CITY OF URBANA

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: **Monday, October 19, 2026**
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, October 19, 2026, at 7:24 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT: CM Maryalice Wu, CM Christopher Evans, CM Shirese Hursey, CM Verdell Jones III, CM Stephanie Cockrell, CM Ashley Withers

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: DeShawn Williams, Mayor; Darcy Sandefur, City Clerk; CM James Quisenberry

STAFF PRESENT: Bourema Ouedraogo, Darius White, Justin Swinford, Larry Boone, Zachery Mikalik, Matt Roeschley, Vince Gustafson, Seok Hyun Cho

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chair: *Maryalice Wu, Ward 1*

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

   With a quorum present, Chair Wu called the meeting of the Urbana City Council to order at 7:24 p.m.

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

   a. **09-28-2026 City Council Meeting Minutes**

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

      Voice Vote:
      AYE: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Jones, Cockrell, Withers
      NAY: None.

3. **Additions to the Agenda**

   None.

4. **Presentations and Public Input**

   a. **Hope Village – Drew Martin**

      Presented by Drew Martin, Executive Director of Hope Village. Spoke on the costs of supporting people who are experiencing chronic homelessness seen within public expenditures and healthcare businesses. Stated that if 24 individuals are housed in Hope Village, savings of around $720,000 to $1,200,000 will appear in public expenditures and in the healthcare system. Expressed Hope Village represents an investment toward ending homelessness instead of toward systems that profit from its management.

a. Hope Village – Drew Martin (Continued)

Stated residents at Hope Village have access to supportive services, healthcare coordination, and behavioral health resources in a community designed to promote stability, independence, and dignity. Shared Hope Village is partnered with Carle Health, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), Cunningham Township, Champaign Township, and Champaign County Health Care Consumers to work toward connecting residents with healthcare and resources.

Expressed appreciation for the funding the City of Urbana has provided Hope Village through Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and HOME Consortium grants. Recognized the need for Hope Village to contribute positively to the residents of Ward 3, Carver Park, and the Urbana community. Shared that Hope Village is already being used by UIUC to study sustainable housing development and the health of a community. Stated lessons learned from Hope Village can inform future housing and healthcare developments. Questions followed.

b. Public Input

None.

5. Staff Report

None.

6. New Business

a. Resolution No. 2026-10-057R: A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a License Agreement with Fernie's High Horse, LLC (A Portion of 124 South Race Street) – CD

Presented by Justin Swinford, Interim City Engineer. The Resolution approves and authorizes a license agreement with Fernie's High Horse, LLC, allowing them to utilize and occupy a portion of the public property at 124 South Race Street for movable outdoor furniture and space for the consumption of food and/or beverages.

Justin Swinford shared background information regarding the license application and space to be used by the establishment. Shared images and photos of the proposed license agreement area at 124 South Race Street. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to approve to the consent agenda by CM Jones, seconded by CM Hursey.

Voice Vote:
AYE: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Jones, Cockrell, Withers
NAY: None.

b. **Resolution No. 2026-10-058R:** A Resolution Approving Sponsorship Agreements for the Total Access Collaborative for Trauma-Informed Care – Statewide Initiative (TACTIC-SI) – PD

Presented by Zachery Mikalik, Deputy Chief of Police. The Resolution authorizes four TACTIC-SI Sponsorship Agreements with Urbana Neighborhood Connections Center (UNCC) for $10,000; Champaign County Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) for $10,000; Courage Connection for $10,000; and Driven to Reach Excellence and Academic Achievement for Males (DREAAM) for $30,000. Zachery Mikalik provided background information on the TACTIC-SI program, funded through the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority's Illinois Helping Everyone Access Linked Systems (HEALS) program. Thanked Richard Surles, retired Deputy Chief of Police; Matthew McKinney, Services Division Lieutenant; and Larry Boone, Chief of Police for their work in developing this program.

Stated the program is designed to connect people with trauma-informed care, youth programs, and community resources. Shared the Urbana Police Department (UPD) have selected UNCC, CAC, DREAAM, and Courage Connection as partner organizations based on their current organizational capacity and their community reputation. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to approve to the consent agenda by CM Jones, seconded by CM Cockrell.

Voice Vote:
AYE: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Jones, Cockrell, Withers
NAY: None.

c. **Resolution No. 2026-10-059R:** A Resolution Approving an Increase in the Number of Liquor Licenses in the Class A Designation for The Cosmo Urbana LLC d/b/a The Cosmo Urbana, 300 South Broadway Avenue, Suite 142, Urbana, Ill. – Exec

Presented by Darius White, City Administrator. The Resolution increases the number of the Class A (Retailer's on-premises) liquor licenses to accommodate the application from The Cosmo Urbana LLC for a Class A liquor license for their establishment at 300 South Broadway Avenue, Suite 142 in Urbana. Darius White shared the venue seeks to host musicians and artists from the local DIY scene at their new space in Lincoln Square Mall. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to approve to the consent agenda by CM Evans, seconded by CM Hursey.

Voice Vote:
AYE: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Jones, Cockrell, Withers
NAY: None.

8. Council Input and Communications

CM Jones expressed appreciation for the work Courage Connection does for the community. Shared he is unable to attend next week's City Council meeting and will return for the next Committee of the Whole meeting. ***CM Cockrell*** congratulated CM Withers and thanked her for serving on City Council. Shared herself, CM Jones, and CM Evans attended the Champaign Urbana Reparations Coalition meeting last week where the City was awarded by the organization in gratitude of Urbana's support for advancing reparations. ***CM Wu*** welcomed CM Withers to City Council. ***CM Withers*** thanked Council and voiced appreciation, in advance, for their patience as she familiarizes herself with the procedures of City Council.

9. Adjournment

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

Seok Hyun Cho
Deputy City Clerk
This meeting was video recorded and is viewable on-demand HERE. **Minutes approved: 11/2/26**