

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

**MINUTES OF  
March 2, 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 **2<sup>nd</sup> Day of March, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.** with the Honorable William Godwin 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 WILLIAM GODWIN  
THE HONORABLE CLORIUS LAY  
THE HONORABLE COZEY WEATHERSPOON  
THE HONORABLE DWIGHT WILLIAMS

**ABSENT**

The meeting was opened at 6:05 p.m. 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 9 present 0 absent. 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 February 2, 2021. It was seconded by Councilwoman Adkins.

Roll call showed 8 ayes 0 nays; (Councilman Williams experienced technical difficulties). The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

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

**C.P.O. 2021-03**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING 2021 APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT REVENUE BUDGETS – FUND 227 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Arlene Colvin, Chief of Staff/Controller

**WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2021-04**

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN FROM EFSP FEMA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Arlene Colvin, Chief of Staff/Controller

**WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2021-05**

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A RESIDENCY WAIVER FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2021-06**

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A RESIDENCY WAIVER FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2021-07**

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A RESIDENCY WAIVER FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2021-08**

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: Laurel Fefferman, 300 W. Ridge Road, Gary, Indiana 46408 **Property: 401 W. Ridge Road, Gary, Indiana 46408**

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2021-09**

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: Jose Hernandez Martinez, 4957-59 Broadway, Gary, Indiana 46409 **Property: 4957-59 Broadway, Gary, Indiana 46409**

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2021-10**

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: Kinishia Clark, 6938 Ironwood Avenue, Gary, Indiana 46403 **Property: 6938 Ironwood Avenue, Gary, Indiana 46403**

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2021-11**

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2021 BUDGET (FUND 101-010 – MAYOR'S OFFICE) TO CHANGE A POSITION TITLE. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2021-12**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING LOVE YOUR BLOCK GRANT FUND 409 BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Arlene Colvin, City Controller

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**C.P.R. 2021-03**

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA ACKNOWLEDGING KAREN FREEMAN-WILSON AS THE FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN FEMALE MAYOR IN THE CITY OF GARY AND THE STATE OF INDIANA FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH. Sponsored by: Members of the Gary Common Council; William G. Godwin, 1<sup>st</sup> District, Cozey Weatherspoon, 2<sup>nd</sup> District, Mary Brown, 3<sup>rd</sup> District, Tai Adkins, 4<sup>th</sup> District, Linda Barnes-Caldwell, 5<sup>th</sup> District, Dwight A. Williams, 6<sup>th</sup> District, Ronald G. Brewer, Councilman-At-Large, Michael Brown, Council-At-Large, Clorius L. Lay, Council-At-Large

**NOT ASSIGNED**

**C.P.R. 2021-04**

A RESOLUTION OF THE GARY COMMON COUNCIL APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE TRANSFER OF A FIRE ENGINE FROM THE CITY OF VALPARAISO FIRE DEPARTMENT. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

**Councilwoman Adkins, Chairwoman of the Ways/Means Committee has:**

**C.P.O. 2021-03**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING 2021 APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT REVENUE BUDGETS – FUND 227 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Arlene Colvin, Chief of Staff/Controller **before it. For the record Councilwoman Adkins, Councilman Brown and Councilwoman Caldwell approved C.P.O. 2021-03 to be reported out of committee.**

**C.P.O. 2021-04**

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN FROM EFSP FEMA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Arlene Colvin, Chief of Staff/Controller **before it. For the record Councilwoman Adkins, Councilman Brown and Councilwoman Caldwell approved C.P.O. 2021-04 to be reported out of committee.**

**C.P.O. 2021-12**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING LOVE YOUR BLOCK GRANT FUND 409 BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Arlene Colvin, City Controller **before it. For the record Councilwoman Adkins, Councilman Brown and Councilwoman Caldwell approved C.P.O. 2021-12 to be reported out of committee.**

**Councilwoman Adkins, Member of the Personnel Committee has:**

**C.P.O. 2021-05**

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A RESIDENCY WAIVER FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary **before it. For the record Councilwoman Adkins, Councilwoman Brown and Councilman Brewer approved C.P.O. 2021-05 to be reported out of committee.**

**C.P.O. 2021-06**

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A RESIDENCY WAIVER FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary **before it. For the record Councilwoman Adkins, Councilwoman Brown and Councilman Brewer approved C.P.O. 2021-06 to be reported out of committee.**

