
DATE: Monday, June 03, 2024
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, June 03, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT: Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayor; Darcy Sandefur, City Clerk; CM Maryalice Wu, CM Christopher Evans, CM Shirese Hursey*, CM Jaya Kolisetty, CM Chaundra Bishop, CM Grace Wilken, CM James Quisenberry

***ARRIVED AFTER ROLL CALL**

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Carol Mitten, Dave Wesner, Bourema Ouedraogo, Seok Hyun Cho, Tarek Azim, Kate Brickman, Elizabeth Hannan, Celeste Muotos, Breaden Belcher, Will Kolschowsky, Rich Surles, Larry Boone, Dr. Lashaunda Cunningham, Demond Dade, Kyle Kapper, Clint Weidert, Cory Koker, Adam Marcotte, Matthew McKinney, Michael Cervantes

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chair: *Jaya Kolisetty, Ward 4*

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

With a quorum present, Chair Kolisetty called the meeting of the Urbana City Council to order at 7:00p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

None.

3. Additions to the Agenda

None.

4. Presentations and Public Input

a. Public Input

Ron Kester stated police are for addressing sources of suffering, but cited the War on Drug's negative legacy on citizenry and personal experiences with attending arraignment court as opposition to that idea. Used example of sundown towns as an example of apartheid within America. Stated that midwestern apartheid and biased prosecution toward Black people is unrecognized, but can be seen within its legacy, expressed within policing and criminal justice system, and seen in policing data. Stated that the way forward would be to commit toward a community responder model and using the budget for addressing the legacy of racism in Urbana. *Ben Joselyn* clarified a statement made last week regarding race

being written out of the BerryDunn contract. Stated that race was included as a main purpose, but was not seen in any deliverables and currently released reports. Expressed that the BerryDunn report is a far cry from the initial motivations behind commissioning the study. Spoke on the idea of police interactions being solely fueled by criminal activity, sharing personal experience of being arrested but having the charges later dropped as an example against that idea. Stated that Urbana households spend \$840 a year toward funding the police department and that the current City Council is in favor of expanding police in Urbana. Voiced that all governmental departments typically require more staff, the Urbana Police Department is no different and should not be prioritized over other staffing needs. Stated that police officers are not held accountable for misconduct as it is reviewed through police unions. Noted that a majority of calls are non-violent and domestic violence calls are typically mishandled, quoting police abolitionist, Mariam Kabo. **Faith Ryan** stated that City Council is not listening to public input and seen as a waste of time by City Council. Shared personal account of being assaulted by a police officer who intentionally hid his identity on 04-26-24 and caused sciatic pain after forcing them to the ground. Mentioned that a police officer had left a body camera and a fully loaded magazine on the ground after leaving. Noted that they are a white person who is 5'3". Voiced that the community will continue to speak at City Council meetings speaking against police brutality and genocide. **Jane McClintock** spoke against the police budget increases and in favor of alternative response models. Stated that other people in Urbana have shown their support, through a petition, for not hiring any further police officers until community services and community responders are invested in. Asked how the budget can be passed when it seems as though it will not be affordable for future years. **Sana Saboowala** spoke against an increase in the police budget despite the FBI reporting crime at an all-time low. Stated that the BerryDunn report is built on questionable methodology and flaws can be commonly found throughout it. Quoted sections regarding community conversation on UPD's performance and the perception of the UPD and calling its methodology into question. Noted that the recommendations provided in the report are similar to recommendations for the City of Oak Park in another study they conducted. Urged City Council to further their understanding on community stakeholders and their demands. **Evelyn Nettle** spoke against the increasing of police budget and staffing. Expressed concern regarding the discussion surrounding this issue, noting that CM Hursey's personal accounts implied that those who interact with police and disagree with police budget increases are criminals or are around criminal elements. Voiced that City Council is unqualified in making decisions impacting those who are policed and have regular interactions with the police. Urged City Council to listen to public input regarding police funding and community voices. Stated that Mayor Marlin's reactions to specific comments and decision to read a personal communication in support of police funding increases were condescending. Stated that 72% of calls for service were found to be non-violent by the BerryDunn report, correcting the 73% figure shared last week. **James Kilgore** spoke in opposition of increases in policing, sharing direct and indirect impacts felt by members of FirstFollowers. Stated that the collective experience of FirstFollowers members motivates them to search for alternatives to increasing the funding for the Urbana Police Department. Acknowledged that the UPD are not the same of the Chicago Police Department, but reiterated that further policing is not required to address the safety concerns of the City of Urbana. Stated that the main causes of violence within the community are poverty and ease of access to guns. Noted that Chief Boone has helped form data showing that the largest victims of gun violence are black youth within Urbana. Expressed that the solution would be to address poverty, address mental health, and provide better access to housing instead of increasing the UPD budget. **James Tiger Corbin** spoke on the co-responder program model which is a collaboration between law enforcement and mental health providers. Stated that this model better helps identify those in crisis and people who require referrals to mental health services. Expressed that the co-responder program helps communities by allowing for better communication between law enforcement

