
DATE: Monday, May 18, 2020
TIME: 7:01 P.M.
PLACE: *Held virtually due to Governor's Stay at Home order

The City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session on Monday, May 18, 2020, at 7:00pm via Zoom.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT: None

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Maryalice Wu, Ward 1; Eric Jakobsson, Ward 2; Shirese Hursey, Ward 3; Bill Brown, Ward 4; Dennis Roberts, Ward 5; Bill Colbrook, Ward 6; Jared Miller, Ward 7; Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayor; Charles A. Smyth, City Clerk

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Elizabeth Beaty; Sheila Dodd; Carol Mitten; Lorrie Pearson; Dan Rothermel; Andrea Ruedi; Kevin Sanderson; James Simon; Justin Swinford; Scott Tess

OTHERS PRESENT ELECTRONICALLY:

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

With a quorum present, Chair Dennis Roberts called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 7:01pm.

2. **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting**

CM Jared Miller made a motion to approve minutes from the May 4, 2020 meeting. Motion seconded by CM Shirese Hursey. Motion to approve the May 4 minutes was carried after a correction was made by CM Bill Brown.

3. **Additions to the Agenda**

CM Wu made a motion to add discussion about MCORE to the agenda. Motion seconded by CM Miller and carried by voice vote.

Mayor Marlin removed item number 10 from the agenda, Emergency Order and updates, because it was not yet ready for discussion. Committee members approved the removal of that item by voice vote.

4. **Public Hearing**

To consider an amendment to the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan Annual Action Plan FY 2019/2020 for the City of Urbana to receive and administer \$294,966 in Community Development Block Grant-CV funds (CDBG) funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) made available through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).

a. **Open Public Hearing**

Chair Roberts opened the public hearing at 7:06pm and stated the purpose for the hearing.

b. **Public Input Related to Subject of Public Hearing**

No one came forward for public input.

c. **Adjournment of Public Hearing**

With no further business pertaining to this hearing, Chair Roberts adjourned the public hearing at 7:08pm.

5. **Public Input and Presentations**

Bishop King James Underwood and Rev. Dr. Evelyn Underwood asked that their concerns about the Dr. Ellis subdivision sewer problems be entered into the record.

Public comment concerning the arrest of Aleyah Lewis on April 10, 2020 was provided by email from the following people: Jeffrey Putney; Chelsea Birchmier; Danyelle Dawson; Andi Lee Quasebarth; Griffin Quasebarth; Elizabeth Simpson; Karen Linder; Jacqueline Hannah; Benjamin Stone; Rohn Koester; Allen Axelrod; Maria Zoey; Jane McClintock; River Brown; Nadja Robot. A summary of comments included: charges against Lewis should be dropped and the incident reviewed by the Civilian Police Review Board; Lewis is a victim of police brutality; the police chief should resign; there is a lack of concern for the well-being of Urbana residents; city needs to change the pattern of brutality by police; police should be educated to de-escalate instead of reacting; independent investigation should be done; taser should not have been used in the jail; officers involved should be put on administrative leave; there is a lack of understanding about domestic violence.

Public input was also provided via Zoom from the following people: Tracy Chong; Linda Kwon; Danielle Chynoweth; Sarah Nixon and Emily Rodriguez. Comments included: there should be a fair independent investigation of the incident; the review of police misconduct was poor; there were missed opportunities for voluntary compliance; videos show brutal assault by officers; disturbed by officers carrying automatic weapons close to park; all charges and fees against Lewis be dropped.

Comments by City Council members included: police were responding to shots fired call, not domestic violence call; council members had no information about Lewis being tased; the amount of public input concerning the incident warrants further review of it; do not want to see everyone so overcome by emotion that they fail to see a solution; discussion of the incident should take place in some sort of forum rather than during city council meetings; there should be an independent review of the incident.

6 **Staff Report**

CM Brown requested a topic for the next Committee of the Whole meeting. He said he would like to have a report from the CPRB (Civilian Police Review Board), Human Relations Commission and discussion about the current city code and whether it is adequate. CM Wu supported having the topic on the new Committee agenda.

7. **Ordinance No. 2020-04-022:** An Ordinance Amending Urbana City Code Chapter 14, Section 14-7, Regarding Schedule of Fees Subsection A – “Liquor Licenses” (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021)

Mayor Marlin said city council passed the new liquor code in February. On April 20 the new fee schedule was presented to committee and filed. She said there were a couple of questions from council members and also comments from several license holders.

Mayor Marlin said the Incubator license, with a fee of \$4,000 a year, was created to give flexibility to the Code and is for those who are not eligible for a temporary licenses or do not qualify for any other city-issued liquor license. The license fee is high because of the amount of work that goes into issuing it. It is a custom license and would involve multiple meetings and quite a bit of interaction between the applicant and city staff.

8. **Resolution No. 2020-05-023R:** A Resolution approving the Champaign-Urbana Solid Waste

Disposal System Annual Budget (Fiscal Year 2020-2021)

9 **Ordinance No. 2020-05-028:** An Ordinance Approving an Amendment to the City of Urbana Consolidated and Annual Action Plan FY 2019/2020 and Citizen Participation Plan

10. **Discussion** – Emergency Order and updates

11. **Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the council, Chair Roberts adjourned the meeting at 9:39pm.

Kay Meharry
Assistant City Clerk

This meeting was video recorded and is [viewable on-demand](#).

Minutes Approved: June 1, 2020