
DATE: Monday, August 24, 2026
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 24, 2026, at 7:01 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT: Darcy Sandefur, City Clerk; CM Maryalice Wu, CM Christopher Evans, CM Shirese Hursey, CM Verdell Jones III, CM Stephanie Cockrell, CM Grace Wilken, CM James Quisenberry

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: DeShawn Williams, Mayor

STAFF PRESENT: Bourema Ouedraogo, Darius White, Matthew Roeschley, Justin Swinford

OTHERS PRESENT: Pat Cain, Archives Manager for the Champaign County Historical Archives at The Urbana Free Library; Rose Barnes, Collection Manager at The Urbana Free Library

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

With a quorum present, Mayor pro-tem Wu called the meeting of the Urbana City Council to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

a. 07-13-2026 City Council Meeting Minutes

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

Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Jones, Cockrell, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAY: None.

3. Additions to the Agenda

None.

4. Presentations and Public Input

a. The Urbana Free Library Annual Presentation

Presented by Pat Cain, Archives Manager for the Champaign County Historical Archives at The Urbana Free Library and Rose Barnes, Collection Manager at The Urbana Free Library, speaking on behalf of Taliah Abdullah, Executive Director at The Urbana Free Library (TUFL). Pat Cain shared the presentation will cover highlights from the Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Report, legally required by the Illinois State Library for the Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR). Rose Barnes stated TUFL seeks to support learning and enrichment through providing access to diverse resources and programs.

a. The Urbana Free Library Annual Presentation (Continued)

Rose Barnes and Pat Cain shared the following highlights from the FY26: Taliah Abdullah joined TUFL in July 2025; partial renovations were completed; an open house was held to celebrate the renovations with the public; purchased equipment for gauging library visitors; expanded the number of programs offered to 678, which engaged around 21,000 attendees; improved access to the Library of Things Collection at TUFL; and increased the number of board games available to check out.

Pat Cain shared TUFL has the following resources available for the public: a vinyl record collection; a vinyl record player; mobile hotspots; an interlibrary materials loan service; meeting and study rooms available to reserve; access to the Champaign County Historical Archives; and a TUFL application to digitally access library resources.

Rose Barnes shared the following items were the most checked out items for FY26 at TUFL: *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia Butler, Adult Collection; Mobile Hotspot, Library of Things; *Dark Side of the Moon* by Pink Floyd, Vinyl Collection; *Sunrise on the Reaping* by Suzanne Collins, Young Adult Collection; *Dogman: A Tale of Two Kitties* by Dav Pilkey, Children Collection; *Wings of Fire* by Tui T. Sutherland, Children Collection; Create-a-chain Reaction Starter Set, Children's Hands-On Kits; and *A Minecraft Movie* directed by Jared Hess, Movie Collection.

Pat Cain and Rose Barnes stated TUFL plans to improve day-to-day operations, replace the roof of the library building, establish a Teen Advisory Board, and investigate how TUFL can serve as a downtown attraction with the goal of improving literacy.

Rose Barnes thanked the patrons of TUFL for their support and welcomed more people to stop by TUFL. Stated TUFL hopes to continue providing a hub for the community and access to community resources. Questions and discussion followed.

b. Public Input

Stuart Levy expressed appreciation for CM Wilken's service on City Council that considered both large-scale issues and local issues without losing track of fine details. Wished CM Wilken well on her future endeavors.

5. Council Input and Communications

CM Evans spoke on CM Wilken's service to the City as a Council Member and expressed appreciation for her integrity and contributions.

Motion to suspend the rules for Council Input and Communications during CM Wilken's communication by CM Quisenberry, seconded by CM Evans.

Voice Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Jones, Cockrell, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAY: None.

CM Wilken confirmed tonight's City Council meeting is her final meeting as a Council Member. Thanked the residents of Ward 6 and the residents of Urbana for providing the opportunity to represent and serve them through City Council by advocating for transparency, due public process, accountability for government decisions, and public services funding. Expressed appreciation for the collaborative work conducted in designing an Alternative Response program, the rejection of Automated License

5. Council Input and Communications (Continued)

Plate Readers, and the approval of the Ordinance regulating surveillance technology use by Urbana. Entrusted the future approval of use policies for surveillance technologies to the elected officials and City staff. Encouraged the City to enhance the investigations and enforcement of housing code, non-discrimination policies, and building inspections; to not constrain the framework of the Alternative Response program to immediate funding availability; to plant edible fruit trees on public sidewalks for the community to enjoy; and to continue sustainability efforts by implementing the bag fee, requiring environmentally friendly food packaging, continue the Sustaining Urbana Neighborhoods (SUN) grants, and updating the Landscape Ordinance to reduce toxic pesticides, encourage native plants, and maintain traffic visibility. **Mayor pro-tem Wu** read a message from Mayor DeShawn Williams expressing thanks for CM Wilken's service and representation of Ward 6 and wishing her well on her future endeavors. **CM Quisenberry** thanked CM Wilken for her service to the City of Urbana, her tenacity in her approach of advocating for her principled stances on improving Urbana, and for having conversations on how compromise can be met to move business forward. **CM Jones** expressed appreciation for the contributions CM Wilken provides to the City and recalled how they first knew each other throughout middle school and high school. Wished her well on her future endeavors.

6. Reports of Standing Committees

None.

7. Committee of the Whole (*Council Member Christopher Evans, Ward 2*)

1. Consent Agenda

None.

2. Regular Agenda

- a. **Resolution No. 2026-08-046R:** A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Right-of-Way Dedication (North Race Street and Griggs Street Along the Frontage of the Former USD #116 Adult Education Center Site at 131, 205, and 211 North Race Street) – PW

Justin Swinford, Interim City Engineer was present to answer questions from Council. The Resolution executes a Right-of-Way Dedication, allowing the City to dedicate additional street right-of-way from the City's property at 131, 205, and 211 North Race Street to the public for sidewalk and street usage. Questions and discussion followed.

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

Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Jones, Cockrell, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAY: None.

8. Reports of Special Committees

None.

9. Reports of Officers

None.

10. Mayoral Appointments

a. Tree Commission

– Brodie Dunn (term ending June 30, 2029)

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

Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Jones, Cockrell, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAY: None.

11. Adjournment

With no further business before the Urbana City Council, Mayor pro-tem Wu adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Seok Hyun Cho

Deputy City Clerk

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

Minutes approved: 9/14/26