and mental health providers. Shared an example from Eugene, Oregon where mental health professionals are trained to deescalate crises and respond to individuals in crisis. Expressed that law enforcement and co-responders can work together to deescalate violent situations and prevent arrests. Spoke in favor of a focus on the co-responder model instead of a pure staff increase of police officers. **Tammy Little** stated that 28,000 men and 52,000 women are released yearly from incarceration with \$25 to assist them on reentry. Shared experience collaborating with TBRA and being able to assist 22 people with yearlong housing vouchers, exhausting funding in a month and a half and exhausting the second round of funding in a few weeks. Urged City Council to fund housing programs to assist with people reentering society from incarceration. **Steven MacGuire** stated that the budget is a moral document and it seems as though it currently reflects the morals of those in power. Expressed that social services funding needs to be prioritized over increases to police funding. Urged City Council to invest in social services until they are sufficiently funded. **Brad Allen** spoke in opposition to an increase in the police budget and an expansion of the police force. Echoed BerryDunn's findings on the lack of transparency within the UPD. Quoted FBI data stating that crime is at a 10-year low and money spent toward the UPD should be spent on community service response instead. Shared personal accounts of friends that would never want police to appear for wellness checks during their crises. **Elizabeth Sotiropoulos** shared that her family has been impacted by a lack of social services. Urged the City of Urbana to prioritize social services and the community of Urbana over the UPD. Stated that the UPD is lacking in justice for not having a transparent internal investigation process. Noted that the BerryDunn report indicates a lack of criminal incidents and that alternative response models can address non-violent calls for service. Shared statistics indicating racially biased policing against Black people in Urbana. **Lilah Leopold** called for an alternative response model to policing and to not increase the budget of the UPD. Stated that the funds going toward UPD budget will never be seen again by the community and can be better utilized by other community members and organizations. Stated that there is no need for further police officers while alternative policing models are being further discussed within the community. Urged City Council to not miss the opportunity to listen to the community and implement an alternative response model. **Mars Grahamly** voiced opposition to the increase in budget for UPD. Stated that police are commonly found to harm the people they swear to protect, citing incidents nationally and locally in the recent policing of student protests at UIUC. Voiced that there are better options to invest in the community rather than investing in policing. **Gwyneth Crepsio** thanked the community for speaking eloquently on the issue of an increase in UPD's budget. Stated that the reimagining of public safety is demonstrably a community priority, but does not seem to be a priority for City Council. Shared personal experience of taking care of their father through his physical illness that can be misinterpreted as a threat to the public by police. Urged City Council to reconsider their stance on supporting an increase in UPD's budget when social services can be further funded. **Matthew Murray** shared an observation on non-criminal/non-violent calls for service, stating that if he were a police officer, he would not like having so much work being focused on matters that are not criminal investigations and community relations. Questioned the hiring of additional police officers to conduct social work and provide mental health services, despite data displaying a need for people who are equipped for responding to non-violent calls. Voice opposition to the approval of an increase in UPD's budget. **Katelyn Harmon** shared personal experience of assisting a friend through a mental health crisis, expressing shock on the lack of resources available to those in crisis. Shared personal experience of working in social services in a rural Maine county where resources were more plentiful compared to that of a university town (Urbana). Urged City Council to not support increases in funding to the UPD budget. **Derek Briles** expressed hope for City Council to internalize the thoughtful comments made by the community. Voiced support for wise budgeting and funding toward social services instead of increasing UPD's budget. Expressed that infrastructure for social services already exists and funding should not be

