

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

**REGULAR MEETING
City Council of the City of Calumet City
Cook County, Illinois**

JULY 10, 2025

Public Comment

None

Pledge Of Allegiance

The City Council of the City of Calumet City met in the City Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. in a regular meeting on July 10, 2025, with Mayor Thaddeus Jones present and presiding.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 6

ALDERMEN: Harvey, Wilson, Tillman, Williams, Nelson, Phillips.

ABSENT: 1

ALDERMEN: Gardner

Also present was: City Clerk Dr. Figgs, City Treasurer Tarka, Police Chief Kolosh, Fire Chief Bachert, Deputy Clerk I Jessica Coffee, Deputy Clerk II Quentin Dailey, Community Economic Development Val Williams, Building and Zoning Director Sheryl Tillman, City Engineer Matt Buerger, Attorney Mark Sterk.

There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order.

Approval of Minutes

June 26, 2025: Regular City Council Meeting

Approval of Minutes

Alderman Williams moved, seconded by Alderwoman Harvey to approve the minutes as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS TO BE ACCEPTED AND PLACED ON FILE

A. Recognition Letter for Fire Fighter Garcia

RE: A recognition letter for FF Garcia for 2 separate calls for Firefighter and Police Officer first responders.

Fire Chief Glenn Bachert

Fire Chief Glenn Bachert gave a report on the 2 calls where Fire Fighter Garcia went above the call of duty.

Approval of Informational Items to Be Accepted and Placed on File

Alderman Tillman moved, seconded by Alderwoman Harvey to approve informational items to be placed on file.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

#1: Approve Grant Reporting Status

Approve Grant reporting status for all 146 Calumet City Grants since 2021.

#2: Approve Street Closure of Memorial Drive

Approve the August 2nd street closure of Memorial Drive for the annual BLOC Party. Approve amplified noise from 1:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Direct Public Works to place barricades at Memorial & Saginaw and Memorial & Manistee. Please provide two garbage cans. Request community police and fire.

#3: Amend Motion that Appeared on the May 22nd Agenda, Item #7-4

Amend motion that appeared on the May 22nd agenda, item #7-4, to the following: Motion to approve request for street closure of Pulaski Road from Wentworth Avenue to Lincoln for the 2025 Line Dance Party on Friday, August 15th, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Direct Public Works to install vehicle barriers, porta potties, tents and garbage cans on Pulaski Road and notify ESDA for traffic control.

#4: Direct City Attorney to Amend the Handicap Parking Ordinance

Direct the City Attorney to draft an ordinance to amend the handicap parking ordinance to approve and add a handicap pole to be located at 559 Marquette Avenue.

#5: Direct City Attorney to Amend the Handicap Parking Ordinance

Direct the City Attorney to draft an ordinance to amend the handicap parking ordinance to approve and add a handicap pole to be located at 645 Muskegon Avenue.

#6: Approve The Local Public Agency Engineering Services Agreement

Approve directing the City of Calumet City council to approve and sign the Local Public Agency Engineering Services Agreement (BLR 05530) for the State Street Reconstruction Phase II project to be funded through Surface Transportation Program and Invest in Cook.

#7: Direct Public Works to Grade the Alley behind 613 Buffalo

Approve and direct public works to grade the Alley behind 613 Buffalo which has multiple potholes.

#8: Direct Public Works to Install Resident Parking Only Sign

Approve and direct public works to install a Resident Only Parking Sign with Address at 588 Muskegon.

#9: Approve Repairs to the 600 Block of Calhoun

Approve the 600 Block of Calhoun needs repair, especially the area closest to Pulaski. The engineers have previously reviewed the problem areas, and several residents have spoken to the engineer in person. The repairs, five years later, still have not been started. Motion to direct the City Engineer to provide the council with the amount needed to repair the 600 Block of Calhoun leading to Pulaski, and direct them to fix the areas of the street needing emergency repair.

City Engineer Matt Buerger

City Engineer Matt Buerger reported that he was not the engineer 5 years ago in reference to item #9.

#10: Approve the Signing of the Joint Funding Agreement

Approve directing the City of Calumet City council to approve and sign Joint Funding Agreement for Federally Funded PE/ROW (BLR 05310PE) for the State Street Reconstruction Phase II project. This project will utilize federal Surface Transportation Program and Invest in Cook funds for a total of \$1,538,405.00. This project will require no match from the City.

