

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

**MINUTES OF  
June 1, 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 **1<sup>st</sup> Day of June, 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 (\*see page 4)

The meeting was opened at 6:12 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 (Councilwoman 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 meeting of May 18, 2021. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell, Councilwoman Brown and Councilman Williams.

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

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

**C.P.O. 2021-39**

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GARY, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE GENERAL, FIRE PENSION AND POLICE PENSION FUNDS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

**WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE**

**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**

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**C.P.R. 2021-06**

A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE GARY COMMON COUNCIL POLICY AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN MEETING BY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION. Sponsored by: William Godwin, President of the Gary Common Council

## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

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

##### **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 before it. For the record Councilman Brewer and Councilman Godwin approved C.P.O. 2021-40 to be reported out of committee.**

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

##### **C.P.R. 2021-06**

A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE GARY COMMON COUNCIL POLICY AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN MEETING BY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION. Sponsored by: William Godwin, President of the Gary Common Council **before it. For the record Councilman Brewer and Councilman Godwin approved C.P.R. 2021-06 to be reported out of committee.**

President Godwin requested a 2-minute recess in order to correct the technical difficulties that Councilwoman Caldwell was experiencing.

#### **Councilwoman Caldwell, Committee member of the Ways/Means Committee has:**

##### **C.P.O. 2021-39**

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GARY, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE GENERAL, FIRE PENSION AND POLICE PENSION FUNDS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller **before it. For the record Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilman Brown approved C.P.O. 2021-39 to be reported out of committee.**

### **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

#### **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:**

Councilman Brewer reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2021-40.**

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:**

Councilman Brewer reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.R. 2021-06.**

#### **WAYS/MEAN COMMITTEE:**

Councilwoman Caldwell reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2021-39.**

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

**C.P.O. 2019-65/9305**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY BENEFITS AGREEMENT. Sponsored by: Rebecca Wyatt, Councilwoman 1<sup>st</sup> District

Councilman Brewer moved to postpone **C.P.O. 2019-65/9305** to June 15, 2021. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Councilman Brewer, President Godwin, Councilman Lay and Atty. Rinzer Williams (Legal Advisor) spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2019-65 /9305**.

\*The Chair requested that the Clerk note the presence of Councilwoman Adkins.

Roll call showed a vote of 6 ayes 3 nays (Lay, Weatherspoon, Williams). The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

**C.P.O. 2021-36**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER OF FUNDS WITHIN THE CITY'S INSURANCE ACCOUNT (FUND 101-601) FOR INSURANCE CARRIER ADMINISTRATIVE FEES. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-36**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Mileak Harper (City Controller) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-36**.

Roll call showed a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**

**C.P.O. 2021-37**

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: Arthur Brown, 900-34 E. 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Gary, Indiana 46407 **Property: 900-34 E. 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Gary, Indiana**

Councilman Brewer moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-37**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Eric Boria (Planning & Development Director) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-37**.

Councilman Brewer, Councilwoman Adkins, President Godwin spoke regarding **C.P.O. 2021-37**.

Roll call showed a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**.

**C.P.O. 2021-38**

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: Destine Black, 1500 Kentucky Street, Gary, Indiana 46407 **Property: 1500 Kentucky Street, Gary, Indiana 46407**

Councilman Brewer moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-38**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Eric Boria (Planning & Development Director) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-38**.

Councilwoman Adkins, Councilman Brewer, Destine Black (petitioner), Eric Boria (Planning & Development Director) Councilman Lay and President Godwin spoke regarding **C.P.O. 2021-38**.

Roll call showed a vote of 3 ayes 5 nays (Brewer, Councilwoman Brown, Councilman Brown, Caldwell, Godwin) and 1 abstention (Adkins). The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **Defeated**.

#### **C.P.R. 2021-05**

A RESOLUTION OF THE PARK BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF GARY PROVIDING FOR A HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE INCREASE IN FEES FOR MARQUETTE AND LAKE STREET BEACHES PARKING AND BOAT LAUNCH. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince City of Gary, Eric Reaves, Director of Park Board

Councilwoman Adkins moved for passage of **C.P.R. 2021-05**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Brown.

Marianetta Barber (Public Works & Safety Director) gave a brief overview of **C.P.R. 2021-05**.

Councilman Brewer, Councilwoman Adkins, President Godwin, Councilman Brown, Councilman Williams, Councilman Weatherspoon and Atty. Deidre Monroe (Park Board of Commissioners) spoke in regards to **C.P.R. 2021-05**.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 1 nay (Lay). The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**.

