
DATE: Monday, August 11, 2025
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: 400 S. Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

The City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, August 11, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

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

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: CM Shirese Hursey

STAFF PRESENT: Bourema Ouedraogo, Elizabeth Hannan, Tarek Azim, Matt Roeschley, Larry Boone, Zachery Mikalik, Tal Prendergast

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 7:00p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

a. 07-14-2025 City Council Meeting Minutes

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

Voice Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAY: None.

3. Additions to the Agenda

None.

4. Presentations and Public Input

Claudia Lenhoff shared meeting dates for Champaign County Health Care Consumers occurring on September 11 at 6:00p.m. at the Champaign Public Library, covering the effects of the recently passed One Big Beautiful Bill Act; an information session on Medicare Open-Enrollment on October 15 at 10:00a.m. at the Champaign Public Library; and a community meeting for Market Place Open-Enrollment in late October.

5. Council Input and Communications

CM Wilken expressed hope for good developments to come from the second round of Housing & Homeless Innovations grant funding and the Alternative Response Task Force.

6. Reports of Standing Committees

None.

7. Committee of the Whole (*Council Member Chaundra Bishop, Ward 5*)

1. Consent Agenda

- a. **Resolution No. 2025-08-065R:** A Resolution Approving an Increase in the Number of Class R&T-1 Liquor Licenses for Sepelas LLC d/b/a Sepelas Restaurant, 510 North Cunningham Avenue, Suite A, Urbana, Ill. – Exec

The Resolution increases the number of Class R&T-1 (Restaurant & Tavern – All Alcohol) liquor licenses in the City of Urbana for Sepelas LLC d/b/a Sepelas Restaurant, 510 North Cunningham Avenue, Suite A, Urbana, Illinois.

- b. **Resolution No. 2025-08-066R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing a Housing & Homeless Innovations II Subrecipient Agreement Between the City of Urbana and Champaign County Healthcare Consumers for Special Populations Outreach & Enrollment – CD

The Resolution authorizes and executes a funding agreement with Champaign County Healthcare Consumers for Special Populations Outreach & Enrollment in the amount of \$130,000 as part of the Housing & Homeless Innovations II Grant Program.

- c. **Resolution No. 2025-08-067R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing a Housing & Homeless Innovations II Subrecipient Agreement Between the City of Urbana and Champaign County Regional Planning Commission for Emergency Shelter for Families Comfort Corner – CD

The Resolution authorizes and executes a funding agreement with Champaign County Regional Planning Commission for Emergency Shelter for Families (Comfort Corner) in the amount of \$175,000 as part of the Housing & Homeless Innovations II Grant Program.

- d. **Resolution No. 2025-08-068R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing a Housing & Homeless Innovations II Subrecipient Agreement Between the City of Urbana and City of Champaign Township for Strides Shelter – CD

The Resolution authorizes and executes a funding agreement with City of Champaign Township (Strides Shelter) for Operating & Case Management Services in the amount of \$180,000 as part of the Housing & Homeless Innovations II Grant Program.

- e. **Resolution No. 2025-08-069R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing a Housing & Homeless Innovations II Subrecipient Agreement Between the City of Urbana and Cunningham Township Supervisor's Office for CARES/Bridge to HOME Program – CD

The Resolution authorizes and executes a funding agreement with Cunningham Township for the CARES & Bridge to HOME Program in the amount of \$200,000 as part of the Housing & Homeless Innovations II Grant Program.

- f. **Resolution No. 2025-08-070R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing a Housing & Homeless Innovations II Subrecipient Agreement Between the City of Urbana and CU at Home, Inc. for Mattis Shelter Operating Support – CD

The Resolution authorizes and executes a funding agreement with C-U at Home for the Mattis Avenue Mid-Barrier Shelter in the amount of \$20,000 as part of the Housing & Homeless Innovations II Grant Program through HOME ARP Program funds.

- g. **Resolution No. 2025-08-071R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing a Housing & Homeless Innovations II Subrecipient Agreement Between the City of Urbana and CU at Home, Inc. for Mattis Shelter Rehabilitation – CD

The Resolution authorizes and executes a funding agreement with C-U at Home for the Mattis Avenue Mid-Barrier Shelter in the amount of \$300,000 as part of the Housing & Homeless Innovations II Grant Program through ARPA SLFRF funds.

- h. **Resolution No. 2025-08-72R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing a Housing & Homeless Innovations II Subrecipient Agreement Between the City of Urbana and First Followers for Webber/Wiley Affordable Rental Housing Development – CD

The Resolution authorizes and executes a funding agreement with First Followers for Wiley/Webber Affordable Housing Developments in the amount of \$190,000 as part of the Housing & Homeless Innovations II Grant Program.

- i. **Resolution No. 2025-08-073R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing a Housing & Homeless Innovations II Subrecipient Agreement Between the City of Urbana and Hope Village Inc. for Hope Village – CD

The Resolution authorizes and executes a funding agreement with Hope Village, Inc. for Hope Village in the amount of \$1,000,000 as part of the Housing & Homeless Innovations II Grant Program.

