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**DATE:** Monday, February 09, 2026  
**TIME:** 7:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** 400 S. Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

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The City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, February 9, 2026, at 7:47 p.m.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT:** DeShawn Williams, Mayor; Darcy Sandefur, City Clerk; CM Maryalice Wu, CM Christopher Evans, CM Shirese Hursey\*, CM Chaundra Bishop\*, CM Grace Wilken, CM James Quisenberry

**\*CM PRESENT REMOTELY**

**ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:** Bourema Ouedraogo, Elizabeth Hannan, Steven Doggett, Tal Prendergast, Vince Gustafson, Larry Boone, Matt Roeschley, Darius White

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

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

With a quorum present, Mayor Williams called the meeting of the Urbana City Council to order at 7:47p.m.

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

**a. 01-12-2026 City Council Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve by CM Wu, seconded by CM Quisenberry.

Voice Vote:

**AYE:** Wu, Evans, Hursey, Bishop, Wilken, Quisenberry

**NAY:** None.

**3. Additions to the Agenda**

None.

**4. Presentations and Public Input**

*Written Public Input in support of improving care for survivors of sexual abuse and domestic violence was received from the following individual and read by CM Wilken: Sarah Nixon.*

*Written Public Input regarding the need to adequately staff the Landscape Recycling Center was received from the following individual but was not read: Peter Lucas.*

**5. Council Input and Communications**

*CM Wilken* acknowledged the need for more seriously handling child abuse across all levels of society and implementing trainings for how to appropriately handle those situations locally. Encouraged organizations to apply for the recently opened Community Service Grants from the City of Urbana.

*Mayor Williams* thanked the applicants for the vacant Ward 4 Council Member position and shared that they will attend the upcoming Committee of the Whole meeting to speak before Council. Reminded Council Members to communicate back their ideal times for the Ward listening sessions to City Administrator White.

## 6. Reports of Standing Committees

None.

## 7. Committee of the Whole (*Council Member Grace Wilken, Ward 6*)

### 1. Consent Agenda

- a. **Resolution No. 2026-02-006R:** A Resolution Certifying a Community Housing Development Organization for the Urbana HOME Consortium (Habitat for Humanity, PY 2026) – CD

The Resolution certifies Habitat as a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) for the Urbana HOME Consortium under project 2026.

- b. **Resolution No. 2026-02-007R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Urbana HOME Consortium Community Housing Development Organization Funding Agreement (Habitat for Humanity, PY 2026) – CD

The Resolution approves the execution of a CHDO funding agreement with Habitat for the construction of five affordable housing units through \$227,500 in funding.

- c. **Ordinance No. 2026-02-003:** An Ordinance Amending the Urbana Zoning Map (Rezone 904 East Main Street from R-3 to B-3 / Plan Case No. 2517-M-25) – CD

The Ordinance amends the Urbana Zoning Map for the property at 904 East Main Street from R-3 (Single-Family and Two-Family Residential District) to B-3 (General Business District).

Motion to approve by CM Wilken, seconded by CM Quisenberry.

Roll Call Vote:

**AYE:** Wu, Evans, Hursey, Wilken, Quisenberry

**NAY:** None.

### 2. Regular Agenda

- a. **Ordinance No. 2026-02-004:** An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Budget Amendment #7 – TIF 4 Closure) – HRF

The Ordinance revises the Annual Budget Ordinance to finalize the closure of Tax Increment Finance District 4 (TIF 4).

Motion to approve by CM Wilken, seconded by CM Quisenberry.

Roll Call Vote:

**AYE:** Wu, Evans, Hursey, Bishop, Wilken, Quisenberry, Williams.

**NAY:** None.

- b. Ordinance No. 2026-02-005:** An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Budget Amendment #8 – Fire Engine Purchase) – HRF

The Ordinance revises the Annual Budget Ordinance to accommodate the purchase of a Fire Engine by adding \$1,100,000 to the Vehicle Equipment and Replacement Fund (VERF).

Motion to approve by CM Wilken, seconded by CM Quisenberry.

Roll Call Vote:

**AYE:** Wu, Evans, Hursey, Bishop, Wilken, Quisenberry, Williams.

**NAY:** None.

## 8. Reports of Special Committees

None.

## 9. Reports of Officers

### a. Surveillance Ordinance

Presented by Darius White, City Administrator; Steven Doggett, Deputy Fire Chief; and Vince Gustafson, Interim Public Works Director. Darius White stated staff will provide presentations on Council requested surveillance technologies and databases from the Urbana Fire Department (UFD), Public Works (PW), and Community Development (CD).