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

#### **C.P.O. 2021-39**

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GARY, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE GENERAL, FIRE PENSION AND POLICE PENSION FUNDS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Caldwell moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-39** (second reading) with a Committee Hearing set for June 8, 2021 at 5:00 pm (via zoom) and Public Hearing set for June 15, 2021 at 6:00 pm (via zoom). It was seconded by Councilwoman Adkins.

Roll call showed a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

#### **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** (second reading) with a Committee Hearing set for June 8, 2021 at 5:30 pm (via zoom) and Public Hearing set for June 15, 2021 at 6:00 pm (via zoom). It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call showed a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

#### **C.P.R. 2021-06**

A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE GARY COMMON COUNCIL POLICY AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN MEETING BY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION. Sponsored by: William Godwin, President of the Gary Common Council

Councilman Brewer moved to Suspend the Rules to pass **C.P.R. 2021-06** on all 3 readings. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

President Godwin gave a brief overview of **C.P.R. 2021-06**.

Roll call showed a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

Councilman Brewer moved for passage of **C.P.R. 2021-06**. It was seconded by Councilman Brown.

Councilman Lay, Councilman Brewer, Atty. Williams (Council Legal Advisor), Councilman Brown, President Godwin and Councilwoman Brown spoke in regards to **C.P.R. 2021-06**.

Roll call showed a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this Council Pending Resolution duly **PASSED**.

#### **C.P.O. 2021-16**

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GARY, LAKE COUNTY INDIANA AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE PARK & RECREATION FUND. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary, Arlene Colvin, Acting City Controller

Councilwoman Adkins moved to Suspend the Rules to include **C.P.O. 2021-16** on Third and Final Reading. It was seconded by Councilman Brown.

Councilman Lay, President Godwin and Atty. Williams (Council Legal Advisor) spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-16**.

Councilwoman Adkins moved for **C.P.O. 2021-16** to be moved off of the table and placed on Third & Final Reading. It was seconded by Councilman Brown.

Roll call showed a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

Councilwoman Adkins moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-16**. It was seconded by Councilman Brown.

Marianetta Barber (Public Works & Safety Director) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-16**.

Councilwoman Brown, Councilman Lay, Councilwoman Adkins, Atty. Williams (Council Legal Advisor), Councilwoman Caldwell, Councilman Brewer and Councilman Weatherspoon spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2021-16**.

Roll call showed a vote of 7 ayes 2 nays (Caldwell, Lay). The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**.

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

Mayor Jerome Prince presented the following announcements/updates:

1. Appreciation was expressed to Marianetta Barber (Public Works & Safety Director) for doing a tremendous job with the Park Department.
2. An event was held June 1, 2021 at the Gary/Chicago International Airport where the City of Gary received a \$3,500,000.00 grant from the Indiana Department of Transportation for the continuation of the Runway "A" renovation.
3. An Executive Order was issued on June 1, 2021 proclaiming June as Pride Month in the City of Gary; and an order is forthcoming regarding the support of the Jewish community.

President Godwin spoke in regards to the closure of US 12 as it relates to the Southshore Project and requested an update on how it will affect travel into the neighborhood.

Mayor Prince responded.

Councilman Brewer expressed concerns to Mayor Prince regarding legislation on the upkeep of residential grass cutting.

Mayor Prince responded.

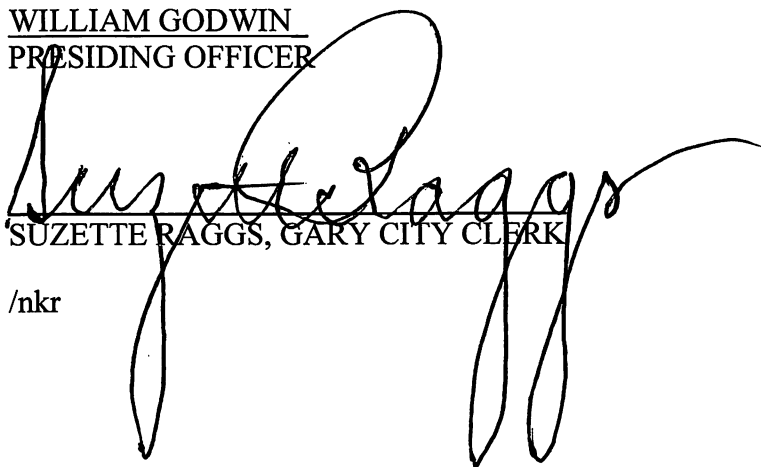
## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Diane Sandlin (Workforce Development)

Dr. Telethia Barrett (Horizon Bank)

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMON COUNCIL, THE CHAIR DECLARED THIS MEETING OF **June 1, 2021** ADJOURNED AT 8:23 PM SO ORDERED.

WILLIAM GODWIN  
PRESIDING OFFICER

  
SUZETTE RAGGS, GARY CITY CLERK

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