#11: Approve the Relinquishment of Custody and Transfer of Ownership Of Canine Omen to Officer Lafave

Approve the relinquishment of custody and transfer of ownership of Canine Omen to Officer Lafave. Canine Omen has been deemed no longer fit for public service. This is in accordance with the Police Dog Retirement Act (510 ILCS 82/5).

Approve New Business Items

Alderman Harvey moved, seconded by Alderman Tillman to approve new business action items as presented.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: 5
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 2

ALDERMEN: Harvey, Tillman, Williams, Nelson, Phillips
ALDERMEN: None
ALDERMEN: Wilson, Gardner

MOTION CARRIED

BUILDING PERMITS

1392 Mackinaw Privacy Fence 6th Ward
1059 Harding Privacy Fence 2nd Ward

Approval of Building Permits

Alderman Nelson moved, seconded by Alderman Harvey to approve new building permits as presented.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: 5
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 2

ALDERMEN: Harvey, Tillman, Williams, Nelson, Phillips
ALDERMEN: None
ALDERMEN: Wilson, Gardner

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCE

Res.#1 Resolution Approving A Redevelopment Agreement

A Resolution approving a redevelopment agreement for 246 Warren Street.

Table Resolution Approving A Redevelopment Agreement

Alderman Williams moved, seconded by Alderman Harvey to table the Resolution approving a redevelopment agreement for 246 Warren Street.

MOTION CARRIED

Ord.#2 An Ordinance Making Appropriation

An Ordinance Making Appropriation For All Corporate Purposes of the City of Calumet City for the Fiscal Year Commencing May 1, 2025 and Ending April 30, 2026 (Budget Posting Only)

Approval of an Ordinance

Alderman Tillman moved, seconded by Alderwoman Phillips to pass an Ordinance as presented.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: 5
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 2

ALDERMEN: Harvey, Tillman, Williams, Nelson, Phillips
ALDERMEN: None
ALDERMEN: Wilson, Gardner

MOTION CARRIED

FINANCIAL MATTERS

#1: Payment to Benford Brown & Associates

Approve the Contract services provided in the amount of \$8,400.00 for grant accounting, filing, paperwork related to state and Federal grants for the City of Calumet City by Benford Brown & Associates for the period of May 16, 2025, through April 30, 2026. (\$3,600 Savings).

#2: Payment to Benford Brown & Associates

Approve payment to Benford Brown & Associates for invoice #19008; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of \$8,400.00 and charge account #01099-52610.

#3: Payment to Benford Brown & Associates

Approve payment to Benford Brown & Associates for invoice #18988; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of \$8,400.00 and charge account #01099-52610.

#4: Approve Grant Reporting Status

Approve Grant reporting status for all 146 Calumet City Grants since 2021.

#5: Payment to M&J Breakfast House and Don Pedro Mexican Grill

Approve and direct the Treasurer to pay: \$1000 to M&J Breakfast House \$750 to Don Pedro Mexican Grill Payments should be made from #01099-52723. Receipts will be provided upon the end of each event.

#6: Payment to American Printing

Approve the purchase of the 2026 City Clerk Magnets from American Printing, authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of 2,382.40 to American printing from account number #01022-52358.

#7: Payment to American Printing

Approve the purchase of the 2026 City Clerk Calendar from American Printing, authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of 3,146.46 to American printing from account number #01022-52358.

#8: Payment to Calumet City Plumbing

Approve cost payable to Calumet City Plumbing for invoice #68161, in the amount of \$7,958.55, authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment from account #03036-52349.

#9: Payment to Calumet City Plumbing

Approve cost payable to Calumet City Plumbing for invoice #68100, in the amount of \$7,836.90, authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment from account #03036-52101.

#10: Payment to Calumet City Plumbing

Approve cost payable to Calumet City Plumbing for invoice #68162, in the amount of \$5,127.41, authorize the city treasurer to remit payment from account #03036-52349.

#11: Payment to Axon

Approve the June 2025 payment to Axon for Licensing software for \$9,748.67; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment to AXON for \$9,748.67 to be charged to account 01060-52430.