sent to UPD before increasing the funding of community organizations. *Lexi Vogel* spoke against the increase of police budgets and staffing. Shared an account of a personal friend, with her permission, illustrating the traumatic harassment from neighbors weaponizing the UPD against her two dogs. Stated that it highlights the following issues present within the City of Urbana: a lack of access to mental healthcare, lack of access to physical healthcare, poor working conditions, lack of community, and inadequately prepared police officers to handle calls regarding mental health. Noted that social workers, therapists, and nurses are better equipped to address these issues rather than police officers. *Written Public Input voicing opposition to increases in police funding was read by Chair Kolisetty from the following individuals: Kathryn Clancy, Adam Nichols, and Anita Fey. Written Public Input voicing oppositions to increases in police hiring was read by Councilmember Evans: Charles Davidson. Written Public Input voicing opposition to the increases in police funding was read by Councilmember Hursey: Edgar. Written Public Input expressing disapproval for Councilmember Evan’s comments made during staff reappointments was read by Mayor Marlin: Steve Beckett. Written Public Input voicing opposition to increases in police funding was read by Councilmember Wilken from the following individual: Dua Aldasouqi. Written Public Input was received from the following individuals, but not read: Alyssa Hall, Joycelyn Landrum-Brown.*

5. Staff Report

None.

6. New Business

- a. **Resolution No. 2024-06-032R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – Angel’s Youth Center – Beat the Street Teen Summit – CD

Resolutions No. 2024-06-032R, 2024-06-033R, 2024-06-034R, 2024-06-035R, 2024-06-036R, 2024-06-037R, 2024-06-038R, 2024-06-039R, 2024-06-040R, 2024-06-041R, 2024-06-042R, 2024-06-043R, 2024-06-044R, 2024-06-045R, 2024-06-046R, 2024-06-047R were presented upon together by Breaden Belcher, Grants Division Manager. This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$6,000 of funding to support the Angel’s Youth Center’s “Beat the Streets” Teen Summit which is an anti-gun violence event that advances the organization’s objectives, and enhances services to low-income Urbana youth by providing anti-violence and life skills programming. Breaden Belcher stated that the currently proposed funding totals to \$274,510 across the presented Youth Services Agreements. Recognized the community work done by the proposed agencies for funding through the Youth Services Grant. Shared the purpose of Youth Services Grant and its intended functions. Shared that the FY25 pot of funding is \$300,000 and is determined by City Council, noting that \$270,000 comes from General Funds and \$30,000 comes from CDBG. Shared the application process for the Youth Services Grants beginning in February. Stated that the proposals are to fund 15 agencies for 16 programs effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to combine Resolutions No. 2024-06-032R, 2024-06-033R, 2024-06-034R, 2024-06-035R, 2024-06-036R, 2024-06-037R, 2024-06-038R, 2024-06-039R, 2024-06-040R, 2024-06-041R, 2024-06-042R, 2024-06-043R, 2024-06-044R, 2024-06-045R, 2024-06-046R, 2024-06-047R into an omnibus by CM Quisenberry, seconded by CM Wu. Questions and discussion

ensued.

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

Motion to approve the omnibus to the consent agenda by CM Quisenberry, seconded by CM Wu. Questions and discussion followed.

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

- i. Strawpoll: Amend the termination clause within all agreements to require specification of reasons for termination.

AYE: Wilken

NAY: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Bishop, Quisenberry

ABSTAIN: Kolisetty

- b. **Resolution No. 2024-06-033R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Illinois – Community Based Mentoring – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$10,000 of funding to support the Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Central Illinois in providing community-based mentoring services to children living in Urbana. *Approved in omnibus, see item a.*

- c. **Resolution No. 2024-06-034R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – Cunningham Children’s Home – Residential Treatment Program – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$15,000 of funding to support the Cunningham Children’s Home’s Residential Treatment Programs that offer a comprehensive and coordinated continuum of care, designed to be responsive to and flexible for children, youth and young adults with a very wide variety of behavioral health needs. *Approved in omnibus, see item a.*

- d. **Resolution No. 2024-06-035R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – Crisis Nursery – Safe Children Program – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$30,000 of funding to support the Crisis Nursery’s Safe Children program, which provides emergency childcare for children, ages birth through six, whose families are experiencing a crisis. *Approved in omnibus, see item a.*

- e. **Resolution No. 2024-06-036R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – Don Moyer Boys and Girls Club – RIDES – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$10,000 of funding to support the Don

