
DATE: Monday, October 19, 2020

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

PLACE: *Held virtually due to Governor's and Mayoral Emergency Orders

The City Council Committee of the whole of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, October 19, 2020, at 7:00pm via Zoom.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT: Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayor; Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE: City Council Members (CM) Bill Brown, Bill Colbrook, Shirese Hursey, Jared Miller, Dennis Roberts, Maryalice Wu

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: CM Julie Laut

STAFF PRESENT: Shannon Beranek; Curt Borman, Sanford Hess, Don Ho; Jason Liggett, Kay Meharry; Carol Mitten; Lorrie Pearson; Lemond Peppers; Bryant Serphin; Lily Wilcock

OTHERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Allan Axelrod, Cynthia Hoyle, Carly McCrory-McKay; *Public Input via Zoom:* Tracy Chong, Christopher Hansen, Justin Hendrix, Michael Kilcullen, John Kraft, Deborah Liu, Drake Materre, Meghan McDonald, Ameena Payne, Eddie Pratt, Jr., Grace Wilken

Chair: Shirese Hursey, Ward 3

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

With a quorum virtually present, Chair Hursey called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 7:00pm.

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

CM Miller made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 5, 2020 meeting. Motion seconded by CM Wu and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Miller, Roberts, Wu

Nay: None

3. **Additions to the Agenda**

Chair Hursey announced a change in the order of agenda items. She said item 12 would be moved to be item 10, item 10 would be moved to be item 11 and item 11 would be moved to be item 12.

Motion made by CM Wu to accept the change in order of agenda items, seconded by CM Roberts and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Miller, Roberts, Wu

Nay: None

4. [Presentations and Public Input](#)

Public Input via Zoom

Comments via Zoom included: Council needs to rethink new public input rules, content based public input violates Open Meetings Act, rifle issue in Hillard Heintze review not part of their report, in support of resolution declaring utility disconnections a safety issue, concerned about homeless with no real long-term solution for them, should have heaters at bus stops, in support of Vision Zero resolution.

5. [Staff Report](#)

There was none.

6. [**Resolution No. 2020-10-049R**](#): A Resolution Setting as Official Policy the Vision Zero Goal of Reducing Loss of Life or Serious Injury to Zero on Our Transportation System by 2030

CM Brown introduced this resolution. He said work on this had been presented to Council in January or February, 2020. Council had recommended the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) present a resolution they could adopt as a step in making Urbana a Vision Zero community.

Cynthia Hoyle, a member of BPAC, was present, and said if Council passes this resolution and commits to the program, it would allow BPAC to apply for grants. CM Brown said this policy has been implemented worldwide and several U.S. cities have adopted it. It was suggested that the language in the resolution stating Vision Zero has been adopted in more than 30 U.S. cities be changed to more than 40 U.S. cities. It was also suggested that wording be changed to more clearly define what the expectations are.

After discussion, CM Brown moved to send Resolution No. 2020-10-049R to council with recommendation for approval, with the recommended changes. Motion seconded by CM Wu and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Miller Roberts Wu

Nay: None

Lemond Peppers, Community Engagement Coordinator, introduced himself and said he was looking forward to working with youth of promise and their families, and is excited to help reclaim Urbana's youth and neighborhoods.

7. [**Ordinance No. 2019-08-040**](#): An Ordinance amending the Urbana Zoning Ordinance (Omnibus Text Amendment II – Plan Case No. 2377-T-19)

Planner Lily Wilcock presented this ordinance. She told council members there were changes made to this ordinance and Ordinance No. 2019-08-041 and copies of the ordinances with changes would be provided for the council meeting on October 26. She and Community Development Director Lorrie Pearson answered questions and concerns from council members.

After discussion, CM Miller made a motion to send Ordinance No. 2019-08-040 to council with recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Colbrook and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Miller, Roberts, Wu

Nay: None

8. [**Ordinance No. 2019-08-041**](#): An Ordinance Amending the Urbana Zoning Ordinance (Omnibus Text Amendment III – Plan Case No. 2384-T-19)

CM Miller moved to send Ordinance No. 2019-08-041 to council with recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Wu and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Miller, Roberts, Wu

Nay: None

9. [**Resolution No. 2020-10-050**](#): A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Economic Development Agreement (Champaign County Economic Development Corporation, FY 2020-2021)

Economic Development Coordinator Stepheny McMahon presented this resolution. She said the Champaign County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) is asking the City to contribute \$28,763, which represents 7% of the EDC budget.