Steven Doggett spoke on the potential for drone use within the UFD and how it can serve to enhance the public safety services performed by the department. Stated that the UFD does not own a drone and has not deployed a drone during a fire-related incident. Hoped for the UFD to access drones as a resource to provide quicker access and enhance decision making capabilities when responding to a fire or technical rescue. Stated a drone would have been useful in the recent rescue at the Florida Avenue residence hall to aid in contacting the individual sooner and inform decisions before entering hazardous conditions. Stated the drone technology could take the form of a manually operated drone or a larger-scale drone program. Questions and discussion followed.

Vince Gustafson spoke on drone use and Miovision within PW. Stated PW does not own or operate drones itself but has worked with the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD) who have provided site observations from drones in two instances for a grant application and the Fire Station projects. Noted outside agencies have also used drones in gathering promotional footage for the art in the Lincoln Square Mall parking lot and for the completion of the storage facility project on Glover Street.

Stated the products of Miovision are hardware and software to track traffic and pedestrian data. Shared PW has a single older model of a mobile camera that is used to count pedestrians to help determine if a pedestrian crosswalk needs to be installed. Stated 12 hours of data are collected at a time from mounting the camera onto a streetlight then manually uploaded to Miovision servers where the video is analyzed before sending the analytics back to PW. Noted the service can be upgraded through Miovision to identify if an entity is a pedestrian or cyclist and classify vehicle sizes. Questions and discussion followed

Darius White shared answers to the following Council questions regarding Placer.AI that were received from the City's representative from Placer.AI:

- i. Question 1: Is GPS location tracking identified by the device itself or by cellular tower data?

Answer: Placer.AI observes the actual devices. Location data is derived from device level signals rather than from cellular tower.

- ii. Question 2: Who are Placer.AI's data partners that provide data identifier scrubbing?

Answer: The data is sourced from mobile applications that require an affirmative opt-in from users, including disclosure of how data is shared with third parties. All partners comply with regulations such as General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the California Consumer Privacy Act. Placer.AI does not disclose the names of its individual data partners.

- iii. Question 3: What type of apps are users opting into that Placer.AI relies on for data collection?

Answer: Specific app types are not disclosed.

- iv. Question 4: Are any of those apps medical or health related?

Answer: No, as it pertains to sensitive locations including military facilities, schools that are pre-k through 12th grade, places of worship, rehabilitation centers, and women's health facilities, no data is ever collected.

- v. Question 5: Where does Placer.AI raw data reside prior to the data scrubbing process and who owns it at that stage?

Answer: Device data is stripped of personal identifiers such as mobile advertising IDs by Placer.AI's data partners before it is shared with Placer.AI. They do not identify their data partners. After Placer.AI receives the data, it groups the information around specific places such as a business, a neighborhood, or a park. This is done using "K Anemone of the 50", which means the data is only looked at when it comes from at least 50 different devices so no singular person can be identified, and individual privacy is protected. Placer.AI then uses its own proprietary technology to study this grouped data and make general predictions.

- vi. Question 6: How is the demographic data collected for consumer and business audience profiles?

Answer: The data collection method utilizes primary sources: 1) First party mobile data used to analyze visitation patterns, trade areas, and audience behaviors. 2) Trusted third party data sets. Multiple sources are used to provide comprehensive demographic insights. These key data sources are U.S. Census data utilizing population, household, and demographic statistics; STI pop stats using demographic data compiled from public sources; commercial data partners Experian Mosaic Consumer Lifestyle Segmentation for detailed audience profiling, Spatial.ai PersonaLive which combines social media activity and social media data to create household segments, and STI Market Outlook which utilizes spending patterns and

market trends. For geographic level, data is analyzed at the Census Block Group level and aggregated for market insights.

Questions and discussion followed.

## 10. Mayoral Appointments

### a. Staff Appointment

#### i. *Public Works Director*

– Vincent (Vince) Gustafson (term ending on or before June 30, 2027)

Mayor Williams introduced Vince Gustafson and spoke on the history of his work with Urbana since June 2004 beginning as a Building Maintenance Worker, then Public Facilities Supervisor since 2012, then Public Facilities Manager since 2016, and then Deputy Public Works Director for Operations since 2019. Stated he has served as the Interim Public Works Director since June 2025.

Vince Gustafson stated he did not begin his work with Urbana in 2004 seeking this position, but he has taken any opportunity to improve the services provided by the Public Works Department. Emphasized his dedication to providing efficient and equitable service to all residents. Stated his key values are in communication and collaboration within the department, noting his work to reduce siloing, conducting frequent meetings, and aligning the goals of the immediate work and long-term plans. Highlighted the connections he has made between departments and with the current administration. Hoped for more collaboration with the Council and community organizations to take place in the future to improve service to residents.

