

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

**MINUTES OF  
August 17, 2021**

**VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE**

**THE HONORABLE WILLIAM GODWIN**  
Councilman 1<sup>st</sup> District, Common Council President

**THE HONORABLE COZEY WEATHERSPOON**  
Councilman 2<sup>nd</sup> District

**THE HONORABLE MARY BROWN**  
Councilwoman 3<sup>rd</sup> District

**THE HONORABLE TAI ADKINS**  
Councilwoman 4<sup>th</sup> District, Common Council Vice-President

**THE HONORABLE LINDA BARNES-CALDWELL**  
Councilwoman 5<sup>th</sup> District

**THE HONORABLE DWIGHT WILLIAMS**  
Councilman 6<sup>th</sup> 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 **17<sup>th</sup> Day of August, 2021 at 6:00 pm** with the Honorable William Godwin presiding and the following members present/absent:

**PRESENT**

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

**ABSENT**

THE HONORABLE TAI ADKINS

The meeting was opened at 6:07 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 (Adkins). 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 special meeting of July 30, 2021. It was seconded by Councilman Weatherspoon.

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

Councilman Brewer moved to approve and accept the minutes from the meeting of August 4, 2021. It was seconded by Councilman Weatherspoon and Councilwoman Caldwell.

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

Councilman Brewer moved to Suspend the Rules to add **C.P.O. 2021-63** to the agenda. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

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

**ASSIGNMENT OF COUNCIL PENDING ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:**

**C.P.O. 2021-57**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A BUDGET IN FUND 877-LDA. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

**WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2021-58**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A TEMPORARY INTER-FUND LOAN BETWEEN CITY OF GARY FUNDS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2021-59**

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING SUBSIDIES FOR THE GENERAL FUND DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2021. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2021-60**

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM FUND 872 (WHEEL EXCISE SURTAX) TO FUND 484 (COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT) AND ESTABLISHING APPROPRIATIONS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

**WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2021-61**

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM FUND 872 (WHEEL EXCISE SURTAX) TO FUND 448 (WHEELTAX ROAD). Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

**WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2021-62**

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A DONATION FROM HORIZON BANK TO BE USED TO PURCHASE SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> RESPONDERS EVENT. Sponsored by: Dwight Williams, Councilman 6<sup>th</sup> District, Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**C.P.R. 2021-63**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA REQUIRING ALL PERSONS ENTERING SCHOOLS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF CITY OF GARY TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Dr. Roland Walker, Gary Health Commissioner

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

**Councilwoman, Chairwoman Ways/Means Committee has:**

**C.P.O. 2021-57**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A BUDGET IN FUND 877-LDA. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller **before it. For the record Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilman Brown approved C.P.O. 2021-57 to be reported out of committee.**

**C.P.O. 2021-60**

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM FUND 872 (WHEEL EXCISE SURTAX) TO FUND 484 (COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT) AND ESTABLISHING APPROPRIATIONS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller **before it. For the record Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilman Brown approved C.P.O. 2021-60 to be reported out of committee.**

**C.P.O. 2021-61**

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM FUND 872 (WHEEL EXCISE SURTAX) TO FUND 448 (WHEELTAX ROAD). Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller **before it. For the record Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilman Brown approved C.P.O. 2021-61 to be reported out of committee.**

**Councilwoman Brown, Chairwoman of the Finance Committee has:**

**C.P.O. 2021-58**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A TEMPORARY INTER-FUND LOAN BETWEEN CITY OF GARY FUNDS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

**C.P.O. 2021-59**

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING SUBSIDIES FOR THE GENERAL FUND DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2021. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

**C.P.O. 2021-62**

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A DONATION FROM HORIZON BANK TO BE USED TO PURCHASE SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> RESPONDERS EVENT. Sponsored by: Dwight Williams, Councilman 6<sup>th</sup> District, Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller **before it. For the record Councilwoman Brown and Councilwoman Caldwell approved C.P.O. 2021-58, 2021-59 & 2021-62 to be reported out of committee.**

**Councilman Brewer, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee has:**

**C.P.O. 2021-63**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA REQUIRING ALL PERSONS ENTERING SCHOOLS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF CITY OF GARY TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Dr. Roland Walker, Gary Health Commissioner **before it. For the record Councilman Brewer and President Godwin approved C.P.O. 2021-63 to be reported out of committee.**

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

### **WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE:**

Councilwoman Caldwell reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2021-57, 2021-60 & 2021-61.**

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Councilwoman Brown reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2021-58, 2021-59 & 2021-62.**

### **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:**

Councilman Brewer reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2021-63.**

Councilman Lay, President Godwin, Councilman Williams, Attorney Rinzer Williams (Council Legal Advisor), Bill Outlar (Council Financial Advisor) & Councilman Brewer expressed concerns in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-62.**

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

### **C.P.O. 2020-80**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARY PROVIDING FOR A HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE TRANSFER/SALE OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES FORMERLY OWNED BY THE GUEA. Sponsored by: AJ Bytnar, Redevelopment Department

Councilman Brewer moved to postpone **C.P.O. 2020-80** with a Committee Hearing set for August 24, 2021 at 5:30 pm (via zoom). It was seconded by Councilman Lay.

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

Attorney Rodney Pol (Corporation Counsel) and Councilman Lay, Deputy Mayor McCain and Atty. Williams (Council Legal Advisor) spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2020-80.**

The Chair announced that the Committee Hearing for **C.P.O. 2020-80** will be August 31, 2021 at 5:30 pm (via zoom).

