
DATE: Monday, August 18, 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, August 18, 2025, at 7:05p.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, Demond Dade, Darius White, Elizabeth Hannan, Don Ho

OTHERS PRESENT: J.T. Barnhart, President of OSF HealthCare Heart of Mary Medical Center; Christopher Manson, OSF HealthCare Vice President of Government Relations

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 7:05 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

a. 07-21-2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

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

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

3. Additions to the Agenda

None.

4. Presentations and Public Input

a. OSF HealthCare Heart of Mary Medical Center Update – J.T. Barnhart, President and Christopher Manson, Vice President of Government Relations

Presented by J.T. Barnhart, President of OSF HealthCare Heart of Mary Medical Center and Christopher Manson, OSF HealthCare Vice President of Government Relations. J.T. Barnhart stated the presentation will address changes to the OSF Healthcare structure between the City of Urbana and the City of Danville's facilities. Stated the two hospitals will merge and have a single tax identification number while having two campuses across Urbana and Danville.

Stated OSF purchased both hospitals in 2018 with a focus on expanding services offered in the Urbana hospital to build a strong primary care network and saw successes in specialty services offered. Stated OSF has struggled to develop a strong primary care base with 5,600 patients covered under their primary care panel, causing continuous decreases to OSF's market share in Urbana.

Stated OSF Sacred Heart Medical Center in Danville is the only hospital serving Vermillion County and that area has recently seen many care providers retiring. Stated it is more difficult to recruit care providers for that area despite the large need. Shared the Danville OSF's Emergency Room serves around 40,000 patients a year with around 200 patients a month being transferred to specialty care providers across the region. Stated most specialty services offered at the Urbana OSF will be transferred to the Danville OSF to better support the community's needs within Vermillion County.

Stated the OSF in Urbana will shift their focus onto providing services regarding behavioral health and expanding those services with \$13,000,000 received from OSF. Stated a 13 bed, private unit aimed toward assisting young adults with behavioral health programs and another 13 bed, private unit will be developed to assist senior patients with behavioral health programs at the OSF Urbana campus. Stated the Emergency Room in Urbana will be kept the same and \$500,000 was received to renovate the Emergency Room to add more behavioral health services. Stated the campus will have 25 bed medical unit for patients with behavioral health diagnoses with medical conditions that require clearance to transfer to a behavioral bed. Noted the hospital will retain all ancillary services that support the upkeep of the hospital such as food services, housekeeping, labs, and imaging. Stated 250 staff members are expected to be at the Urbana OSF with offers made to 88% of current staff to stay employed within the OSF network.

Christopher Mansor stated OSF has considered how to make their hospitals sustainable in the markets with the ongoing cuts to Medicare from the federal level. Stated the merging of the hospitals to Danville will make the operations of both campuses more sustainable.

Motion to extend presentation time by two minutes by CM Wu, seconded by CM Quisenberry.

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

Stated the combination will support the Danville OSF acting as a safety net for the county, resulting in additional Medicaid reimbursements that will go toward supporting both the Danville and Urbana campuses. Stated the merging will allow for long-term sustainability of the hospitals to provide better care for both counties. Questions and discussion followed.

b. Public Input

Rohn Koester requested Council consider their stance on Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs) when deliberating on Ordinance No. 2024-12-042. Shared how the State of Illinois recently found data from ALPRs within Illinois had been illegally shared with external law enforcement agencies in various cases including tracking the movement of a reproductive healthcare seeker. Stated external agencies used loopholes to avoid Illinois laws regarding data sharing. Questioned how easily the database for ALPRs can be misused and if there are any measures to prevent the misuse of that data. Emphasized there are no required measures in place to prevent the misuse of data with no repercussions for bad actors and there is no

transparency throughout the process. Encouraged City Council to ban ALPRs. **Sana Saboowala** spoke in support of Ordinance No. 2024-12-042. Reiterated the Ordinance has the support of the Champaign Urbana Muslim Action Committee. Stated surveillance technologies are increasingly being seen to violate privacy rights and the Ordinance can serve to protect residents against abuses of power. Voiced appreciation for City Council for bringing this Ordinance forward and considering it. **Brian Dolinar** spoke in support of Ordinance No. 2024-12-042. Shared the case of University of Illinois Police Officer Jerry Sandage, who misused police databases to stalk people within the community. Shared the case of Urbana Police Officer John Franquemont who brutalized residents and has evaded accountability. Stated those cases display the difficulties in holding police offers accountable with the current systems in place.

Written Public Input in support of Ordinance No. 2024-12-042 was received from the following individuals and read by Chair Wilken: Lilah Leopold, Carol Spindel, and Don Owen.

4. Staff Report

None.

5. New Business

- a. **Ordinance No. 2025-08-024:** An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Budget Amendment #1 – 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 rebudgets across multiple accounts, a correction to Fire Station bond payments, funding for a fire truck engine replacement, allocation of ARPA funds, appropriation of newly awarded grants, and other routine housekeeping items. Don Ho stated the first item in the omnibus is for the Hotel Royer Development Incentive to allow for an interfund loan, approved by City Council through Ordinance No. 2025-05-017, from the General Fund to the Central TIF Fund to cover the incentive. Stated the amendment accounts for \$133,500 in approximately eight months of interest income to be received from the Central TIF Fund.