Moyer Boys and Girls Club's RIDES (Reach, Inspire, Develop, Empower, Support) program which seeks to address transportation issues that have created barriers to Urbana youth and families in accessing services that Don Moyer provides each day. *Approved in omnibus, see item a.*

- f. Resolution No. 2024-06-037R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – Immigrant Services of Champaign-Urbana – Child Mental Health Program – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$15,000 of funding to support the Immigrant Services of Champaign-Urbana's Mental Health Program (Child Focus) which offers health and wellness checkups to address physical health need alongside mental health services. *Approved in omnibus, see item a.*

- g. Resolution No. 2024-06-038R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – Sola Gratia – Education Program – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$13,000 of funding to support Sola Gratia's Agricultural Education Program which aims to address food inequity by offering accessible agriculture and nutrition education opportunities through events, classes, tours, demonstration days, and signage, with particular consideration for low-income students and families. *Approved in omnibus, see item a.*

- h. Resolution No. 2024-06-039R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – STEAM Genius – Urbana Lovin' U Tour – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$30,000 of funding to support STEAM Genius' Urbana Lovin' U Tour which is an education enrichment and social development program designed to expose and connect young people to a pathway of career opportunities and leadership development. *Approved in omnibus, see item a.*

- i. Resolution No. 2024-06-040R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – The Urbana Free Library – Teen and Youth Maker Program – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$20,500 of funding to support The Urbana Free Library's Teen & Youth Maker Programming in their Teen Open Lab program and Markerspace Jr. program. *Approved in omnibus, see item a.*

- j. Resolution No. 2024-06-041R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – The Well Experience – Well Family Care Program – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$20,000 of funding to support The Well Experience's Family Care Program which is a year-round education and systems of care for families with children aged birth to 22 years. *Approved in omnibus, see item a.*

- k. Resolution No. 2024-06-042R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center – IMC Youth Culture Advisors – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$14,000 of funding to support the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center’s Youth Arts and Culture Leadership Academy which provides programming for Urbana youth to build leadership skills and explore arts, media, and entertainment careers.

Motion to approve to the regular agenda by CM Quisenberry, seconded by CM Bishop

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

ABSTAIN: Evans

- l. Resolution No. 2024-06-043R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – Urbana Neighborhood Connections Center – Community Study Center – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$16,668 of funding to support the Urbana Neighborhood Connections Center’s Community Study Center which enrolls around 60 youth between the after-school study activities, college and career initiative, and school days out activities. *Approved in omnibus, see item a.*

- m. Resolution No. 2024-06-044R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – Urbana Neighborhood Connections Center – Youth Development Program – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$12,650 of funding to support the Urbana Neighborhood Connection Center’s Youth Development Program. *Approved in omnibus, see item a.*

- n. Resolution No. 2024-06-045R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – Urbana Park District – Youth Scholarship Program – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$10,000 of funding to support the Urbana Park District’s Youth Scholarship Program which helps families with financial need take advantage of park district programs. *Approved in omnibus, see item a.*

- o. Resolution No. 2024-06-046R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Youth Services Agreement – Urbana School District 116 – SPLASH Afterschool Program – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$21,692 of funding to support the Urbana School District 116’s SPLASH program which is an extended day program open to all 6-8th

grade students who attend Urbana Middle School. *Approved in omnibus, see item a.*

- p. Resolution No. 2024-06-047R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Subrecipient Agreement Community Development Block Grant Agreement – Rape Advocacy, Counseling, & Education Services – Survivor Services-Trauma Therapy – CD

This resolution seeks the approval and authorization of a Subrecipient Agreement for a Youth Services Agreement which would provide \$30,000 of funding to support the Rape Advocacy, Counseling, & Education Services (RACES) in providing trauma therapy to youth by devoting one of the agency’s therapists to youth services so 75% of their appointments will be specifically for Urbana youth.

