

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

**MINUTES OF
APRIL 19, 2022**

VIA HYBRID ZOOM CONFERENCE

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

THE HONORABLE MICHAEL BROWN
Councilman-At-Large,

THE HONORABLE CLORIUS LAY
Councilman-At-Large, **Parliamentarian**

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 hybrid/zoom conference on the **19th Day of April, 2022 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 6:05 pm with a moment of prayer by Reverend Dr. Virgil Woods, 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 April 5, 2022. It was seconded by Councilwoman Brown.

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

ASSIGNMENT OF COUNCIL PENDING ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

C.P.O. 2022-14

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE GARY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION TO SPEND OVER IT'S AUTHORIZED BUDGET. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Councilwoman Brown, Chairwoman Finance Committee has:

C.P.O. 2022-14

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE GARY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION TO SPEND OVER IT'S AUTHORIZED BUDGET. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller **before it. For the record Councilwoman Brown, Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilwoman Adkins approved C.P.O. 2022-14 to be reported out of committee.**

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Councilwoman Brown reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2022-14.**

PRESENTATION(S):

Councilman Brown invited Evangela Brown, Larry Tillman, (President of the Gary Firefighters Local 359), Louis Brown, (Candidate Gary Fire Department), Kevin Benford (Vice-President of the Gary Firefighters Local 359) and Juana McLaurin, (Commissioner of the Gary Fire Department) to speak in regards to an incident involving the termination of Candidate Brown of the Gary Fire Department.

Councilman Brewer, Councilman Lay, Councilman Weatherspoon, Atty. Rinzer Williams (Council Legal Advisor) and President Adkins spoke in regards to the termination of Candidate Brown.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S):

Kwabena Rasuli

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

C.P.O. 22-09

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GARY, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND (FUND 2487) FOR CYBERSECURITY SERVICES. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Caldwell moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2022-09**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Brown.

Mileak Harper (City Controller) and Lloyd Keith (City Chief Innovation Officer) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2022-09**.

THIS BEING THE NIGHT SET ASIDE FOR PUBLIC HEARING THE CHAIR ASKED IF THERE WERE ANYONE WISHING TO SPEAK BEFORE THE COUNCIL

SPEAKERS BEFORE THE COUNCIL:

None

Councilman Lay and President Adkins spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2022-09**.

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

C.P.O. 2022-10

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 9948 AND ORDINANCE NUMBER 9949 TO MAKE CHANGES TO THE 2022 OPERATING AND SALARY BUDGETS FOR COMMISSION FOR WOMEN AND THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT DEPARTMENTS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2022-10**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Mileak Harper (City Controller) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2022-10**.

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

C.P.O. 2022-12

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 9470 TO MAKE CHANGES TO THE 2022 SPECIAL REVENUE BUDGET FOR AMBULANCE NON-REVERTING FUND #224. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved to refer **C.P.O. 2022-12** back to the Ways/Means Committee with a Committee Hearing set on April 26, 2022 at 5:30 pm. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell and Councilman Brown.

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

C.P.O. 2022-15

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A TEMPORARY INTERFUND LOAN FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE POLICE AND FIRE PENSION FUNDS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2022-15**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Mileak Harper (City Controller) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2022-15**.

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

C.P.O. 2022-18

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GARY, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE AMERICAN RESUE PLAN ACT FUND (FUND 2487) FOR REVENUE LOSS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved to postpone **C.P.O. 2022-18** until May 4, 2022. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Councilman Lay and Mileak Harper (City Controller) spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2022-19**.

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

C.P.O. 2022-19

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 9948 AND ORDINANCE NUMBER 9949 TO MAKE CHANGES TO THE 2022 OPERATING AND SALARY BUDGETS FOR THE FINANCE DEPARTMENTS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved to withdraw **C.P.O. 2022-19** from the agenda. 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. 2022-20

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CITY OF GARY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO ACCEPT GRANT AWARD FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR STD PREVENTION PROGRAM. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2022-20**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Mileak Harper (City Controller) and Veronica Collins (Director of the Health Department) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2022-20**.

Councilman Lay, Councilwoman Caldwell, and Councilman Brewer spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2022-20**.