Stated the next item adds \$32,708 in reimbursable training funds for Urbana Police Department's Patrol Officers through the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board.

Stated the Ordinance includes appropriations for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$16,030 and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Certified Local Government Grant for Historic Preservation Website in the amount of \$8,400 which were respectively accepted through Resolutions No. 2025-02-015R and 2025-07-060R.

Shared the omnibus includes rebudgets for the following items: \$33,318 in unspent tree donation funds from FY2025 will be rebudgeted to FY2026 to support tree orders; \$50,000 in funding for the Housing Study will be rebudgeted to FY2026; \$19,500 in unspent technology services funds from FY2025 will be rebudgeted to FY2026 due to delays in OpenGov software implementation requiring an extension of the City's CitizenServe license; \$437,112 in unspent social services funds from FY2025 will be rebudgeted to FY2026 to continue supporting approved programs and services; funds for the Special Operations

equipment for the Fire Department within the Vehicle & Equipment Replacement Fund will be rebudgeted from FY2025 to FY2026.

Stated the omnibus includes a correction to the Community Development budget to increase the budget for the department's technology services account by \$4,509.

Shared the Public Works Facility Improvements project will be moved to a new project within the Capital Improvement & Replacement Fund to improve project tracking and reporting.

Stated the omnibus contains a change to include allocation of funds from the American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Fund for various approved programs from the Housing and Homeless Innovations Grant second round.

Stated an update for the Debt Service Fund is included to adjust the budgeted principal and interest payments for the Fire Station bonds to match the current interest rate of 3.91% in the official debt service schedule.

Stated the omnibus contains an additional \$54,335 from the General Fund to cover costs for a one-time fire truck engine replacement that was performed by an external vendor that could not be met by the current Fleet Operating budget.

Noted the estimated unassigned fund balance in the General Operating Fund after the omnibus will be \$12,022,410 or 25.16% of recurring expenditures, above the policy requirement by \$78,208. Stated the City will be limited in covering any new expenditures and the \$12,022,410 excludes \$5,473,000 reserved for at-risk federal grant programs and the second and third years for the Urbana Police Department's Community Engagement Team pilot program. Questions and discussion followed.

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

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

6. Unfinished Business

- a. **Ordinance No. 2024-12-042:** An Ordinance Establishing Approval, Policy, and Reporting Requirements for Policing Surveillance Technology and Databases – CM's Wilken and Kolisetty

Chair Wilken passed the Chair to CM Kolisetty. Presented by CM Wilken. The Ordinance requires and clarifies the process for procurement and use of policing technology and databases that can be used to monitor, track, and identify specific individuals or groups. The Ordinance codifies the public approval process for specific surveillance technologies or databases; it does not dictate the use of any given technology (that would be voted on by Council). CM Wilken stated the Ordinance itself has not had any changes since the sixth version as she could not meet with City Staff since the previous discussion of the item until the last Friday due to scheduling issues. Stated City Attorney Roeschley has studied the Surveillance Regulation Ordinance from the Village of Oak Park to compare with the proposed Ordinance. Recommended Council keep the item within Committee of the Whole to receive further information on the currently utilized surveillance technologies and databases that fall under the definitions proposed to improve the scope of the Ordinance.

Noted the item could be brought as a discussion item at the next Committee of the Whole meeting to report on progress made since this update. Recommended the Ordinance becomes formatted to be entered into City Code. Requested the Ordinance return to Committee of the Whole when both CM's Wilken and Kolisetty are present by the end of September. Questions and discussion followed.

Council provided direction for the item to also appear as a discussion item in the next two Committee of the Whole meetings.

Motion to keep in Committee of the Whole, returning no sooner than September 29 by CM Wu, seconded by CM Quisenberry.

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

7. Council Input and Communications

CM Kolisetty thanked the public for their continued engagement regarding Ordinance No. 2024-12-042 as the process has taken considerable time for deliberations and information to be provided. *CM Quisenberry* noted this week marks the beginning of the welcome week for University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign students. Asked the public to enjoy the energy and have patience as the incoming students move into their homes.

8. Adjournment

With no further business before the committee of the whole Chair Wilken adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.


Seok Hyun Cho

Deputy City Clerk

This meeting was video recorded and is viewable [on-demand HERE](#). **Minutes approved: 9/15/25**

PUBLIC INPUT

From Carol Spindel <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 8/18/2025 1:12 PM
To City Council <CityCouncil@Urbanall.gov>

 1 attachment (147 KB)
ACLU Surveillance Ordinance Letter August 2025..pdf;

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 members and Mayor Williams,

Attached you will find a letter from ACLU of Champaign County regarding **Ordinance No. 2024-12-042**: An Ordinance Establishing Approval, Policy, and Reporting Requirements for Policing Surveillance Technology and Databases. Please enter this into the public record and read it aloud at tonight's meeting of the Committee of the Whole.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Carol Spindel
Director of Communications
ACLU of Champaign County
aclu-cu.org



aclu-cu.org

Monday, August 18, 2025

Dear City Council Members and Mayor Williams,

The ACLU of Champaign County, which represents over 1800 member households, supports passage of the surveillance ordinance, **Ordinance No. 2024-12-042: An Ordinance Establishing Approval, Policy, and Reporting Requirements for Policing Surveillance Technology and Databases**, before the City Council.

