
DATE: Monday, November 17, 2025
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: 400 S. Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

The City Council Committee of the Whole of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, November 17, 2025, at 7:52 p.m.

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

***CM PRESENT REMOTELY**

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: CM Chaundra Bishop

STAFF PRESENT: Bourema Ouedraogo, Seok Hyun Cho, Scott Tess, Elizabeth Hannan, Matt Roeschley, Darius White, Don Ho, Steven Doggett, Olivia Jovine, Larry Boone

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chair: *Grace Wilken, Ward 6*

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

With a quorum present, Chair Wilken called the meeting of the Urbana City Council to order at 7:52 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

None.

3. Additions to the Agenda

None.

4. Presentations and Public Input

None.

5. Staff Report

None.

6. New Business

- a. **Ordinance No. 2025-11-031:** An Ordinance Approving a Special Use Permit for a Solar Farm at 1210 East University Avenue (Plan Case No. 2513-SU-25) – CD

Presented by Olivia Jovine, Director of Community Development Services with Scott Tess, Sustainability & Resilience Officer available for questions. The Ordinance approves a Special

Use Permit for TotalEnergies to allow the installation, operation, and maintenance of a solar energy system up to 25 acres in size, on the closed City landfill at 901 North Smith Road, which extends westward to the proposed site generally located at 1210 East University Avenue. Olivia Jovine stated the Special Use Permit will allow for the second phase of solar development to commence at the closed City landfill. Shared images displaying the location of the site. Stated the first phase of the solar development was approved in 2018 and the same Special Use Permit was previously approved in 2023 but requires new approval due to the permit expiring before TotalEnergies could move forward with development. Noted there are no changes in the application, site plan, and details from the Special Use Permit that was approved in 2023. Stated the Plan Commission recommended approval for the Special Use Permit, with the same conditions as before in 2023, that the construction and use conform to the submitted site plan and includes a minimum 80-foot buffer to the centerline of the Saline Branch Drainage Ditch, except where it is modified to meet City regulation. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to approve to the regular agenda by CM Wu, seconded by CM Hursey.

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

- b. Ordinance No. 2025-11-032:** An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Budget Amendment #3 – Omnibus) – HRF

Presented by Don Ho, Senior Management Analyst / Budget Coordinator with Elizabeth Hannan, HR & Finance Director / CFO present for questions. The Ordinance amends the FY2026 Annual Budget to include adjustments regarding various grants, rebudgets of prior-year funds, office remodeling expenses, updates to several Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects, and an adjustment to the Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Fund (VERF). Don Ho stated the omnibus contains various grant related adjustments to accommodate for the \$5,000 Financial Literacy Grant, the \$67,815 2024 Assistance to Firefighters Grant, and the \$165,818 Reimbursement Grant for the Urbana Police Department from the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board.

Stated \$13,123 from the FY2025 Sister City Program is being rebudgeted to FY2026 Sister City Program to account for program costs budgeted for FY2025, but will be charged during FY2026. Stated the omnibus also funds replacement for Financial Services office furniture due to basement flooding in the amount of \$30,000 being sourced from salary savings due to vacancies. Stated the \$30,000 will be transferred to the Capital Improvement & Replacement Fund. Stated the omnibus contains adjustments to capital projects funded through the Local Motor and Fuel Tax Fund and Community Development Grants Fund to transfer funds between existing projects. Spoke on the adjustment to the Vehicle & Equipment Replacement Fund to allocate individual budgets of \$16,285 for each police squad car to ensure more consistent accounting when upfitting squad cars.

- c. Stated the unassigned ending fund balance in the General Operating Fund is estimated to be \$15,578,984, which is 32.61% of recurring expenditures, exceeding the policy minimum by \$3,634,782. Questions and discussion followed.
 - i. Motion to divide the question for the budgeting of the 2024 Assistance to Firefighters Grant by CM Kolisetty

Motion to approve to the regular agenda by CM Wu, seconded by CM Hursey.

Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Wu, Hursey, Quisenberry, Williams

NAY: Evans, Kolisetty, Wilken

Motion to approve to the regular agenda, excluding the divided item, by CM Wu, seconded by CM Hursey.

Roll Call Vote:

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

NAY: None.

- d. **Ordinance No. 2025-11-033:** An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Budget Amendment #4 – TIF 4 Ending) – HRF

Presented by Olivia Jovine, Director of Community Development Services with Don Ho, Senior Management Analyst / Budget Coordinator and Elizabeth Hannan, HR & Finance Director / CFO available for questions. The Ordinance approves Budget Amendment #4 which amends the FY2026 Annual Budget to make necessary adjustments in preparation for the closure for Tax Increment Finance District 4 (TIF 4): encumbering funds for infrastructure investments along Cunningham Avenue; encumbering funds for the purchase of property along Cunningham Avenue; and transferring the remaining funds from TIF 4 to the Central Tax Increment Finance District (Central TIF). Olivia Jovine provided an overview of TIF districts on how they function and the process for ending them, noting TIFs are regulated by the State of Illinois. Stated TIF 4 expires December 31, 2025, as it was established 23 years ago on December 17, 2001, and reached its maximum lifespan. Shared an image detailing the boundaries of the TIF 4 district. Touched on the projects and improvements that were funded through TIF 4.

Stated remaining TIF funds can be encumbered before expiration for projects within the boundaries or they can be transferred to an adjacent TIF. Noted Central TIF is the adjacent district to TIF 4 and is set to expire on December 31, 2040. Shared ongoing projects and programs funded through Central TIF funds.