The EDC supports economic development in Champaign County. Some of the support has been provided by the EDC in their operation of the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and the International Trade Center (ITC).

Carly McCrory-McKay, the Executive Director of the EDC, gave a [PowerPoint presentation](#) showing the ways the EDC provides support to businesses in Champaign County. Business outreach is the main focus of what they do, and they are constantly communicating with existing businesses and reaching out to bring other businesses to the area.

Discussion ensued and EDC McMahon and Executive Director McCrory-McKay responded to questions and concerns from council members.

CM Miller moved to send Resolution No. 2020-10-050R to council with recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Roberts and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Miller, Roberts, Wu

Nay: None

10. [Ordinance No. 2020-10-057](#): An Ordinance Amending Certain Urbana City Code Sections (To Reflect Changes in Laws Governing Cannabis and Cannabis Paraphernalia Use and Possession
City Administrator Carol Mitten introduced this ordinance, stating it is a series of amendments that will conform Urbana City Code relating to cannabis and its associated paraphernalia to reflect the current status of state law.

Assistant City Attorney Curt Borman and Police Chief Bryant Seraphin were present and responded to questions concerning responsibilities of landlords concerning tenants and illegal substances, transportation of cannabis and field sobriety tests for cannabis. Discussion ensued.

CM Miller made a motion to send Ordinance No. 2020-10-057 to council with recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Brown and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Miller, Roberts, Wu

Nay: None

11. [Resolution No. 2020-10-051R](#): A Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement (Records Management System)

City Administrator Carol Mitten presented this resolution. She explained the current system, Area-wide Records Management System (ARMS) has been in use for 40 years and both the software and hardware are near the end of life. The mainframe will be out of supported maintenance in 2022. The system is being used by the Champaign Police Department, Champaign County Sheriff's Office, Urbana Police Department, University of Illinois Police and the Rantoul Police Department, and the agreement will be between those entities.

Information Technology Director Sanford Hess and Police Chief Bryant Seraphin responded to questions from council members.

CM Roberts moved to send Resolution No. 2020-10-051R to council with recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Brown and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Miller, Roberts, Wu

Nay: None

12. [Ordinance No. 2020-10-056](#): An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Budget Amendment #3 – Omnibus)

Senior Financial Analyst Don Ho presented this ordinance, saying most of the items are routine. Some projects not finished in FY2020 were carried over to FY2021. Other updates to the budget include grants, expenses for temporary employees, website updates and more.

Discussion ensued and Financial Analyst Ho responded to questions from council members.

CM Wu moved to send Ordinance No. 2020-10-056 to council with recommendation for approval.

Motion seconded by CM Roberts and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Miller, Roberts, Wu

Nay: None

13. **Resolution No. 2020-10-052R**: A Resolution Declaring Continued Utility Disconnections in Illinois to be a Pandemic Safety Risk

CM Miller, CM Roberts and Allan Axelrod drafted this resolution. CM Miller began the presentation and said they took action because the governor's office has taken no action to prevent utility shut-offs. Allan Axelrod, campaign lead for #NoAmerenShutoffs, presented an overview of the pandemic health emergency, governmental support, and utility company support. He said over 35,000 households in Illinois had their utilities shut off in September.. Axelrod discussed Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Mayor Marlin said LIHEAP is administered by the Regional Planning Commission.

At 10:15pm CM Wu moved to extend the meeting until 10:45pm. Motion seconded by CM Miller and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Miller, Roberts, Wu

Nay: None

Discussion ensued. CM Miller moved to send Resolution No. 2020-10-052R to council with recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Roberts.

There was discussion about Section 3 and Section 6. Section 3 repeats what is already stated elsewhere in the document. The City does not operate a public utility, so legal authority over public utilities was questioned.

CM Miller moved to remove Section 3 and reword Section 6 as follows, "The City of Urbana will investigate all possible legal options available to prevent utility shut-offs or other resources available and notify the City Council and City of Urbana residents of its findings". Motion seconded by CM Wu and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Miller, Roberts, Wu

Nay: None

The motion to send Resolution No. 2020-10-052R to council with recommendation for approval was carried by roll call vote as follows:

Aye: Brown, Colbrook, Hursey, Miller, Roberts, Wu

Nay: None

14. **Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Hursey adjourned the meeting at 10:39pm.

Kay Meharry

Assistant City Clerk

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

Minutes Approved: November 16, 2020