#12: Payment to River Oaks L&E Automotive

Approve payment to River Oaks L&E Automotive for traffic crash repairs on a 2022 Ford Police Interceptor in the amount of \$10,126.56; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment to River Oaks L&E Automotive in the amount of \$10,126.56 to be charged to account 01060-54152.

#13: Payment to C.O.P.S. and F.I.R.E Personnel Testing

Approve payment to C.O.P.S. and F.I.R.E Personnel Testing for SGT., LT., and Captain promotions in the amount of \$11,7000.00; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment to C.O.P.S. and F.I.R.E Personnel Testing of \$11,700.00 to be charged to account 01091-52526.

#14: Payment to Technotrix

Approve payment to Technotrix in the amount of \$10,448.41 for July 3rd, 2025, event and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment from account #01099/52704.

#15: Payment to Forest Preserve of Cook County

Approve payment to Forest Preserve of Cook County in the amount of \$7,123.50 for July 13th, 2025, stepper's event and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment from account #01099/52704.

#16: Payment to Peterson, Johnson & Murray

Approve payment to Peterson, Johnson & Murray for invoice number 144648 in the amount of \$173.20; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of \$173.20 and charge account number #01025-52200.

#17: Payment to Patrick Walsh

Approve payment to Patrick Walsh in the amount of \$15,145.83 for legal services. Invoice 3203 and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment from account #01025-52200.

#18: Payment to Ottosen Dinolfo Hasenbalg & Castaldo LTD

Approve payment to Ottosen Dinolfo Hasenbalg & Castaldo LTD. for invoice 14576 and authorize City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of \$25,219.26 and charge account 01025-52200.

#19: Payment to Altorfer

Approve replacement of batteries, breakers, and coolant on the generator at the Police Department by Altorfer in the amount of \$5,840.62; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment to Altorfer in the amount of \$5,840.62 to be charged to account 01060-52345.

#20: Payment to Illinois EPA

Approve cost payable to Illinois EPA for invoice #ILM580025, in the amount of \$20,000.00, authorize the city treasurer to remit payment from account 03036-53452.

#21: Payment to Lyons-Pinner Electric

Approve costs payable to Lyons-Pinner Electric, in the amount of \$5,650.80 (INV# 32050). Please direct the City Treasurer to remit payment from account 04007-52449.

#22: HFS Bureau of Fiscal Operations – GEMT

Approve and authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of \$1,271,198.00 to HFS Bureau of Fiscal Operations – GEMT. The line item to be used is #06607- 52492. This payment is a refund to the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services for GEMT funds collected in quarters 3 & 4 of 2024 and quarter 1 of 2025.

#23: Payment to Patrick W. Walsh, Attorney at Law

Approve payment to Patrick W. Walsh, Attorney at Law for invoices: 3206, 3207, 3208, 3209, 3210, 3211; authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of \$29,554.06 and charge account #01025-55120.

#24: Approve Payroll 6/20/25 (\$1,080,751.31)

Approve Payroll 6/20/25 (\$1,080,751.31)

#25: Approve Payroll 7/3/25 (\$1,177,055.75)

Approve Payroll 7/3/25 (\$1,177,055.75)

#26: Approve Bill Listing (\$605,692.50)

Approve Bill Listing (\$605,692.50).

Approve Financial Items

Alderman Williams seconded by Alderman Harvey motioned for the approval of Financial Matters #1-26 as presented.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: 5
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 2

ALDERMEN: Harvey, Tillman, Williams, Nelson, Phillips
ALDERMEN: None
ALDERMEN: Wilson, Gardner

MOTION CARRIED

Alderman Wilson Entered the Regular City Council Meeting

Alderman Wilson entered the Regular City Council Meeting at 6:13 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance

Alderman Williams reported on the councils Finance Committee of the Whole meeting that was held on Tuesday July 08, 2025, the next meeting will be held July 21, 2025.

Public Safety

Alderman Gardner was absent.

Public Utilities

Alderman Phillips reported she received information from ComED and she will be calling a Committee of the Whole Meeting to discuss the information with the residents and the council. Alderman Phillips would like any residents who might have questions or concerns regarding any mail they might've received from ComEd to contact her office at (708)-891-8197 or email Mphillips@calumetcity.org

Ord. & Res.

Alderman Tillman had no report.