There seems to be some confusion and hyperbole about the goal of this ordinance and its effect on the Police Department. No one wants to micro-manage the police. Nor do we want to block the department from acquiring useful new technology. However, Urbana residents have made it clear that they do want their police department to be accountable to our community. And we do want some control over how our personal data is used, stored, and marketed. We have only one mechanism to achieve these goals – our elected representatives. You.

Under the terms of the ordinance, if the police department wants to acquire new surveillance technology, they come to the council and explain what the technology does, why it is important to acquire it, and, most importantly to the Urbana residents we have spoken with, what the company leasing the technology to the police department can and cannot do with the personal data they collect. Requiring this transparency reassures everyone that their voice matters.

We don't know what technology will be invented and marketed to law enforcement in the future. It's clear that Urbana residents want reasonable guardrails placed around their data to protect it and to specify how law enforcement can use it. They want to protect their personal information from private companies that may want to profit from its sale. With this ordinance in place, we will be able to find out about new surveillance technologies before their acquisition and to have a say in whether we approve of this kind of surveillance in our community. We will be able to understand what protections the tech company (organized to maximize profit) provides to assure us that our data, if not involved in any criminal investigation, will be sufficiently protected from misuse.

We deeply appreciate your service to our wonderful town and the attention you have devoted to this issue. ACLU urges you to pass the ordinance.

Carol Spindel, Director of Communications

info@aclu-cu.org

ACLU of Champaign County

PUBLIC COMMENT for AUGUST 18, 2025 - PLEASE READ ALOUD

From Don Owen <[REDACTED]>
Date Mon 8/18/2025 3:58 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](#)

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Dear Mayor and City Council,

I am contacting you to urge you to support Ordinance No. 2024-12-042: An Ordinance Establishing Approval, Policy, and Reporting Requirements for Policing Surveillance Technology and Databases. It is your duty as elected officials to be good stewards of public finances and to be good stewards of the public trust. The last thing that the citizens of Urbana-Champaign want is to live in an Orwellian nightmare, where Big Brother is always watching you. As elected members of our community, you bear the responsibility of ensuring that the Urbana Police Department does not purchase surveillance equipment that violates residents 4th and 14th Amendments.

This resolution is critical at this time of rapid growth in AI and surveillance technology. The City Council should be constantly asking questions about what types of technology is being used to surveille the citizens and visitors to this city.

Please support Ordinance No. 2024-12-042: An Ordinance Establishing Approval, Policy, and Reporting Requirements for Policing Surveillance Technology and Databases.

I am happy to talk with any of you individually related to my experiences with camera systems and the importance of oversight and reporting.

Sincerely,
Don

Don Owen (they/he)
Educational Equity, Excellence, Engagement, and Leadership
[REDACTED]

Follow me in Instagram: [@ddo_photo](#)

Connect on LinkedIn: [Donald Owen](#)

PUBLIC COMMENT 8-18-25

From Lilah Leopold [REDACTED]
Date Mon 8/18/2025 5:22 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 *****

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Dear Mayor Williams and Council Members Wu, Evans, Hursey, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken, Quisenberry,

I'm Lilah Leopold (Ward 4), writing to request reading of the following aloud if time permits and if I'm not too late in getting this to you. I have been slowly crafting a statement that I can't currently find due to computer trouble (the irony of having this issue while writing in about a surveillance tech ordinance is not lost on me), so am sending the below!

I'm continuing to write in support of the Police Surveillance Technology Oversight Ordinance currently under consideration by Urbana City Council. I thank all council members for their continued discussion and serious consideration of this Ordinance and hope it remains up for discussion in subsequent meetings.

I hope council members and our local police leaders can see this Ordinance as an urgently needed safety component for working with tools that we neither design nor fully control. And that rather as a supposed hindrance to police work, an ordinance such as this one can be seen as an integral component of keeping our community safe. Support of this Ordinance is in itself not a criticism of police work; this Ordinance is merely a necessary component of working with the technology infrastructures of today.

This Ordinance can also play a crucial role in maintaining open and honest communication in our community. We cannot say with certainty where data from new and existing tools used locally will go, or how this may inadvertently and irreparably harm the safety of any member of our community despite their intended use. Therefore, it seems especially necessary that police and the community as a whole remain in conversation about the latest tools and their uses. This way, we can all remain best informed about how to keep each other safe and how to continue operating as a Sanctuary City, which protects the full constitutional rights of its constituents.

This Ordinance is a necessary and forward-thinking component of twenty-first century governance.

Thank you!!

Lilah Leopold