

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

**MINUTES OF  
APRIL 16, 2024**

**GARY COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
401 BROADWAY, GARY, INDIANA 46402**

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

**THE HONORABLE LORI LATHAM**  
Councilwoman 1<sup>st</sup> District, **Common Council Vice-President**

**THE HONORABLE DWAYNE HALLIBURTON**  
Councilman 2<sup>nd</sup> District

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

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

**THE HONORABLE DWIGHT WILLIAMS**  
Councilman 6<sup>th</sup> District

**THE HONORABLE MARIAN IVEY**  
Councilwoman-At-Large

**THE HONORABLE MARK SPENCER**  
Councilman-At-Large

**THE HONORABLE DARREN WASHINGTON**  
Councilman-At-Large

**THE HONORABLE EDDIE MELTON, MAYOR, CITY OF GARY**  
**THE HONORABLE SUZETTE RAGGS, CLERK, CITY OF GARY**

**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 **16<sup>th</sup> Day of April, 2024 at 6:00 pm** with the Honorable Tai Adkins presiding and the following members present/absent:

PRESENT

ABSENT

THE HONORABLE TAI ADKINS  
THE HONORABLE LINDA BARNES-CALDWELL  
THE HONORABLE MARY BROWN  
THE HONORABLE DWAYNE HALLIBURTON  
THE HONORABLE MARIAN IVEY  
THE HONORABLE LORI LATHAM  
THE HONORABLE MARK SPENCER  
THE HONORABLE DARREN WASHINGTON  
THE HONORABLE DWIGHT WILLIAMS

The meeting was opened at 6:35 pm with a moment of prayer by Councilman Spencer, 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.

President Adkins on behalf of the entire Common Council welcomed Councilwoman Marian Ivey, Councilwoman-At-Large to the Council.

The Chair asked for the reading of the minutes.

Councilman Washington moved to approve and accept the minutes of April 2, 2024. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

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

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

**C.P.O. 2024-18**

AN ORDINANCE REVIEWING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 805 GRANT ST. TO BE USED AS A RESIDENTIAL HOME DAYCARE BY PETITIONER PRINCESS WARD-BEY. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary **Petitioner: Princess Ward-Bey, 805 Grant St., Gary, Indiana**

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2024-19**

AN ORDINANCE REVIEWING THE PETITION BY DEBRA COOPER FOR A USE VARIANCE TO A PARCEL ZONED AS RESIDENTIAL AT 2424 MALCOLM X BLVD. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary **Petitioner: Debra Cooper, 2424 Malcolm X Blvd., Gary, Indiana**

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2024-20**

AN ORDINANCE REVIEWING THE PETITION BY JAMAL RODGERS FOR A USE VARIANCE FOR A PARCEL TO BE USED AS A TOW YARD AT 1325-27 E. 37<sup>TH</sup> AVE. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary **Petitioner: Jamal Rodgers, 1325-37 E. 37<sup>th</sup> Ave., Gary, Indiana**

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**C.P.O. 2024-21**

AN ORDINANCE REVIEWING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5160 BROADWAY TO BE USED AS A USED CAR DEALERSHIP/AUTOMOTIVE RETAIL BY PETITIONER FIRSAN ASFUR. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary **Petitioner: Firsan Asfur, 5160 Broadway, Gary, Indiana**

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

**Councilman Washington, Chairwoman of Planning & Development Committee has:**

**C.P.O. 2024-18**

AN ORDINANCE REVIEWING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 805 GRANT ST. TO BE USED AS A RESIDENTIAL HOME DAYCARE BY PETITIONER PRINCESS WARD-BEY. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary **Petitioner: Princess Ward-Bey, 805 Grant St., Gary, Indiana**

**C.P.O. 2024-19**

AN ORDINANCE REVIEWING THE PETITION BY DEBRA COOPER FOR A USE VARIANCE TO A PARCEL ZONED AS RESIDENTIAL AT 2424 MALCOLM X BLVD. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary **Petitioner: Debra Cooper, 2424 Malcolm X Blvd., Gary, Indiana**

**C.P.O. 2024-20**

AN ORDINANCE REVIEWING THE PETITION BY JAMAL RODGERS FOR A USE VARIANCE FOR A PARCEL TO BE USED AS A TOW YARD AT 1325-27 E. 37<sup>TH</sup> AVE. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary **Petitioner: Jamal Rodgers, 1325-37 E. 37<sup>th</sup> Ave., Gary, Indiana**

**C.P.O. 2024-21**

AN ORDINANCE REVIEWING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5160 BROADWAY TO BE USED AS A USED CAR DEALERSHIP/AUTOMOTIVE RETAIL BY PETITIONER FIRSAN ASFUR. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary **Petitioner: Firsan Asfur, 5160 Broadway, Gary, Indiana before it. For the record Councilman Washington, President Adkins and Councilwoman Latham approved C.P.O. 2024-18, C.P.O. 2024-19, C.P.O. 2024-20 and C.P.O. 2024-21 to be reported out of committee.**

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:**

Councilman Washington reported the following legislation out of committee: **C.P.O. 2024-18, C.P.O. 2024-19, C.P.O. 2024-20 and C.P.O. 2024-21.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Jim Nowacki

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

**C.P.O. 2024-07**

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A RESIDENCY WAIVER FOR EMPLOYMENT OF WILLIAM ALLEN AS CITY ENGINEER OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary

Councilman Washington moved to postpone **C.P.O. 2024-07** to May 8, 2024. It was seconded by Councilwoman Latham.