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

C.P.O. 2022-21

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CITY OF GARY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO ACCEPT GRANT AWARD FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR STD LOST TO CARE ACTIVITIES. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2022-21**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Mileak Harper (City Controller) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2022-21**.

Councilwoman Brown moved to amend **C.P.O. 2022-21** by changing the title to “The Linkage to Care” instead of “STD Lost to Care” in the title. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

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

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2022-21** as amended. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

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

C.P.R. 2022-06

A RESOLUTION OF THE PARK BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF GARY PROVIDING FOR A HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE INCREASE IN FEES FOR MARQUETTE AND LAKE STREET BEACHES PARKING AND BOAT LAUNCH. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, Reverend Dwight Gardner, President of Park Board

Councilwoman Caldwell moved for passage of **C.P.R. 2022-06**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Brown.

Councilwoman Caldwell moved to withdraw the previous motion. It was seconded by Councilwoman Brown.

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

Councilwoman Caldwell moved to postpone **C.P.R. 2022-06** until May 4, 2022. It was seconded by Councilwoman Brown.

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

COUNCIL PENDING ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING:

C.P.O. 2022-14

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE GARY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION TO SPEND OVER IT'S AUTHORIZED BUDGET. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Mileak Harper, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2022-14** (Second Reading) with a Committee Hearing set on April 26, 2020 at 6:00 pm and a Public Hearing set on May 5, 2022. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

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

MISCELLANEOUS AND NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Brewer moved to hold an Executive Session to discuss the dismissal of fire candidate Louis Brown on May 2, 2022 at 5:30 pm. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

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

Councilman Brown, Councilman Lay and President Adkins spoke in regards to the Executive Session.

REPORTS/QUESTIONS OF CITY OFFICIALS

There were no reports from the administration.

Councilman Brewer requested that the administration look into the shelters on 11th Avenue and Washington Street for which each is becoming a common nuisance in the area. He also spoke in regards to the funding for paving in the City of Gary for 2022.

Atty. McCain (Deputy Mayor) responded.

Councilman Lay raised concerns in regard to the lack of information being provided by the administration to the Council during Reports/Questions of City Officials.

Atty. McCain (Deputy Mayor) responded.

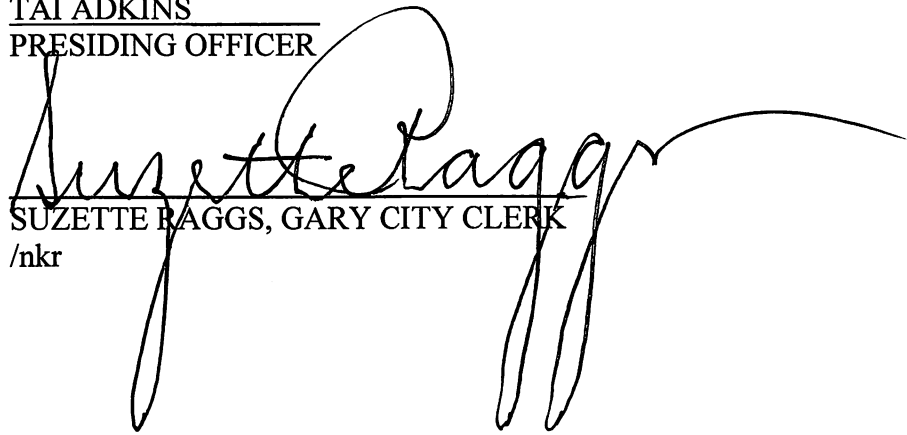
Councilwoman Brown raised concerns to the administration regarding street paving in the 3rd District.

Atty. McCain (Deputy Mayor) responded.

President Adkins announced that the “All In Gary City Wide Clean Up” will take place on May 13, and May 14, 2022. All residents, non-profits, block clubs and businesses are encouraged to get involved. She also reiterated that applications are still being accepted until May 13, 2022 for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) for ages 14 to 21. The Council’s Executive Session will be held in-person on May 2, 2022 at 5:30 pm and the next regular scheduled Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at 6:00 pm (via hybrid).

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMON COUNCIL, THE CHAIR DECLARED THIS MEETING OF **April 19, 2022** ADJOURNED AT 7:50 PM SO ORDERED.

TAI ADKINS
PRESIDING OFFICER


SUZETTE BAGGS, GARY CITY CLERK
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