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

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

ABSTAIN: Kolisetty

7. Staff Report

a. Library Budget – UFL

Presented by Celeste Muotos, Executive Director of The Urbana Free Library and Rachel Fuller, Associate Director of The Urbana Free Library. Celeste M noted that the UFL has received the support of the City for 150 years. Shared UFL anticipated revenue for FY 2025, displaying that 81% of revenue is being sourced from property taxes and noted different one-time funds toward revenue. Shared graph of expenses. Rachel Fuller spoke upon the continuation of capital expenses and introduction of other special projects. Shared plans for utilizing funding toward replacing the East Air Handler unit, updating landscaping, renovating the First Floor, and renovating Megan’s Room. Questions and discussion followed.

b. SAFER Grant Continuation and Fire Training – FD

Presented by Demond Dade, Fire Chief and Clint Weidert, Interim Deputy Fire Chief. Introduced the two proposals for a total of \$546,000 in increases to strengthen training programs and address increasing overtime budgets, potential increases in incident growth, and average annual training expenses. Recommended City Council support an authorization of a recurring \$469,000 increase to perpetuate the S.A.F.E.R. Grant. Proposed that a one-time expense be approved for \$77,000 to augment the UFD’s training budget. Shared that the increases align with Mayor/Council Goals and BerryDunn’s recommendations made in the Staffing Study Report. Stated that over 50% of the budget increases are offset by potential reductions in overtime costs. Concluded that the increases to UFD’s budget are crucial to sustaining the operational readiness and professional development of the department. Questions and discussion followed.

c. IT Staffing Increase and Software Upgrades – Exec

Presented by Thomas E. Webb, Information Technology Manager. Noted that there are two increases in costs. Shared the \$71,250 increase in budget for the adoption of Microsoft 365 to improve flexibility in work and allows for better collaboration tools to reduce overhead and addresses security issues. Shared a proposal for a new IT Staff position as a

Computer/Systems Technician with a budget increase of \$104,000 to better support increasing workloads and overhead. Questions and discussion ensued.

d. VERF Funding – HRF

Presented by Kyle Kapper, Internal Financial Analyst with Elizabeth Hannan, HR and Finance Director/CFO available for questions. Provided background upon VERF (Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Fund) and its funding through individual departmental contributions. Stated that the VERF covers around 900 assets and represents over \$1,000,000 in total assets. Shared qualifications of VERF coverage and its purpose to provide Life for Life Assets. Noted points on VERF policies, stating why 85% of the total asset value is covered and the intentions behind replacement plans. Noted that a budget gap exists due to unprecedented inflation rates as the VERF raises by historic inflation rates. Proposed to increase recurring annual contributions by 15.5% City-wide with a one-time catch-up contribution total of \$1,950,000 from the General Fund to catch up with current inflation rates. Questions and discussion followed.

e. Housing / Code Inspector – CD

Presented by Carol Mitten, City Administrator with Elizabeth Hannan, HR and Finance Director/CFO available for questions. Provided context on the Rental Registration Program and the goal for the program. Stated that the two current inspectors annually cover 482 regularly scheduled inspections and additional inspections caused by tenant complaints. Proposed an additional Housing/Code Inspector that has a recurring cost of \$121,500 with a \$50,000 one-time expense for a vehicle. Would improve the property inspection rate from once every 6.5 years to once every 4.3 years. Questions and discussion followed.

f. Police Staffing and Hiring Incentives – PD

Presented by Larry Boone, Chief of Police and Rich Surles, Deputy Police Chief with Elizabeth Hannan, HR and Finance Director/CFO. Larry Boone provided an overview of the budget requests. Stated that the Urbana Police Department was not properly funded in the past and have previously requested additional staffing. Elaborated upon the new sworn and civilian staff proposed as being 1 Deputy Chief to oversee operations; 1 Training Sergeant to sufficiently train officers and offload the burden from current leadership; 3 Patrol Officers; 2 civilian Community Service Responders to lighten the workload of Patrol Officers; 1 Social Worker Plus/Enhanced to support alternative response models; and 3 Community Engagement Officers to work in partnership with Urbana community members to enhance the quality of life for those in the City of Urbana. Reiterated that the second Deputy Chief would be backfilled by existing staff and the Training Sergeant would also be backfilled by existing staff. Noted that due to personnel constraints, there is no capacity to address sources of crime. Stated that when an officer calls out of work, an influx of inefficiency is seen. Shared an account of responding to a critical incident with two people armed with handguns and the fluid nature of responding to those incidents to display the lack of availability to respond to calls for service. Rich Surles elaborated upon the recommendations made by BerryDunn for additional staffing. Proposed a multi-year process of adding staffing, with ongoing evaluations. Larry Boone spoke upon the proposal for dispatching non-sworn, non-armed responders to mental health crisis calls by hiring 2 Community Service Responders and 1 Social Worker Plus/Enhanced. Raised concern for Community Service Responders who wish to quit after being threatened. Stated that the embedding of the 1 Social Worker will be determined by and respect City Council's decision on how to place that position. Rich Surles spoke upon the developmental tasks for the non-sworn personnel. Detailed how the program for the non-sworn Community Service