### **C.P.O. 2021-55**

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: Bianca Jones, 4133 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue Gary, Indiana 46403 **Property: 4133 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Gary, Indiana 46403**

Councilman Brewer moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-55.** It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Eric Boria (Zoning Director) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-55.**

Councilwoman Caldwell, Bianca Jones (petitioner), Councilman Lay, President Godwin, Atty. Williams (Council Legal Advisor), Councilman Brewer and Eric Boria spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-55.**

Roll call showed a vote of 0 ayes 8 nays. The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **DEFEATED.**

**C.P.O. 2021-56**

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: Bianca Jones, 1324 E. 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Gary, Indiana 46409 **Property: 1324 E. 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Gary, Indiana 46409**

Councilman Brewer moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-56**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Eric Boria (Zoning Director) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-56**.

Councilman Lay and Eric Boria spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-56**.

Roll call showed a vote of 0 ayes 8 nays. The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **DEFEATED**.

**COUNCIL PENDING ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING:**

**C.P.O. 2021-57**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A BUDGET IN FUND 877-LDA. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

**C.P.O. 2021-60**

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM FUND 872 (WHEEL EXCISE SURTAX) TO FUND 484 (COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT) AND ESTABLISHING APPROPRIATIONS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

**C.P.O. 2021-61**

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM FUND 872 (WHEEL EXCISE SURTAX) TO FUND 448 (WHEELTAX ROAD). Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Caldwell moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-57, 2021-60 and 2021-61** (second reading) with a Committee Hearing set for August 31, 2021 at 6:00 pm (via zoom) and Public Hearing set for September 7, 2021 at 6:00 pm (via zoom). It was seconded by Councilwoman Brown.

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

**C.P.O. 2021-58**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A TEMPORARY INTER-FUND LOAN BETWEEN CITY OF GARY FUNDS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

**C.P.O. 2021-59**

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING SUBSIDIES FOR THE GENERAL FUND DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2021. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller



### **C.P.O. 2021-62**

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A DONATION FROM HORIZON BANK TO BE USED TO PURCHASE SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR THE 1<sup>ST</sup> RESPONDERS EVENT. Sponsored by: Dwight Williams, Councilman 6<sup>th</sup> District, Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-58, 2021-59 and 2021-62** (second reading) with a Committee Hearing set for August 31, 2021 at 7:00 pm (via zoom) and Public Hearing set for September 7, 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. 2021-63**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA REQUIRING ALL PERSONS ENTERING SCHOOLS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF CITY OF GARY TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Dr. Roland Walker, Gary Health Commissioner

Councilman Brewer moved to Suspend the Rules to pass **C.P.O. 2021-63** on all 3 Readings. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilwoman Brown.

Councilman Lay, President Godwin, Councilman Brown, Atty. Pol (Corporation Counsel), Dr. Roland Walker, (Health Commissioner), Councilman Weatherspoon, and Councilwoman Caldwell spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-63**.

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

Councilman Brewer moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-63**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**.

Atty. Pol (Corporation Counsel) stated that there was a typo on **C.P.O. 2021-63** in which July 27, 2020 should read August 18, 2021.

Atty. Williams (Legal Council Advisor) stated that the corrected date could be inserted without a motion.

Councilman Lay, Atty. Pol (Corporation Counsel) and President Godwin spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-62**.

### **REPORTS/QUESTIONS OF CITY OFFICIALS**

Deputy Mayor Trent McCain presented the following announcement/update on behalf of the administration:

1) Birthday wishes were extended to Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Councilwoman Tai Adkins, 4<sup>th</sup> District and his mother Laura McCain who will turn 90 years old on August 18, 2021.

Councilman Brewer requested an update on the upcoming street closure as it relates to the railroad project in the City of Gary.

Deputy Mayor McCain responded.

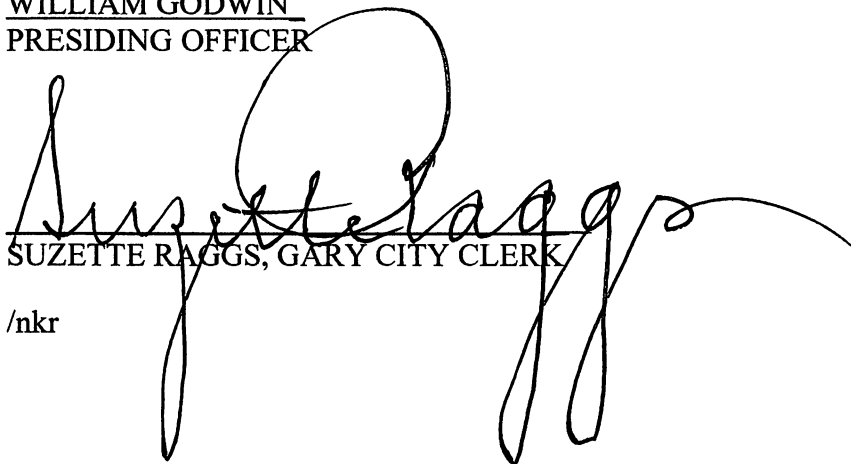
President Godwin, Councilman Lay, Deputy Mayor McCain and Councilman Brewer, expressed concerns regarding hazardous pay for essential employees.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMON COUNCIL, THE CHAIR DECLARED THIS MEETING OF **August 17, 2021** ADJOURNED AT 7:50 PM SO ORDERED.

WILLIAM GODWIN  
PRESIDING OFFICER

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suzette Raggs', is written over the printed name of the city clerk.

SUZETTE RAGGS, GARY CITY CLERK

/nkr