STATE OF ILLINOIS **CUNNINGHAM TOWNSHIP**
DeShawn B. Williams, Chair *Darcy E. Sandefur, Township Clerk*

CUNNINGHAM TOWNSHIP BOARD
Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 21, 2025
400 S. Vine Street, Urbana, IL, 61801

The Cunningham Township Board met in regular session Monday, July 21, 2025 at 6:33 p.m. in the Urbana City Council Chambers.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT:
Chair: Mayor DeShawn B. Williams
Township Clerk: Darcy E. Sadnefur
Trustees: Maryalice Wu, Christopher Evans, Jaya Kolisetty, Chaundra Bishop, Grace Wilken,
Supervisor: Danielle Chynoweth
Assessor: Ivana Owona

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: Trustee Shirese Hursey; Trustee James Quisenberry

OTHERS PRESENT:

I. ROLL CALL

With a quorum present Mayor Williams called the meeting of the Cunningham Township Board to order at 6:33 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 14, 2025 Meeting

Motion by Trustee Wu to approve and seconded by Trustee Kolisetty.
Voice vote:
AYE: Wu, Evans, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken
NAY: None

III. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Supervisor Chynoweth noted that the closed session was placed on the agenda as a courtesy and that the Board is welcome to remove it if they see fit. The Board decided that it should remain.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

Pastor Angel Johnson expressed frustration at only receiving grant funding for Angel's Youth Center through ARPA and not through any other City grants programs. Asked that the City provide an explanation as to why they have been denied grants. ***Mr. Johnson*** shared the importance of the work being done in the community to support youth and expressed frustration at not receiving grant funding to further support their work.

V. COMMITTEE TO VERIFY BILLS

a. Town Fund

b. General Assistance Fund

Presented by Supervisor Chynoweth. Shared the monthly expenditures including $91,403.42 from the Town Fund, $337,975.05 from the General Assistance Funds, and total of $429,378.47 including an additional $226,722.47 paid to Presence in settlement. Detailed expenditures can be found in the Town Bills report. Questions ensued.

Motion to approve by Trustee Kolisetty and seconded by Trustee Wu.
Vote by roll call:
AYE: Wu, Evans, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken
NAY: None

VI. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

a. Discussion of Summer Cooling Shelters

Supervisor Chynoweth shared that there is an upcoming dangerous heat wave. Shared service statistics related to supporting residents during this extreme heat. Chynoweth shared a desire for a coordinated response with both Urbana and Champaign to meet the community's needs during severe weather. Encouraged the community and service providers to refer individuals to Strides Shelter for support during this heat wave. Shared appreciation for the City of Urbana lobby being utilized as a cooling center with chairs and cups of water. Encouraged public facilities to utilize a behavior based occupancy model during extreme weather. Questions and discussion ensued.

Supervisor Chynoweth also included a Supervisor's Memo in the packet.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Closed Session: Property ~~& Pending Litigation~~ pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) ~~& 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)~~

Motion to enter closed session for property by Trustee Wu and seconded by Trustee Wilken.
Vote by roll call:
AYE: Wu, Evans, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken,
NAY: None
Time entered closed session 7:07 p.m.

Motion to return to open session by Trustee Bishop and seconded by Trustee Wu.
Vote by roll call:
AYE: Wu, Evans, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken,
NAY: None
Time returned from closed session 7:40 p.m.

b. Resolution No. T-2025-07-009R: A Resolution Authorizing the Supervisor to Execute a Lease Amendment with Beckett Trust for Use as Space for the Township Supervisor Office

Presented by Supervisor Chynoweth. Item amends the current lease to add additional office space in the currently rented Beckett law office for the Supervisor's Office. Motion to approve by Trustee Kolisetty and seconded by Trustee Wu.
Vote by roll call:
AYE: Wu, Evans, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken,
NAY: None

c. Resolution No. T-2025-07-010R: A Resolution Authorizing the Supervisor to Sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Rodeway Inn, Urbana for Hotel Rooms for Emergency Housing
Presented by Supervisor Chynoweth. Item authorizes the Supervisor to sign a memorandum of understanding with Rodeway Inn for Emergency Housing assistance and secures a rate and room hold guarantee for Township participants. Township has previously worked with Rodeway Inn in this capacity since 2020.
Motion to approve by Trustee Wilken and seconded by Trustee Kolisetty.
Vote by roll call:
AYE: Wu, Evans,Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken
NAY: None

X. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the body, Chair Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

Darcy E. Sandefur
Town Clerk

This meeting was taped and is viewable on demand.

Minutes Approved: 10-13-2025