

**CITY OF URBANA  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Monday, August 26, 2019  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 400 SOUTH VINE STREET, URBANA, IL 61801**

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The City Council Committee of The Whole of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, August 26, 2019 in the Council Chambers of the Urbana City Building.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT:** Bill Brown, Dean Hazen, Shirese Hursey, Eric Jakobsson, Jared Miller, Maryalice Wu, Charles A. Smyth, Diane Wolfe Marlin

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE:** None

**ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT:** Dennis Roberts, Ward 5

**STAFF PRESENT:** Curt Borman, Sheila Dodd, Kyle Hensch, Wendy Hundley, Carol Mitten, Bryant Seraphin, John Schneider, Craig Shonkwiler, Justin Swinford, James Simon

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Elderess Melinda Carr, Keith McGinnis, Bishop King James Underwood, Members of the Media

1. **[Call to Order and Roll Call](#)**

There being a quorum, Chair Dean Hazen called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 7:00pm

2. **[Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting](#)**

CM Jared Miller made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on August 12, 2019. CM Maryalice Wu seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

3. **Additions to the Agenda**

None

4. **[Public Input](#)**

Bishop King James Underwood did not wish to speak, but asked that his position be entered into the record regarding the Dr. Ellis Subdivision sewer issues.

Elderess Melinda Carr did not wish to speak but asked that her continued concerns about Dr. Ellis subdivision sewer issues, equity and historic impact be entered into the record.

5. **Presentations**

There were none

6. **Staff Report**

There was none

7. **[Resolution No. 2019-08-032R](#): A Resolution to Approve an Intergovernmental Agreement (GIS Consortium Base Station Agreement)**

Information Technology Director Sanford Hess presented Resolution No. 2019-08-032R with the recommendation for approval. This cost-sharing renewal agreement will allow Urbana and the other joint partners uninterrupted Global Positioning System (GPS) signal from the hardware located at the University of Illinois Campus for an annual fee of \$1,156.25

CM Hursey asked for language clarification on Article 9, Section E Sovereign Immunity of the Cost Sharing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Assistant City Attorney Curt Borman and Mayor Marlin addressed CM Hursey's questions and concerns.

Clerk Smyth reminded committee members that they have an opportunity to send some of the items from this meeting to the consent agenda should they chose to do so except the budget amendment.

Mr. Hess informed the committee of a couple of corrections to his document but added that in the final document.

CM Miller made a motion to send Resolution No. 2019-08-032R to council's consent agenda with the recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Jakobsson and carried by unanimous voice vote.

8. **Resolution No. 2019-08-033R:** A Resolution Approving a City of Urbana Community Development Block Grant Program Agreement (Habitat for Humanity Project No. 1920-CSSP-01)

Community Development Specialist Alyssa Jaje presented Resolution No. 2019-08-033R with the recommendation for approval. Ms. Jaje said that Habitat for Humanity applied for this grant under the Consolidated Social Service Funding program, this funding would offer free financial literacy courses in the community. The program was awarded \$5,000.00, and this agreement will allow disbursement of funds from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

After the clarification about the funding source, CM Wu made a motion to send Resolution No. 2019-08-033R to council's consent agenda with the recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Jakobsson and carried by unanimous voice vote.

9. **Ordinance No. 2019-08-047:** An Ordinance Amending Urbana City Code Chapter 22 by Adding Article II, Sections 22-16 through 22-19 (Municipal Cannabis Retailers' Occupation Tax)

Finance Director Elizabeth Hannan presented Ordinance No. 2019-08-047 with the recommendation for approval. Ms. Hannan started by saying that there has been a lot of interest in recreational cannabis, but this ordinance is merely to decide whether a tax should be imposed on the sale, which is permitted by default unless the city chooses to opt-out or disallow it. Ms. Hannan mentioned several related issues that would have to be addressed separately:

- Licensing dispensaries: The state will license all dispensaries. Initially, only currently licensed medical cannabis dispensaries will be permitted to dispense recreational cannabis.
- Location of additional dispensaries: This may require an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance
- City code language update: Language in the City Code related to possession of cannabis and drug paraphernalia will be addressed before January 1, 2020
- Social Consumption: Licensing social consumption in public spaces can be addressed as needed.

Ms. Hannan added that most of the feedback has been positive in allowing the sale of recreational cannabis. The city held a listening session last week, and emails after that. Ten comments were received with seven were in favor of the sale of recreational cannabis.

In November of 2016, Township advisory referendum on legalizing the sale of cannabis resulted in 11, 863 "Yes" votes and 3,804 "No" votes.