Stated maintaining a positive work culture with honest, open communications and valuing the work done by all staff is an essential value as it helps to attract potential hires and retain current staff. Spoke on his collaborative efforts with AFSCME (American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees) and how he built a positive relationship with the union to ensure staff have opportunities for career building and internal advancement. Expressed hope to continue building toward bringing excitement back to working at Urbana and the City itself through collaborative efforts with staff and developing more positive outcomes for the community.

Mayor Williams thanked Vince Gustafson for acting as interim and voiced appreciation for being open minded and flexible in working with the new administration.

Motion to approve by CM Hursey, seconded by CM Quisenberry.

Roll Call Vote:

**AYE:** Wu, Evans, Hursey, Bishop, Quisenberry

**NAY:** None.

**PRESENT:** Wilken

b. *Board and Commission Appointments*

i. *Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission*

– Nicholas Anand (term ending June 30, 2028)

Mayor Williams introduced the candidate and read the statement of interest from the candidate.

Motion to approve by CM Wu, seconded by CM Quisenberry.

Roll Call Vote:

**AYE:** Wu, Evans, Hursey, Bishop, Wilken, Quisenberry

**NAY:** None.

ii. *Plan Commission*

– Klayton Matlock (term ending June 30, 2028)

Mayor Williams introduced the candidate and read the statement of interest from the candidate.

Motion to approve by CM Wu, seconded by CM Quisenberry.

Roll Call Vote:

**AYE:** Wu, Evans, Hursey, Bishop, Wilken, Quisenberry

**NAY:** None.

**11. Adjournment**

With no further business before the Urbana City Council, Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:57p.m.

Seok Hyun Cho

Deputy City Clerk

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

**Minutes approved: 3/2/26**

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**PUBLIC INPUT 2/9/2026 council meeting**

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**From** Peter Lucas [REDACTED]  
**Date** Mon 2/9/2026 3:57 PM  
**To** City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

**\*\*\* Email From An External Source \*\*\***

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Dear City Council,

I have been a customer of the landscape recycling center for the last few years. Over the past year I have noticed that the employees out there are overworked and under appreciated. It has recently come to my attention that they are also understaffed. Does the city plan on filling or posting the empty positions out there? As a loyal customer, I hope the city plans on fully staffing the LRC to meet the needs of the community.

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## Public Input Email - To Be Read Aloud At City Council Meeting

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From SN [REDACTED]

Date Mon 2/9/2026 6:32 PM

To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>; City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

**\*\*\* Email From An External Source \*\*\***

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Dear Members of the City Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit public comment.

I am writing as a resident, a parent, and a survivor of profound institutional failure. While recent national revelations concerning Jeffrey Epstein and related government knowledge may not appear, on the surface, to be municipal matters, the *culture they expose* - a culture that protects abusers, discredits those who report harm, and punishes those who try to protect children - has very real and very local consequences.

I know this because I lived it here.

When my young daughter disclosed sexual abuse by her father, I did what parents are told to do: I sought medical care, engaged mandated reporters, and asked for protection. Her pediatrician and our local domestic violence agency believed us and documented concerns. Every other system failed.

Local law enforcement, family court, and related agencies disbelieved us, minimized the harm, and ultimately punished me for trying to protect my child. When I attempted to relocate to my home country of Canada for safety, I was criminalized. Though that conviction was later reversed, the damage - to my daughter, to my livelihood, to our lives - was already done.

This is why national accountability matters locally.

When powerful offenders are shielded, when institutions prioritize reputation over children, and when “accusers” are treated as unstable rather than heard as witnesses, those values permeate *every level* of governance. They shape how police respond. They shape how courts decide. They shape who is believed - and who is silenced.

I am asking this Council to do what is within its power:

- To publicly affirm that child sexual abuse is real, pervasive, and often mishandled by institutions.
- To call for transparency, accountability, and reform at all levels of government.
- To ensure that local law enforcement and courts are trauma-informed, evidence-based, and trained to recognize coercive control and child sexual abuse dynamics.
- To stand with survivors and protective parents rather than punishing them.

Silence has a cost. It is paid by children.

I urge you to use your voices, your platforms, and your authority to demand better - from yourselves, from local agencies, and from higher levels of government. Accountability must begin somewhere. It can begin here.

Thank you for listening.

Respectfully,

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**Sarah Nixon**  
**FAMILY COURT REFORM ADVOCATE**



**JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT  
WHISTLEBLOWER**

My pro se Rule 33 Motion raised trial misconduct by District Judge Colin Bruce and led, with the FPDO, to a Judicial Council of the Seventh Circuit inquiry, a finding of a breach of the Code of Conduct for United States Judges, and the *de facto* indefinite reassignment of his entire criminal trial docket.

JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY & DUE PROCESS ACROSS ALL COURT SYSTEMS