

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE
GARY COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF
GARY, INDIANA**

**MINUTES OF
July 20, 2021**

VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE

THE HONORABLE WILLIAM GODWIN
Councilman 1st District, **Common Council President**

THE HONORABLE COZEY WEATHERSPOON
Councilman 2nd District

THE HONORABLE MARY BROWN
Councilwoman 3rd District

THE HONORABLE TAI ADKINS
Councilwoman 4th District, **Common Council Vice-President**

THE HONORABLE LINDA BARNES-CALDWELL
Councilwoman 5th District

THE HONORABLE DWIGHT WILLIAMS
Councilman 6th District

THE HONORABLE RONALD BREWER
Councilman-At-Large, **Parliamentarian**

THE HONORABLE MICHAEL BROWN
Councilman-At-Large,

THE HONORABLE CLORIUS LAY
Councilman-At-Large

THE HONORABLE JEROME PRINCE, MAYOR, CITY OF GARY
THE HONORABLE SUZETTE RAGGS, GARY CITY CLERK

BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Common Council of the City of Gary, Lake County, Indiana met in Regular Session pursuant to the Laws and Rules of the Common Council of the City of Gary, Indiana, via zoom video conference on the **20th Day of July, 2021** at **6:00 pm** with the Honorable Tai Adkins presiding and the following members present/absent:

PRESENT

THE HONORABLE TAI ADKINS
THE HONORABLE RONALD BREWER
THE HONORABLE MARY BROWN
THE HONORABLE MICHAEL BROWN
THE HONORABLE LINDA BARNES-CALDWELL
THE HONORABLE CLORIUS LAY
THE HONORABLE COZEY WEATHERSPOON
THE HONORABLE DWIGHT WILLIAMS

ABSENT

THE HONORABLE WILLIAM GODWIN

The meeting was opened at 6:13 pm with a moment of prayer by Councilman Brewer, followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chair asked for Roll Call.

Roll call showed 8 present 1 absent (Godwin). The Chair declared this duly a quorum in order to conduct business in the City of Gary.

The Chair asked for reading of the minutes.

Councilman Brewer moved to approve and accept the minutes from the meeting of July 6, 2021. It was seconded by Councilman Weatherspoon.

Roll call showed 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

ASSIGNMENT OF COUNCIL PENDING ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

C.P.O. 2021-52

AN ORDINANCE ALLOCATING FUNDS TO THE PHEP GRANT BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2022. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak L. Harper, City Controller

FINANCE COMMITTEE

C.P.O. 2021-53

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 15 ENTITLED "LAND USAGE" CHAPTER 123 ENTITLED "ZONING CODE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Petitioner: LaChaudra Laster, 365 Polk Street, Gary, Indiana **Property: 365 Polk Street, Gary, Indiana**

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

C.P.O. 2021-54

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 15 ENTITLED "LAND USAGE" CHAPTER 123 ENTITLED "ZONING CODE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Petitioner: Ron Woods, 1650 Virginia Street, Gary, Indiana **Property: 1650 Virginia Street, Gary, Indiana**

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Councilwoman Caldwell, Member Finance Committee has:

C.P.O. 2021-52

AN ORDINANCE ALLOCATING FUNDS TO THE PHEP GRANT BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2022. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak L. Harper, City Controller **before it. For the record Councilwoman Caldwell, Councilwoman Brown and Councilwoman Adkins approved C.P.O. 2021-52 to be reported out of committee.**

Councilman Brewer, Chairman of the Planning & Development Committee has:

C.P.O. 2021-53

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 15 ENTITLED "LAND USAGE" CHAPTER 123 ENTITLED "ZONING CODE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Petitioner: LaChaudra Laster, 365 Polk Street, Gary, Indiana **Property: 365 Polk Street, Gary, Indiana before it. For the record Councilman Brewer and Councilwoman Adkins approved C.P.O. 2021-54 to be reported out of committee.**

C.P.O. 2021-54

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 15 ENTITLED "LAND USAGE" CHAPTER 123 ENTITLED "ZONING CODE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Petitioner: Ron Woods, 1650 Virginia Street, Gary, Indiana **Property: 1650 Virginia Street, Gary, Indiana before it. For the record Councilman Brewer and Councilwoman Adkins approved C.P.O. 2021-54 to be reported out of committee.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Councilwoman Caldwell reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2021-52.**

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Councilman Brewer reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2021-53 & C.P.O. 2021-54.**

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS COMMITTEE:

Councilman Brewer moved to re-appoint Oliver Gilliam to the Police Civil Service Commission. It was seconded by Councilman Lay.

Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilman Brown spoke in regards to the motion on the floor.

Roll call showed a vote 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

President Adkins announced that the Council meeting scheduled for August 17, 2021 will be rescheduled to August 10, 2021 due to her and President Godwin not being able to attend the August 17, 2021 meeting. Then she requested comments.

Atty. Rinzer Williams (Council Legal Advisor), Councilwoman Caldwell, Deputy Mayor McCain, Councilman Williams, President Adkins, Councilman Brown, Councilman Weatherspoon, Councilman Lay and Councilman Brewer spoke in regards to the changing of the meeting dates for August 2021 and establishing a second Vice-President.

President Adkins announced that the August 3, 2021 will be rescheduled to August 4, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. due to the "National Night Out" held on August 3, 2021.