If a tax is imposed in sales starting in January 2020 the city will receive revenues in April of 2020, however, the Illinois Municipal League (IML) has recommended adopting an ordinance with an effective date of January 1, 2020, and filing that ordinance with the Department of Revenue (DOR) no later than the end of September 2019.

Fiscal Impact Staff believes that recreational cannabis sales at the current NuMed dispensary would be \$5 to \$10 million annually. Based on this revenue estimates, at a 3% Occupational tax, this would produce a combined revenue of \$275,000 to \$550,000. This type of revenue could address some of the city's financial gap of \$875,000.

NuMed Owner Keith McGinnis addressed questions and concern from the committee about cannabis medical cardholders, store set up for medical and recreational customers, max amount of cannabis purchase for both groups, selection of products, and security.

After discussion, CM Miller made a motion to send Ordinance No. 2019-08-047 to council with the recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Jakobsson and carried by a unanimous voice vote.

10. [Ordinance No. 2019-08-048](#): An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Budget Amendment #1 - Omnibus)

Financial Analyst Don Ho presented Ordinance No. 2019-08-048 with the recommendation for approval. This ordinance will address changes to the FY2020 annual budget related to the timing of expenditures, and in some cases, revenues.

Mr. Ho explained some of the changes that included the timing of property tax receipts; the first two distributions for the city's 2018 property tax levy were delayed due to new software at the county levy. However, these changes cause delayed on the allocations of Police and Fire pension funds. Another significant amendment to this budget ordinance was the West Green Street Right of Way Improvements for development of the Urbana Landmark Hotel property. The cost is expected to be \$50,000 and will be transferred from the TIF 2 versus the newly created Central TIF Fund due to its early age of maturity.

Finance Director Elizabeth Hannan addressed questions from committee members about the budgetary changes. After discussion, CM Miller made a motion to send Ordinance No. 2019-08-048 to council with the recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Brown and carried by unanimous voice vote.

11. [Ordinance No. 2019-08-049](#): An Ordinance Amending Schedule J of Section 23-183 of the Urbana Local Traffic Code Prohibiting Parking at all Times on Certain Streets (Green Street between Lincoln Avenue and Race Street)

Assistant City Engineer Craig Shonkwiler presented Ordinance No. 2019-08-049 with the recommendation for approval. Mr. Shonkwiler gave background information about the Multimodal Corridor Enhancement (MCORE) and to implement Phase 5 of the project, removal of on-street parking on Green Street between Lincoln Avenue, and Race Street was recommended to allow space for the installation of bicycle and mass transit facilities on Green Street. Before the June traffic commission meeting, letters were sent to residents, business owners, and property owners and door hangers were placed at locations along Green Street corridor to notify the public about the proposed parking restrictions. This item was sent from the Urbana Traffic Commission with the recommendation for approval.

After presentation and questions from the committee, CM Wu made a motion to send Ordinance No. 2019-08-049 to council with the recommendation for approval. CM Hursey seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

12. **Ordinance No. 2019-08-050**: An Ordinance Authorizing the Dedication of Right-of-Way (301 N. Race Street)

Civil Engineer I Justin Swinford presented Ordinance No. 2019-08-050 with the recommendation for approval. The city owns this parcel and this Right of Way (ROW) will allow for uniform consistency along North Race and West Griggs Street as well as address some narrowing of the ROW on North Race Street and West Griggs Street.

After the presentation and no questions. CM Miller made a motion to send Ordinance No. 2019-08-050 to council's consent agenda with the recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Wu and carried by unanimous voice vote.

13. **Ordinance No. 2019-08-051**: An Ordinance Amending Urbana City Code Chapter 2, Sections 2-4, 2-27, and 2-28 - (Administration)

City Clerk Smyth presented Ordinance No. 2019-08-051 with the recommendation for approval. The City Clerk's office is recommending the following changes in the code:

- Drop the requirement for an individual to state his or her address
- Change agenda template order and add presentation to allow for invited guests
- Provide for consent agenda under Standing Committee reports
- Section 2-28 removed certain language and make it clear that the mayor is a nonvoting member of the committee

After presentation, City Clerk Smyth and Assistant City Attorney Curt Borman addressed questions from committee about the order of the public input and presentation, and clarified Section 2. (Sec. 2-27 # 3) about imposed fee to compel the attendance of absentee members in order to constitute a quorum to do business.

After discussion, CM Miller made a motion to send Ordinance No. 2019-08-051 to council's consent agenda with the recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Wu and carried by unanimous voice vote.

14. **Adjournment**

With no further business before the committee, Chair Hazen adjourned the meeting at 8:07pm.

*Wendy M. Hundley*  
Deputy City Clerk

Meeting materials and video can be found [here](#).

**Minutes Approved: September 23, 2019**