upcoming fiscal year.

Finance Director
Kasperek

Finance Director Kasperek gave a brief overview of the Street & Alley departments. There was a detailed discussion regarding overtime and salaries.

Commissioner Thomas commented regarding the amount of overtime cost for the Public Works department and stated he doesn't anticipate it being that high this fiscal year because he doesn't anticipate bad weather like last year.

Alderwoman Wilson suggested Public Works staggering the schedule so there is always staff working and this should cut down on the overtime. Alderwoman Wilson stated that residents have a need for assistance past 3:00 p.m. so multiple shifts would be beneficial for the city.

Mayor Jones stated that the city is in negotiations with the union where staggering the shifts is being discussed.

Water Department

Finance Director Kasperek led a discussion regarding the resident's water bills, funding for the pumping stations, and the painting of fire hydrants around the city. Finance Director Kasperek stated there is a deficit in the Water Fund. Director Kasperek stated there is not enough revenue being generated to cover all of the Water projects.

Special Corporate Fund

Finance Director Kasperek led a discussion on the Special Corporate Fund the Finance Director referred to this fund as a “catch all for a lot of major line items” The city’s health insurance and dental insurance comes from the Special Corporate fund. Finance Director Kasperek commented regarding several positions that have been reduced or eliminated.

FOIA Discussion Alderwoman Wilson

Alderwoman Wilson inquired about the number of employees working on FOIA’S.

Mayor Jones gave an explanation of the FOIA process.

Alderman Gardner stated his concern is one person being paid for multiple positions.

Mayor Jones stated the concern should be the insurance costs not the not positions.

Alderman Tillman inquired if the Legal Assistant/ FOIA officer is doing both

Mayor Jones Comments

Mayor Jones stated the positions should read Legal Assistant/ Liens not Legal Assistant/ FOIA; he stated that would be corrected.

Treasurer Tarka Comments Regarding Crossing Guard Program Budget

Treasurer Tarka inquired about a line item for the Crossing Guard program discussed in the Public Safety meeting, and a line item being added to the appropriation.

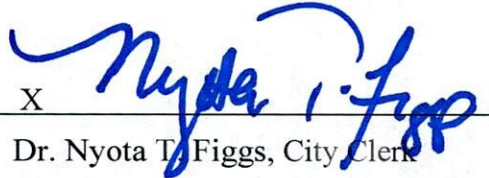
Discussion

The city council had a lengthy discussion regarding funding the Crossing Guard Program for the school districts. Mayor Jones stated he would reach out to the Governor for possible grant assistance. Mayor Jones assigned Attorney Lanzito to work with the school board’s attorney regarding an Intergovernmental Agreement regarding a possible Crossing Guard Program.

Adjournment

Alderman Gardner moved to adjourn, seconded by Alderwoman Nelson at 8:52 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

X 
Dr. Nyota T. Figs, City Clerk