

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

**MINUTES OF
AUGUST 1, 2023**
GARY COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS
401 BROADWAY, GARY, INDIANA 46402

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

THE HONORABLE DAVID FOSSETT
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 **Parliamentarian**

THE HONORABLE DWIGHT WILLIAMS
Councilman 6th District

THE HONORABLE RONALD BREWER
Councilman-At-Large

THE HONORABLE LORI LATHAM
Councilwoman-At-Large,

THE HONORABLE DARREN WASHINGTON
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, on the **1st Day of August, 2023 at 6:00 pm** with the Honorable William Godwin presiding and the following members present/absent:

PRESENT

THE HONORABLE TAI ADKINS
THE HONORABLE RONALD BREWER
THE HONORABLE LINDA BARNES-CALDWELL
THE HONORABLE DAVID FOSSETT
THE HONORABLE WILLIAM GODWIN
THE HONORABLE DARREN WASHINGTON
THE HONORABLE DWIGHT WILLIAMS

ABSENT

THE HONORABLE MARY BROWN (see pg. 4)
THE HONORABLE LORI LATHAM

The meeting was opened at 6:08 pm with a moment of prayer by Pastor Issac Culver Sr., followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chair asked for Roll Call.

Roll call showed 7 present 2 absent (Councilwoman Brown, Councilwoman Latham). The Chair declared this duly a quorum in order to conduct business in the City of Gary.

Councilman Washington moved to approve and accept the minutes of the July 18, 2023. It was seconded by Councilman Williams and Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call showed a vote of 7 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

ASSIGNMENT OF COUNCIL PENDING ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

C.P.O. 2023-41

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 9446 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GARY, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA APPROVING AN AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) SPENDING PLAN FOR WORKFORCE HOUSING-EASTSIDE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Celita Green, City Controller

UNASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE

C.P.O. 2023-42

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GARY, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND (FUND 2487) FOR THE GARY EASTSIDE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION WORKFORCE HOUSING. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Celita Green, City Controller

UNASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE

C.P.O. 2023-49

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER OF FUNDS WITHIN THE 1101-GENERAL FUND FOR THE GARY COMMON COUNCIL. Sponsored by: Gary City Council, Celita Green, City Controller

Councilwoman Adkins moved to withdraw **C.P.O. 2023-49** from the agenda. It was seconded by Councilman Fossett.

Roll call showed a vote of 6 ayes 1 nay (Williams). The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

C.P.O. 2023-50

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING NEW BUDGETS FOR THE FIRE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (2226-5569) AND STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (2226-536). Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Celita Green, City Controller

WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE

C.P.O. 2023-51

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA APPROVING THE AMENDMENT OF GARBAGE COLLECTION FEES FOR USERS LOCATED IN THE CITY OF GARY. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Celita Green, City Controller

WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE

C.P.O. 2023-52

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA, LAKE COUNTY, APPROVING PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE CERTAIN FUND LEDGER BALANCES AND BANK STATEMENTS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Celita Green, City Controller

WAYS/MEANS COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

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

C.P.O. 2023-50

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING NEW BUDGETS FOR THE FIRE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (2226-5569) AND STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (2226-536). Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Celita Green, City Controller

C.P.O. 2023-51

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA APPROVING THE AMENDMENT OF GARBAGE COLLECTION FEES FOR USERS LOCATED IN THE CITY OF GARY. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Celita Green, City Controller

C.P.O. 2023-52

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA, LAKE COUNTY, APPROVING PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE CERTAIN FUND LEDGER BALANCES AND BANK STATEMENTS. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Celita Green, City Controller **before it. For the record Councilwoman Adkins, Councilman Washington and Councilman Godwin approved C.P.O. 2023-50, C.P.O. 2023-51 and C.P.O. 2023-52 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. 2023-50, C.P.O. 2023-51 and C.P.O. 2023-52.**

Councilwoman Adkins moved to reschedule the September 5, 2023 Gary Common Council meeting to September 12, 2023. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

*The Chair acknowledged the presence of Councilwoman Brown to the meeting.

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

PRESENTATIONS:

Councilman Brewer and President Godwin provided an opportunity for Chief Anthony Titus (Gary Police Department) and Ellis Dumas (Boys/Girls Club) to speak before the council.

Chief Anthony Titus (Gary Police Department) gave an update of projects within the Gary Police Department.

Ellis Dumas (Vice President of Programs and Outcomes for the Gary Boys/Girls Club of Northwest Indiana), Andrea Roscoe, Anna Richardson and Elise Phillips (Gary Boys/Girls Club of Northwest Indiana members) gave a presentation on global climate change before the Council.

President Godwin, Councilwoman Adkins, Councilman Washington and Dr. Roland Walker (Health Commissioner of the Gary Health Department) expressed appreciation to the young presenters of the Gary Boys/Girls Club of Northwest Indiana for their presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Donna Jack
Alex Dunlap
Kimmie Gordan

Councilwoman Adkins moved to add Councilman Darren Washington to the Planning & Development Committee and to remove Councilman Williams Godwin. It was seconded by Councilman Williams.

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

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

C.P.O. 2023-30

AN ORDINANCE FOR APPROPRIATIONS FOR OPIOD FUND – UNRESTRICTED. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Celita Green, City Controller

Councilwoman Adkins moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2023-30**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Councilwoman Adkins moved to amend **C.P.O. 2023-30** by substitution. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Attorney Angela Lockett (Corporation Counsel), Dr. Roland Walker (Health Commissioner of the Gary Health Department) and Veronica Collins (Director of Gary Health Department) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2023-30**.