Stated taxing bodies have been notified on October 30, 2025, of TIF 4's expiration and this Ordinance seeks to port funds from TIF 4 to Central TIF. Stated additional ordinances will be presented in future Committee of the Wholes to zero the TIF 4 balance and to extinguish the TIF. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to approve to the regular agenda by CM Kolisetty, seconded by CM Wu.

Roll Call Vote:

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

NAY: None.

7. Discussion

a. Police Surveillance Technology Continuing Discussion (Ordinance No. 2024-12-042)

Chair Wilken noted the packet includes an updated memo, updated Ordinance version 7, as well as a list of definitions which include items discussed previously. Stated CMs Wu and Quisenberry have also distributed their own version, Ordinance v7.1, with additional notes.

CM Wu elaborated on the changes included in Ordinance v7.1 and the thought processes behind those decisions. CM Quisenberry further spoke on the ideas behind the changes.

CM Kolisetty thanked the Councilmembers for compiling the feedback and previous discussions into packet materials to allow for more productive conversation.

Chair Wilken passed the Chair to CM Kolisetty. CM Wilken thanked CMs Wu and Quisenberry for their feedback and welcomed further discussion outside of meeting times as allowed. Clarified she had held off from solidifying feedback into changes until final decisions were reached through discussion and differences in wording were sorted out. Stated further discussion must be had on whether this Ordinance will apply to only the police department or to all departments and emphasized the need to regulate all forms of surveillance regardless of the source.

Council discussed the changes proposed in Ordinance v7.1 and considered setting the public input period for approval of surveillance technology use to 30 days rather than the proposed 20 days.

- i. Straw poll by Chair Kolisetty: To use versions 7.0 and 7.1 of Ordinance No. 2024-12-042 for discussion moving forward.
AYE: 6
NAY: 0

Council further discussed the timeline the public and Council has to review and respond during the surveillance technology approval process. CM Hursey raised the concern of criminals being able to analyze surveillance technologies used by the Urbana Police Department due to increased transparency measures as she stated criminals have evaded detection through the avoidance of Automated License Plate Readers.

Recess was called by Chair Kolisetty due to a lack of quorum at 9:36p.m.

With a quorum present, Chair Kolisetty reconvened the meeting at 9:43p.m.

Chair Kolisetty requested general comments on the Ordinance to be shared before moving onto individually considering the items on the list of tracked changes as provided with Ordinance v7.1. CM Wu stated both CMs Wu and Quisenberry agreed, during the development of the tracked changes, that other areas need further Council discussion as well.

- ii. Straw poll by Chair Kolisetty: In support of removing mentions of “databases” from the Ordinance.
AYE: 5
NAY: 1

- iii. Straw poll by Chair Kolisetty: In support of removing mentions of “or major system regarding public safety” to focus on surveillance.

AYE: 4

NAY: 0

Council discussed the merits of having the Ordinance regulate surveillance technologies regardless of department and the merits of it solely covering surveillance technologies of the police department.

- iv. Straw poll by Chair Kolisetty: In support of removing mentions of “or other agency” based on previous Council straw polls to focus on police surveillance.

AYE: 3

NAY: 3

Council discussed the changes to the language of “Section 1.” to change “surveillance data” to “the data it (surveillance technology) collects” and to limit the coverage to the police department.

Council agreed on the need to adjust wording in “Section 2. (a)” to clarify a change in use policy does require approval.

Chair Kolisetty noted previous Council agreement to change the time windows for “Section 2. (a) and (b)” to be 30 days each and removing the database references.

- v. Straw poll by Chair Kolisetty: In support of combining items 8 and 9 under the tracked changes list and setting the public comment and public availability time period to 30 days under Section 2.

AYE: 6

NAY: 0

Council discussed if the proposed change to “Section 5. (b)” to comply with the Open Meetings Act (OMA) and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) is necessary.

CM Wilken clarified “Section 5. (c)” is to not allow the selling of privately generated and City generated data to a non-government entity in exchange for money or some other benefit. Council discussed the intent behind “Section 5. (c)” for further clarification and requested the City Attorney to try and improve the wording for the sake of clarity.

Council agreed for “Section 6. (b)(i) through (b)(iv)” to be reviewed by the City Attorney to improve the wording while keeping the legal intent behind it.

Council discussed retaining and clarifying “Section 6. (c)” to allow for the updating of technology without enabling the use of any new potential surveillance features or functions included in the update.

Council tabled discussion on point 25 from the list of tracked changes until a future meeting.

Council discussed the potential for the Civilian Police Review Board’s involvement in the surveillance technology approval process.

Due to time constraints, further discussion has been tabled by Council until the discussion’s item return at a future meeting. Chair Kolisetty returned the Chair to CM Wilken.

8. Council Input and Communications

CM Hursey expressed condolences for the Ashby family regarding the recent passing of Chaplain Dave Ashby. Shared appreciation for the time she has had to speak with Chaplain Dave Ashby. **CM Wu** thanked CM Kolisetty for facilitating the discussion on Ordinance 2024-12-042 and thanked Council for their input and discussion. **CM Quisenberry** shared the Urbana School District's naming committee will be putting forward a proposal to the School Board to name the school "The Sixth Grade Center on the Flossie Wiley Campus". **CM Evans** thanked CM Kolisetty for chairing the discussion.

9. Adjournment

With no further business before the committee of the whole Chair Wilken adjourned the meeting at 10:27 p.m.

Seok Hyun Cho

Deputy City Clerk

This meeting was video recorded and is viewable [on-demand HERE](#). **Minutes approved: 1/5/26**