COUNCIL PENDING ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS ON THIRD AND/OR FINAL READINGS:

C.P.O. 2021-40

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 15 ENTITLED "LAND USAGE" CHAPTER 123 ENTITLED "ZONING CODE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Petitioner: Ben Cremer, 3401 Gary, LLC, 4900 Northcott Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515 **Property: 1400 Colorado Street, Gary, Indiana**

Councilman Brewer moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-40**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Ben Cremer (Petitioner) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-40**.

Councilman Weatherspoon, Councilman Lay, Councilman Brown and President Adkins spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-40**.

Roll call showed a vote of 7 ayes 1 nay (Caldwell). The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

Councilman Brewer and Councilman Brown spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-40**.

C.P.O. 2021-45

AN ORDINANCE DONATING COPIES OF THE "GARY: A PICTORIAL HISTORY" BOOKS TO THE LEGACY FOUNDATION AND INDIANA UNIVERSITY NORTHWEST. Sponsored by: Tai Adkins, Councilwoman 4th District

Councilwoman Caldwell moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-45**. It was seconded by Councilman Brewer and Councilman Brown.

President Adkins gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-45**.

Councilman Lay and President Adkins spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-45**.

Roll call showed a vote of 7 ayes 1 nay (Lay). The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

C.P.O. 2021-47

AN ORDINANCE ALLOCATING FUNDS TO VARIOUS BUDGETS FOR COVID TESTING AND VACCINATIONS FOR THE GARY HEALTH DEPARTMENT. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-47**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Mileak Harper (City Controller) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-47**.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

C.P.O. 2021-49

THE "WALLACE BROADNAX AMENDMENT" AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 8831 TO INCLUDE REQUIREMENTS FOR ARMED SECURITY GUARDS AT CERTAIN ESTABLISHMENTS BETWEEN DUSK AND DAWN AND REQUIRING 24-HOUR ARMED SECURITY AT OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS WITH A HISTORY OF VIOLENT CRIME. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Cozey Weatherspoon, Councilman 2nd District

Councilman Brewer moved to refer **C.P.O. 2021-49** back to committee with a Committee Hearing set for July 28, 2021 at 6:00 pm (via zoom). It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Councilman Lay spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-49**.

Councilman Brewer moved to postpone his original motion.

Councilman Lay moved to strike Wallace Broadnax anywhere it appears in **C.P.O. 2021-49**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Councilman Brown, Councilman Lay, Councilman Brewer and Councilman Weatherspoon spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-49**.

Roll call showed a vote of 7 ayes 1 abstention (Councilman Brown). The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

Councilman Brewer moved to refer **C.P.O. 2021-49** back to committee with a Committee Hearing set for July 28, 2021 at 6:00 pm (via zoom). It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilman Lay.

Roll call showed a vote of 7 ayes 1 abstention (Councilman Brown). The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

C.P.O. 2021-50

AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE JAG BUDGET TO ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OF 2021. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-50**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Mileak Harper (City Controller) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-50**.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

C.P.O. 2021-51

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER OF FUNDS WITHIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT (SUPPORT SERVICES) TO COVER THE ANIMAL CONTROL CENTER REPAIRS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak L. Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-51**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Mileak Harper (City Controller) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-51**.

Roll call showed a vote of 7 ayes 1 abstention (Adkins). The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

COUNCIL PENDING ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING:

C.P.O. 2021-52

AN ORDINANCE ALLOCATING FUNDS TO THE PHEP GRANT BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2022. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak L. Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-52** (second reading) with a Committee Hearing set for July 27, 2021 at 5:30 pm (via zoom) and Public Hearing set for August 4, 2021 at 6:00 pm (via zoom). It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

C.P.O. 2021-53

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 15 ENTITLED "LAND USAGE" CHAPTER 123 ENTITLED "ZONING CODE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Petitioner: LaChaudra Laster, 365 Polk Street, Gary, Indiana **Property: 365 Polk Street, Gary, Indiana**

C.P.O. 2021-54

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 15 ENTITLED "LAND USAGE" CHAPTER 123 ENTITLED "ZONING CODE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Petitioner: Ron Woods, 1650 Virginia Street, Gary, Indiana **Property: 1650 Virginia Street, Gary, Indiana**

Councilman Brewer moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-53** and **C.P.O. 2021-54** (second reading) with a Committee Hearing set for July 28, 2021 at 5:00 pm (via zoom) and Public Hearing set for August 4, 2021 at 6:00 pm (via zoom). It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

REPORTS/QUESTIONS OF CITY OFFICIALS

None

Councilman Brewer expressed concerns in regards to the start of paving in the City of Gary and the lack of attention in the manicuring of Gleason Golf Course.

President Adkins gave an update on the manicuring of Gleason Golf Course and stated that the paving started in April of 2021 but she was not sure where they were presently.

Councilman Lay, Councilman Brewer and Councilman Weatherspoon expressed concerns in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-49** and the lack of security at the individual gas stations.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMON COUNCIL, THE CHAIR DECLARED THIS MEETING OF **July 20, 2021** ADJOURNED AT 8:20 PM SO ORDERED.

TAI ADKINS
PRESIDING OFFICER



SUZETTE RAGGS, GARY CITY CLERK
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