MONDAY
August 17, 2026
City of North Chicago
1850 Lewis Avenue, North Chicago, IL 60064

Following City Council Meeting

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

7:19 p.m.

Mayor Leon Rockingham, Jr., called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Jackson, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: Evans, Coleman

DISCUSSION OF DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS:

- Finance Budget Report
- Economic & Community Development
- Human Resources
- Police
- Public Works
- Treasurer

No Discussion. Not opened

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY
August 17, 2026
7:20 p.m.

Alderman Murphy called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Jackson, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Absent: Evans, Coleman

1. **DISCUSSION TO AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING FOR BID OF REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF ONE (1) BACKWASH PUMP**

   Interim Director of Public Works Bob Miller explained that the quotes came in over **$20,000** for the repair or replacement of a single backwash pump. Initial quotes came in at **$36,000** to repair and **$37,000** to replace on the high end. The second quote came in at **$24,900** to repair and **$26,250** to replace. The plan was to continue to gain additional bids.

2. **DISCUSSION TO AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING FOR BID OF THE COMPLETE REFURBISHMENT OF MOTOR AND PUMP FOR ONE (1) ABBVIE RAW WATER PUMP**

   Mr. Miller explained that pumps needed to be rebuilt. There were 4 pumps in need of service; three had been completed and one more remained. The quotes received for this project were **$138,420 (low), $176k (mid-range),** and **$254k (high).** The plan was to gain additional quotes. Explaining: 2 years prior, when the work was done, the city paid **$130k**, so **$138k** is not that bad a price. Once out to quote, it would be brought back to the council for approval.

   Alderman Jackson confirmed whether these were quotes or bids. Mr. Miller responded that they were just quotes. Explaining the price difference and timeframes. There was a 7-month wait time for replacements, so probably just looking to rebuild. Looking forward to what could be done soon.

3. **DISCUSSION TO AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING FOR BID THE BROADWAY AVENUE - LEAD SERVICE LINE AND WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT**

   City Engineer Steve Cieslica explained this was part of the Argonne Drive reconstruction project; the water main would be replaced from Sheridan Road to Glenn Drive. Seeking to bid competitively on the project. Funding had been provided, approvals were in place, and ready to proceed with the bid, subject to the Council's approval.

   Mayor Rockingham Jr. asked about sewer line repair. Mr. Cieslica said there would be spot repairs included as well.

4. **DISCUSSION FOR APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 TO THE CONTRACT WITH CAMPANELLA AND SONS, INC. FOR THE LEWIS AVENUE DETENTION BASIN PHASE II PROJECT IN A NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF $230,000**

   City Engineer Steve Cieslica explained that removing the existing storm sewer and upsizing would create more capacity upstream. Originally, the plan was to remove and dispose of the existing pipes in the ground. However, unseen before, there were asbestos pipes in the ground.

There had been quite a bit of discussion about the best option. The most feasible option was to remove it and replace with upsized pipes. It was decided that it would not be the best option to bury or leave a known problem, though it did not cause an immediate issue. The best option was the removal and replacement. A **quote of $230,000** was received, which was considered reasonable and covered by the grant. The grant funding for drain and sewer projects was for **$5.5 million**. Phase I was under budget; **$3.3 million** can be allocated for Phase II. With the change order, it would come in at **$3.25 million**, leaving approximately **$50,000 to $60,000** for additional work to be done during construction.

Alderman Allen questioned how to determine asbestos pipes in the future.

City Engineer Steve Cieslica had never seen asbestos pipes that big before. *Provided research facts.* As well as plans to investigate if there were additional pipes with the same issue throughout the city.

Alderman Jackson expressed concern about the public basin from a public safety perspective. Noting a possible drowning due to there being no fencing. He asked if there would be fencing. Mr. Cieslica explained the difference between a dry and wet basin and that someone, if someone fell in, they would be able to climb out and he *stated that the current ordinances do not require it,* however, if the council would like one, that could be done.

Alderman Murphy asked, once the planting was done, would it create a natural barrier for individuals for prevention of accident.

Alderman Brooks inquired about the project completion timeframe. Mr. Cieslica responded Spring. Alderman Wray asked if funded solely with grant money; Mr. Cieslica said it was.

Alderman Allen moved, seconded by Alderman Brooks that the Public Works Committee Meeting stand adjourned.

ROLL CALL:
Ayes: Jackson, Allen, Wray, Murphy, Brooks
Nays: None
Absent: Evans, Coleman

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.