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

**C.P.O. 2024-08**

AN ORDINANCE DENYING THE PETITION BY MARY HUBBARD-BOBO FOR A USE VARIANCE TO A PARCEL ZONED AS RESIDENTIAL AT 1518 E. 35<sup>TH</sup> PLACE. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary **Petitioner: Mary Hubbard-Bobo, 1518 E. 35<sup>th</sup> Place Gary, Indiana**

Councilman Washington moved to refer **C.P.O. 2024-08** back to the Planning & Development Committee with a Committee Hearing set for May 2, 2024 at 5:30 pm. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Roll call showed a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays and 1 abstention (Ivey). The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

**C.P.O. 2024-09**

AN ORDINANCE DENYING THE PETITION BY SANDRA BRODEN FOR A USE VARIANCE TO A PARCEL ZONED AS RESIDENTIAL AT 1927 CENTRAL AVENUE. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary **Petitioner: Sandra Broden, 1927 Central Avenue, Gary, Indiana**

Councilman Washington moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2024-09**. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

Atty. Rodney Pol (City Attorney) and Sandra Broden (petitioner) gave a brief overview of **C.P.O. 2024-09**.

President Adkins, Atty Pol (City Attorney), Councilman Washington, Atty. Rinzer Williams (Council's Legal Advisor), Councilwoman Latham and Councilwoman Caldwell spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2024-09**.

Councilman Washington moved to amend **C.P.O. 2024-09** by substitution. It was seconded by Councilwoman Caldwell.

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

Councilwoman Latham spoke in regards to **C.P.O. 2024-09**.

Roll call on the motion as amended showed a vote of 7 ayes 2 nays (Latham, Washington). The Chair declared this Council Pending Ordinance duly **PASSED**.

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

### **C.P.O. 2024-18**

AN ORDINANCE REVIEWING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 805 GRANT ST. TO BE USED AS A RESIDENTIAL HOME DAYCARE BY PETITIONER PRINCESS WARD-BEY. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary **Petitioner: Princess Ward-Bey, 805 Grant St., Gary, Indiana**

### **C.P.O. 2024-19**

AN ORDINANCE REVIEWING THE PETITION BY DEBRA COOPER FOR A USE VARIANCE TO A PARCEL ZONED AS RESIDENTIAL AT 2424 MALCOLM X BLVD. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary **Petitioner: Debra Cooper, 2424 Malcolm X Blvd., Gary, Indiana**

### **C.P.O. 2024-20**

AN ORDINANCE REVIEWING THE PETITION BY JAMAL RODGERS FOR A USE VARIANCE FOR A PARCEL TO BE USED AS A TOW YARD AT 1325-27 E. 37<sup>TH</sup> AVE. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary **Petitioner: Jamal Rodgers, 1325-37 E. 37<sup>th</sup> Ave., Gary, Indiana**

### **C.P.O. 2024-21**

AN ORDINANCE REVIEWING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5160 BROADWAY TO BE USED AS A USED CAR DEALERSHIP/AUTOMOTIVE RETAIL BY PETITIONER FIRSAN ASFUR. Sponsored by: Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary **Petitioner: Firsan Asfur, 5160 Broadway, Gary, Indiana**

Councilman Washington moved for passage of **C.P.O. 2024-18, C.P.O. 2024-19, C.P.O. 2024-20** and **C.P.O. 2024-21** (Second Reading) with a Committee Hearing set for May 2, 2024, at 5:30 pm and a Public Hearing set for May 8, 2024. It was seconded by Councilman Williams.

Roll call showed a vote of 6 ayes 0 nays. The Chair declared this motion duly passed.

## **REPORTS/QUESTIONS OF CITY OFFICIAL:**

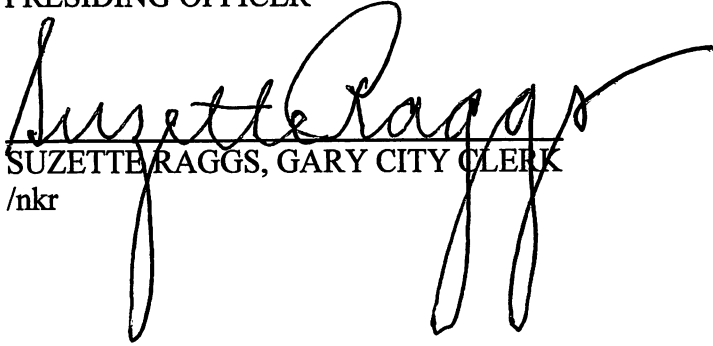
President Adkins requested an update from the administration regarding the status of the “Tolleston Hub Project” by the next meeting. She also reminded everyone of the upcoming “State of the City Address” on Tuesday, April 30, 2024, 4:00 pm at Westside High School.

Mayor Eddie Melton, City of Gary, presented the following announcement(s)/update(s):

None

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMON COUNCIL, THE CHAIR DECLARED THIS MEETING OF **April 16, 2024** ADJOURNED AT 7:40 PM SO ORDERED.

Tai Adkins  
PRESIDING OFFICER

  
SUZETTE RAGGS, GARY CITY CLERK  
/nkr