Councilwoman Adkins, Councilman Washington, Councilman Fossett and Councilwoman Caldwell spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2023-30**.

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

Roll call showed a vote of 6 ayes 2 abstentions (Adkins, Godwin). The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**.

C.P.O. 2023-31

AN ORDINANCE FOR APPROPRIATIONS FOR OPIOID FUND – RESTRICTED. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Celita Green, City Controller

Councilwoman Adkins moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2023-31**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Councilwoman Adkins moved to amend **C.P.O. 2023-31** by substitution. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Attorney Angela Lockett (Corporation Counsel), Dr. Roland Walker (Health Commissioner of the Gary Health Department) and Veronica Collins (Director of Gary Health Department) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2023-31**.

Councilwoman Adkins, President Godwin, Celita Green (City Controller) and Atty. Rinzer Williams (Council's Legal Advisor) spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2023-31**.

Councilwoman Adkins moved to refer **C.P.O. 2023-31** back to committee with a Committee Hearing set for August 3, 2023 at 5:30 pm (Hybrid). It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call showed a vote of 4 ayes 3 nays (Brewer, Washington, Williams) 1 abstention (Fosset). The Chair declared this motion is duly defeated.

Councilman Washington and Atty. Williams (Council's Legal Advisor) spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2023-31**.

Councilwoman Adkins moved to refer **C.P.O. 2023-31** back to committee with a Committee Hearing set for August 7, 2023 at 5:30 pm (Hybrid). It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call showed a vote of 6 ayes 2 nays (Brewer, Fosset). The Chair declared this motion is duly passed.

C.P.O. 2023-35

AN ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE CASINO OPERATING FUND FOR SUBSIDIES TO MARQUETTE PARK AND HUDSON CAMPBELL. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Celita Green, City Controller

Councilwoman Brown moved to refer **C.P.O. 2023-35** back to committee with a Committee Hearing set for August 7, 2023 at 5:00 pm (Hybrid). 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. 2023-47

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 9446 ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GARY, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA APPROVING AN AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) SPENDING PLAN FOR THE WASHINGTON MANOR SUBDIVISION. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Councilwoman Tai Adkins, 4th District, Celita Green, City Controller

Councilwoman Adkins moved to refer **C.P.O. 2023-47** back to committee with a Committee Hearing set for August 7, 2023 at 5:45 pm (Hybrid). 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. 2023-48

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GARY, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND (FUND 2487) FOR THE WASHINGTON MANOR SUBDIVISION. Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Councilwoman Tai Adkins, 4th District, Celita Green, City Controller

Councilwoman Adkins moved to refer **C.P.O. 2023-48** back to committee with a Committee Hearing set for August 7, 2023 at 5:45 pm (Hybrid). It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

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. 2023-50

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING NEW BUDGETS FOR THE FIRE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (2226-5569) AND STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (2226-536). Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Celita Green, City Controller

C.P.O. 2023-51

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA APPROVING THE AMENDMENT OF GARBAGE COLLECTION FEES FOR USERS LOCATED IN THE CITY OF GARY.

Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Celita Green, City Controller

C.P.O. 2023-52

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA, LAKE COUNTY, APPROVING PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE CERTAIN FUND LEDGER BALANCES AND BANK STATEMENTS.

Sponsored by: Mayor Jerome Prince, City of Gary, Celita Green, City Controller

Councilwoman Adkin moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2023-50, C.P.O. 2023-51 and C.P.O. 2023-52** (Second Reading) with a Committee Hearing set on August 21, 2023, at 5:00 pm (Hybrid) and Public Hearing set for August 22, 2023. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

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

Councilwoman Adkins moved to reconsider the vote for the August 7, 2023 Ways/ Means Committee meeting to be Hybrid. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

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

President Godwin introduced Shavonne King as the new Zoning Administrator for the City of Gary.

Councilman Washington and President Godwin spoke in regards to the excessive heat in the Council Chambers and requested an update on the HVAC at the August 7, 2023 committee meeting.

Celita Green (City Controller) gave an update in regards to the repair of the HVAC.

REPORTS/QUESTIONS OF CITY OFFICIAL:

Atty. Trent McCain (Deputy Mayor) presented the following announcement(s)/update(s) on behalf of the administration:

- 1) Condolences were expressed to the family of Myrlin Delores Freeman (mother of former Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson).
- 2) The annual Gary Air Show will be held on August 5, 2023 and August 6, 2023 at Marquette Park from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.
- 3) "National Night Out" will be held on August 8, 2023 at the Gary Southshore Railcats Stadium starting at 6:00 pm.

President Godwin raised concerns to the administration in regards to the down trees in the City of Gary from the recent storm.


Atty. McCain (Deputy Mayor) responded.

Councilwoman Adkins requested the administration to look into supporting the Hilltop Organized Citizens Block Club with their upcoming annual event.

Atty. McCain (Deputy Mayor) responded.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMON COUNCIL, THE CHAIR DECLARED THIS MEETING OF **August 1, 2023** ADJOURNED AT 8:20 PM SO ORDERED.

Willian Godwin
PRESIDING OFFICER


SUZETTE RAGGS, GARY CITY CLERK
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