H.E.W

Alderman Wilson stated she can be contacted at (708) 586-4990. Alderman Wilson announced that she will be representing Calumet City's Health Education and Welfare at the Healing Happens Here Seminar on Friday July 18, 2025, in South Holland 15910 S. Cottage Grove from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Alderman Wilson reported she intends to hold a Committee of the Whole Health Education and Welfare Meeting on July 15, 2025.

Permits & Licenses

Alderman Harvey announced she met with Cleo Jones and Director Tillman from Building and Zoning to get a better understanding of the Business License process.

Public Works

Alderman Nelson had no report.

City Engineer Matt Buerger

City Engineer Matt Buerger gave a report regarding the upcoming road construction that will affect the traffic in Calumet City.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Jones

Mayor Jones commented regarding elected officials texting during meetings Section 2-128 which provides limits on debates, which states no Alderman should speak longer than 5 minutes on any topic. The other Ordinance the Mayor addressed is Section 2-131; texting during meetings is prohibited and is a violation of the open meetings act. Mayor Jones announced the Worldwide Steppers Event will take place on Sunday July 13, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. the elected officials will be announced at 3:00 p.m. Mayor Jones announced Jazz on the Grass will start back up on July 17, 2025. Mayor Jones stated the food trucks will no longer be free and announced he will sponsor 100 seniors.

Ald. Harvey

Alderman Harvey announced the 1st ward townhall meeting will be held at All Nations Church at 520 Sibley Blvd and hosted by Pastor Fluker starting at 6:00 p.m. Alderman Harvey would like 1st ward residents to contact her office with any questions or concerns at (708) 891-8198 or email sharvey@calumetcity.org.

Ald. Wilson

Alderman Wilson would like residents to contact her (708) 586-4990 or email at alderwomanwilson.com. Alderman Wilson thanked Don Pedro for offering 4.90 Burritos to celebrate her 49th birthday. Alderman Wilson announced Dominos will be selling pizzas for 4.90 and 49 cent bread bites on Tuesday July 15, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Alderman Wilson also announced that Wednesday July 16, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. she would like residents to meet her at Sandridge Community Center; the first 49 people will receive a free one-day gym membership. On Saturday July 19, 2025, there will be a Celebration for City Clerk Dr. Figgs and Alderman Wilsons birthdays at Lasinos; from 8:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Alderman Wilson apologized for going live late as she did arrive late. Alderman Wilson stated she will be sending an email to Finance Chair Ramonde Williams to inquire why a former Alderman will be making \$164,000.00 from the city.

Ald. Tillman

Alderman Tillman announced the 3rd and 4th ward meeting will be held at Downey Park on August 04, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. Alderman Tillman would like anyone who wants to volunteer for the 3rd and 4th ward Annual Back to School Picnic to contact his office at 708-891-8193.

Ald. Williams

Alderman Williams announced there will be a Public Safety Committee of the Whole Meeting held on Monday July 14, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. where the council will discuss bringing Crossing Guards back to Calumet City. Alderman Williams announced the 3rd and 4th ward meeting will be held at Downey Park on August 04, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. Alderman Williams would like to invite all residents to attend the 3rd and 4th ward annual Back to School Event on August 09, 2025, at Downey Park.

Ald. Gardner

Alderman Gardner was absent.

Ald. Nelson

Alderman Nelson announced she and Alderman Phillips will have a BBQ on July 27 at Betts Park from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Alderman Nelson would like any 6th ward residents with questions or concerns to contact her office at (708) 891-8223.

Ald. Phillips

Alderman Phillips had no report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

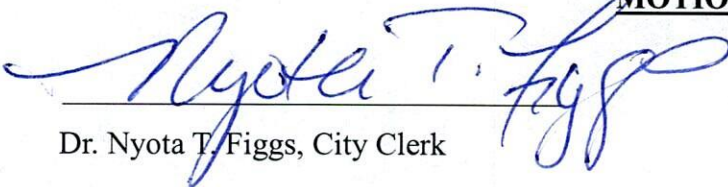
Prayer

Pastor Stokes led the council in prayer.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment was at 6:30 p.m., on a motion by Alderwoman Harvey seconded by Alderwoman Nelson.

MOTION CARRIED

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Nyota T. Figgs", written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Nyota T. Figgs, City Clerk