- j. **Resolution No. 2025-08-074R:** A Resolution Authorizing Expenditure of Alternative Response Task Force Funds – Exec

The Resolution authorizes the expenditure of up to \$52,130 in Alternative Response Task Force (ARTF) funds for discussion facilitation and alternative response model development from the Law Enforcement Action Partnership (LEAP).

Motion to approve by CM Bishop, seconded by CM Evans.

Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAY: None.

2. Regular Agenda

None.

8. Reports of Special Committees

None.

9. Reports of Officers

None.

10. Mayoral Appointments

a. *Deputy Police Chief*

– Zachery Mikalik (term ending June 30, 2027)

Presented by Larry Boone, Chief of Police; Zachery Mikalik, Lieutenant of the Services Division; and Mayor Williams. Larry Boone spoke on Zachery Mikalik's qualifications, accomplishments, and contributions to the Urbana Police Department. Zachery Mikalik thanked Council for their consideration and emphasized his connections to the community across Urbana. Mayor Williams voiced appreciation for Zachery Mikalik's leadership that can be seen through the ways in which his staff and the community positively responds to him. Discussion followed.

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

Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAY: None.

11. Discussion

a. **Council Rules and Meeting Procedures**

Clerk Sandefur summarized the previous discussions and topics addressed by Council, pointing to the memorandum included in the meeting packet that covers the points of consideration.

CM Wu voiced support for rotating the voting order, clarifying language regarding abstentions, and clarifying the best practice for how to address Councilmembers. CM Wilken suggested discussing each of the topics one at a time. Stated the inclusion of gender-neutral language is to be aligned with the City's commitment to using inclusive language.

CM Bishop suggested beginning with discussing the implementation of the voting order rotation as Council seems to agree with the proposal. Clerk Sandefur stated the proposal is to adjust the voting rotation so that the Chair votes last at their respective Committee of the Whole meeting and the subsequent City Council meeting with the order beginning to the left of the Chair (ex: Ward 6 Chair: 7>1>2>3...). Noted there are no provisions for special Council meetings and suggested Council discuss how voting order or Chairs are determined for those meetings outside of the regular schedule. Council discussed the ways in which the order of the Chairs are determined and the considered need for flexibility in case the order is broken for some reason.

CM Quisenberry stated there should be more clarity to the order of meetings when there are multiple in one night.

- i. Strawpoll:** In favor of changing the voting order to begin to the left of the Chair during City Council meetings, Committee of the Whole meetings, and special meetings.
AYE: 6
NAY: 0

Council discussed the proposal for using gender-neutral and inclusive language in addressing Councilmembers. Clerk Sandefur noted the legal title of the elected office is “Alderman”, however the Urbana City Code uses the terms “Alderman, Alderwoman, Alderperson, and Councilmember” synonymously. Council reached consensus in favor of adopting inclusive and gender-neutral language for addressing members of the body.

Council discussed clarifying language regarding how a Chair of Committee of the Whole may participate in meetings.

- ii. Strawpoll:** In favor of clarifying the language regarding how the Chair can participate in debate or make a motion through relinquishing the Chair position.
AYE: 6
NAY: 0

Council discussed the proposal to clarify language around abstentions and conflicts of interests. Clerk Sandefur shared the City Code article, based on state law, regarding abstentions. Council discussed the matter of voting as “Present”, where the vote goes with the majority.

Council discussed the proposals modifying how items are placed onto the agenda by Councilmembers and the importance of the ability for a Councilmember to add items onto an agenda. Council discussed the procedure for Councilmembers to call a special meeting. Council discussed how failed motions can be reintroduced as a “Motion to Reconsider” within the same meeting and be reintroduced normally in future meetings.

- iii. Strawpoll:** In favor of keeping the current language on how items are placed onto the agenda by Councilmembers.
AYE: 5
NAY: 1

Council discussed the proposal to change speaking time under Council Input from three minutes to five minutes to align with speaking time provided during Public Input and the potential for providing the Mayor additional time for their remarks and announcements. Clerk Sandefur clarified the position of Council Input changes between Committee of the Whole meetings and City Council meetings due to how the agenda orders were set by ordinance. Council reached consensus on leaving the speaking time to three minutes and clarifying the process for extending the speaking time.

- iv. Strawpoll:** In favor of keeping speaking time under Council Input as three minutes.
AYE: 6
NAY: 0

Council considered the length of time a speaker has during debate of an item, the written limits to the number of times they can address an item, and if Council must wait to speak on an item more than once until all of Council has had a chance to address the item.

Council discussed codifying the procedure for determining the replacement Chair in case of absences at Committee of the Whole.

City Attorney Roeschley proposed condensing Council Rules and Procedure into City Code for accessibility and to be able to track when changes to the rules are made. Stated the recommendation comes from the memo attached to the Council Rules document from the late, former City Attorney Jack Waaler who suggested codifying the rules in 2003.

CM Wu proposed revisiting old laws to review their relevancy.

Council provided direction for further discussions on Council Rules to be held and the creation of a redlined version of the rules document that displays the current discussed revisions and highlights the rules that are not abided by.

12. Adjournment

With no further business before the Urbana City Council, Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:32p.m.

Seok Hyun Cho

Deputy City Clerk

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

Minutes approved: 9/15/25