Responders will have to be further developed before being able to be deployed. Larry Boone spoke upon the structure for the 1 Social Worker and noted that further development also hinges upon City Council's wishes. Rich Surles spoke upon the development of the 3 Community Engagement Officers and the required structures to support them. Stated that a Community Engagement Office in South Urbana is proposed to house community focused elements of UPD. Larry Boone clarified that the decision to select an office in South Urbana was driven by data stating that the South Urbana region has a heavier presence of crime. Described the current state of the hiring incentive program. Rich Surles elaborated on proposed modifications to hiring and referral incentives. Larry Boone spoke upon the difficulties of shaping competitive hiring incentives for recruitment and retention. Rich Surles requested Dr. Lashaunda Cunningham, Police Services Supervisor and Sergeant Matthew McKinney to join the presenters. Matthew McKinney spoke upon the goals of a Community Engagement Team to build trust between the community and police as well as utilize community organization to help meet community needs. Provided background on Calls for Service and how a Community Engagement Officer can be implemented to address Calls for Service. Spoke upon Calls for Service resolution and the ability for a Community Engagement Team to better assist with non-crime calls being received. Dr. Lashaunda Cunningham shared experiences from attending a conference in Atlanta focused on community partnerships, education, and building community connections. Expressed appall felt toward the City of Urbana's lack of Community Policing capabilities compared to other municipalities that have implemented a Community Policing model. Shared that she has personally lived through circumstances, and that people do not speak on her behalf regarding policing. Stated that her perspective is that the City of Urbana needs to unite and move forward to better serve the community through the expansion and better funding for the Urbana Police Department. Shared experiences of working with people through late hours to provide assistance for the community. Stated that to sufficiently conduct police work, it requires sufficient staffing. Expressed that, as an African-American woman, she sees the need for increased funding for the UPD from an internal perspective that has had the lived experience of interacting the police from multiple stages in her life. Stated that the UPD wishes to collaborate with community organizations and not detract from social services available, but additional officers are required in order to facilitate those connections and referrals.

Motion to extend the meeting to 11:00 p.m. by CM Wu, seconded by CM Quisenberry at 10:16 p.m.

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

Matthew McKinney spoke upon the pre-established methodologies that would be used in the implementation of a Community Engagement Team. Stated that the UPD requires the opportunity to better serve the community and rebuild relationships with the community. Stated that the only route for growth for the UPD is through community partnerships and engagement. Elaborated upon the need to establish relationships with service organizations to provide referrals to, and the lack of capacity to currently make those relationships and referrals for appropriate resources. Stated that attending non-law enforcement events as a police officer and having interactions with communities helps to better build connections and having a healthy relationship with the community. Provided overview of community resources available and stated the lack of capacity for providing referrals for community members to access the appropriate resources. Spoke upon lived experiences shared, and voiced openness to share personal experiences with people. Questions and discussion followed.

Chair Kolisetty asked for the consideration of calling recess due to the late hour and amount of business remaining.

Motion to recess and reconvene in City Council Chambers on 06-04-2024 at 7:00 p.m. by CM Hursey, seconded by CM Wu at 10:44 p.m.

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

With a majority vote, City Council entered recess at 10:44 p.m. and will continue from this point in the meeting on 06-04-2024 at 7:00 p.m.

DATE: Tuesday, June 04, 2024
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 reconvened regular session Tuesday, June 04, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT: Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayor*; Darcy Sandefur, City Clerk; CM Maryalice Wu, CM Christopher Evans, CM Shirese Hursey*, CM Jaya Kolisetty, CM Chaundra Bishop, CM Grace Wilken, CM James Quisenberry

***ARRIVED AFTER ROLL CALL**

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Bourema Ouedraogo, Will Kolschowsky, Elizabeth Hannan, Rich Surles, Larry Boone

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chair: *Jaya Kolisetty, Ward 4*

With a quorum present, Chair Kolisetty called the continuation of the 06-03-2024 meeting of the Urbana City Council to order at 7:00p.m.