**C.P.O. 2021-07**

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A RESIDENCY WAIVER FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary **before it. For the record Councilwoman Adkins, Councilwoman Brown and Councilman Brewer approved C.P.O. 2021-07 to be reported out of committee.**

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

**C.P.O. 2021-08**

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: Laurel Fefferman, 300 W. Ridge Road, Gary, Indiana 46408 **Property: 401 W. Ridge Road, Gary, Indiana 46408 before it. For the record Councilman Brewer, Councilwoman Adkins and Councilman Godwin approved C.P.O. 2021-08 to be reported out of committee.**

**C.P.O. 2021-09**

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: Jose Hernandez Martinez, 4957-59 Broadway, Gary, Indiana 46409 **Property: 4957-59 Broadway, Gary, Indiana 46409 before it. For the record Councilman Brewer, Councilwoman Adkins and Councilman Godwin approved C.P.O. 2021-09 to be reported out of committee.**

**C.P.O. 2021-10**

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: Kinishia Clark, 6938 Ironwood Avenue, Gary, Indiana 46403 **Property: 6938 Ironwood Avenue, Gary, Indiana 46403 before it. For the record Councilman Brewer, Councilwoman Adkins, Councilman Godwin approved C.P.O. 2021-10 to be reported out of committee.**

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

**C.P.O. 2021-11**

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2021 BUDGET (FUND 101-010 – MAYOR’S OFFICE) TO CHANGE A POSITION TITLE. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary **before it. For the record Councilman Brown, Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilwoman Adkins approved C.P.O. 2021-11 to be reported out of committee.**

**C.P.R. 2021-04**

A RESOLUTION OF THE GARY COMMON COUNCIL APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE TRANSFER OF A FIRE ENGINE FROM THE CITY OF VALPARAISO FIRE DEPARTMENT. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary **before it. For the record Councilman Brown, Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilwoman Adkins approved C.P.R. 2021-04 to be reported out of committee.**

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Councilwoman Caldwell reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2021-11 & C.P.R. 2021-04.**

**WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE:**

Councilwoman Adkins reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2021-03, 2021-04 & 2021-12.**

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:**

Councilwoman Adkins reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2021-05, 2021-06 & 2021-07.**

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:**

Councilman Brewer reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2021-08, 2021-09 & 2021-10.**

**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 refer **C.P.O. 2020-80** back to the Planning & Development Committee with a Committee Hearing set for March 23, 2021 at 5:00 pm. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

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

Councilwoman Adkins moved to Suspend the Rules to include **C.P.O. 2021-13** to the agenda. It was seconded by Councilman Brown and Councilwoman Caldwell.

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

**C.P.O. 2021-13**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 9354 PROVIDING A SALARY INCREASE IN FUND 261-501. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary

**WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

**Councilwoman Adkins, Chairwoman of the Ways/Means Committee has:**

**C.P.O. 2021-13**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 9354 PROVIDING A SALARY INCREASE IN FUND 261-501. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome A. Prince, City of Gary **before it. For the record Councilwoman Adkins, Councilman Brown and Councilwoman Caldwell approved C.P.O. 2021-13 to be reported out of committee.**

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE:**

Councilwoman Adkins reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2021-13.**

Councilwoman Adkins moved to Suspend the Rules to pass **C.P.O. 2021-13** on all 3 readings. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilman Brown.

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

Deputy Mayor McCain and Arlene Colvin (Chief of Staff) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2021-13.**

President Godwin, Councilman Lay and Councilman Brewer, spoke regarding **C.P.O. 2021-13.**

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

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

**C.P.O. 2021-03**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING 2021 APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT REVENUE BUDGETS – FUND 227 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Arlene Colvin, Chief of Staff/Controller

**C.P.O. 2021-04**

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN FROM EFSP FEMA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Arlene Colvin, Chief of Staff/Controller

**C.P.O. 2021-12**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING LOVE YOUR BLOCK GRANT FUND 409 BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Arlene Colvin, City Controller

Councilwoman Adkins moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-03, 2021-04 and 2021-12** (Second Reading) with a Committee Hearing (via zoom video conference) set on March 9, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. and a Public Hearing (via zoom video conference) set on March 16, 2021. 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.O. 2021-05**

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A RESIDENCY WAIVER FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary

**C.P.O. 2021-06**

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A RESIDENCY WAIVER FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary

**C.P.O. 2021-07**

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A RESIDENCY WAIVER FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary

Councilwoman Adkins moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-05, 2021-06 and 2021-07** (Second Reading) with a Committee Hearing (via zoom video conference) set on March 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. and a Public Hearing (via zoom video conference) set on March 16, 2021. 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.O. 2021-08**

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: Laurel Fefferman, 300 W. Ridge Road, Gary, Indiana 46408 **Property: 401 W. Ridge Road, Gary, Indiana 46408**

**C.P.O. 2021-09**

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: Jose Hernandez Martinez, 4957-59 Broadway, Gary, Indiana 46409 **Property: 4957-59 Broadway, Gary, Indiana 46409**

**C.P.O. 2021-10**

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: Kinishia Clark, 6938 Ironwood Avenue, Gary, Indiana 46403 **Property: 6938 Ironwood Avenue, Gary, Indiana 46403**

Councilman Brewer moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-08, 2021-09 and 2021-10** (Second Reading) with a Committee Hearing (via zoom video conference) set on March 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. and a Public Hearing (via zoom video conference) set on March 16, 2021. 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.O. 2021-11**

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2021 BUDGET (FUND 101-010 – MAYOR’S OFFICE) TO CHANGE A POSITION TITLE. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary

**C.P.R. 2021-04**

A RESOLUTION OF THE GARY COMMON COUNCIL APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE TRANSFER OF A FIRE ENGINE FROM THE CITY OF VALPARAISO FIRE DEPARTMENT. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2021-11 and C.P.R. 2021-04** (Second Reading) with a Committee Hearing (via zoom video conference) set on March 9, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. and a Public Hearing (via zoom video conference) set on March 16, 2021. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

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

**REPORTS/QUESTIONS OF CITY OFFICIALS**

There were no reports given by the city administration.

Councilman Lay, Councilman Brown and Councilman Brewer spoke regarding **C.P.R. 2021-04**.

Councilman Brown, President Godwin and Councilman Lay spoke regarding the lettering and the cost of the new vehicles for the Gary Police Department and General Services.

Councilman Brewer announced that a Public Safety meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. (via zoom video conference).

Councilman Weatherspoon raised concerns to Police Chief Brian Evans regarding vicious, stray dogs roaming around in the City of Gary.

Chief Evans and Councilman Lay spoke regarding the enforcement of city ordinances by the Animal Control department.

Councilman Brewer announced that there will be a Public Safety meeting held on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss animal control.

Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilman Lay raised concerns to Teshezia George (Executive Director of Gary Commission for Women) regarding the Rainbow Shelter.

Teshezia George (Executive Director of Gary Commission for Women) responded.

Councilman Weatherspoon expressed appreciation to General Services for their efforts during the recent snow storm.

Councilman Brown raised concern to Police Chief Evans regarding the rise of domestic violence and murder-suicides in the City of Gary.

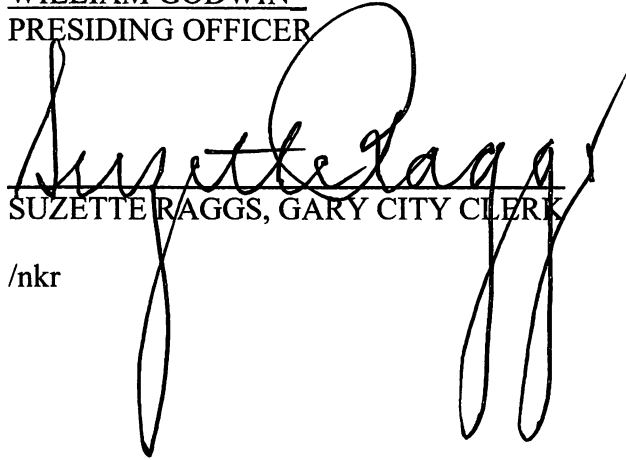
Chief Evans responded.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Emmett Karl Mosley

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMON COUNCIL, THE CHAIR DECLARED THIS MEETING OF **February 2, 2021** ADJOURNED AT 8:25 P.M. 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 and title.

SUZETTE RAGGS, GARY CITY CLERK

/nkr