8. Discussion

a. Ward Maps Continuing Discussion

Graphics of maps were displayed by Will Kolschowsky, Senior Management Analyst and Assistant to the City Administrator. CM Wilken provided an overview of the current state of the ward map selection process and where the previous conversation left off from where most people had voiced support for Finalist 2 (Formerly Map 8). CM Quisenberry spoke on the issue of lack of participation from student voters and the historic conversation around having a student centric ward. Stated that Ward maps cannot be based on the likelihood of a population to vote or not. CM Wilken reiterated that Finalist 2 seems to be the favored map and makes sense for areas around campus, but changes South Urbana's composition. Stated that a modified version with a focus on adjusting South Urbana had been sent out by herself recently that also had modifications from CM Quisenberry to Ward 7. CM Bishop asked for

clarification on if Council is able to modify existing maps. Will Kolschowsky confirmed that the mapping process is determined by Council and it can be allowed. CM Quisenberry stated that adjustments made by CM Wilken with a focus on Ward 6 and stated that it was not as balanced as it needed to be as it impacted populations of Wards 4, 7, and 5. Stated that his modifications were made with the focus of balancing out values for it to be legally permissible. Voiced that historical continuity of Ward 7 was not a core focus, but his adjustments made for Wards to slightly better resemble historical forms. Mayor Marlin requested the modified maps be sent to City Council. CM Wilken affirmed that they would be sent out momentarily. Mayor Marlin asked Council if they would be comfortable with moving forward with the consideration of the new maps even if it may cause another round of legal review and public comment. CM Wu asked Council if it was necessary to receive further feedback from the public as the currently received feedback was on generalities of maps rather than specific details. CM Wilken echoed the question of if it was necessary to solicit further feedback as the modifications are not in favor of or against any of the comments received, noting that while it may be nice to have further feedback it may not be necessary. Asked if there was a strict deadline on when the maps need to be finalized. Mayor Marlin confirmed that there is no deadline, but the sooner this process is completed the better it will be for those considering running in the local election as petitioning for running for City Council begins in late August and early September. CM Quisenberry stated that the municipal election cycle does not start until October and filing begins in the first week of December. Clerk Sandefur clarified that the circulation of petitions can begin in August and September, earlier before filing and guidelines have not yet been released. Mayor Marlin noted that it would be better for those of the public who are contemplating running for election to have the maps completed sooner. CM Wilken asked if anyone running for City Council election needs to live in their respective Ward for at least a year and what happens if they have lived at an address for over a year, but their Ward changes. Clerk Sandefur stated that further research on the matter is required, but they should still be eligible to run in the Ward that they reside in after the changes are implemented. CM Hursey asked for clarification on whether the redistricting is meant to retain the current addresses of incumbent Councilmembers as their current Ward. CM Wilken stated that the remapping takes into account incumbent Councilmember addresses, but the previous question posed was for those who are considering running who are not incumbents. Clerk Sandefur stated that a definite answer on that question will be provided, but to her knowledge, the change in Ward would not preclude them from being able to run for City Council in their new Ward. Chair Kolisetty stated that the newly modified maps have been sent to Council now and to confirm that they have been received. Council and Will Kolschowsky troubleshooted the matter of projecting and streaming the newly modified maps. Chair Kolisetty voiced appreciation for the modified map as it is closer to the current Ward 4 configuration. Council and Will Kolschowsky noted that there were two small issues of noncontiguous districts in Ward 6 and Ward 5 that will be cleaned up. CM Quisenberry asked Councilmembers not from Wards 4, 6, and 7 if the modified map would be worth considering as a distinct enough map from Finalist 2. Noted that his modifications have made Wards 1 and 2 slightly smaller to account for the anticipated gain in population from the upcoming special census. Chair Kolisetty voiced support for the changes. CM Wilken noted that a few modifications would have to be made to Ward 6, but the modified map more closely represents desired changes. Chair Kolisetty requested for Council to reach consensus on if they would like to put forward the modified map for consideration. CM Wu stated that further modifications would have further impacts on the population deviation and voiced support for moving the modified map, as presented with the corrections made to noncontiguous districts, to legal review. CM Wilken asked if Council would be able to enter further changes on the floor, specifically around the Lierman neighborhood as it has historically been a piece of Ward 6. CM Quisenberry noted that if those potential modifications are made, it would significantly change the populations and deviation values.

CM Wilken asked if the proposed modifications that move Eagle Ridge to retain SUNA's composition within a single Ward would significantly change the populations to Ward 6. CM Quisenberry stated that Eagle Ridge and Prairie Winds represent a large amount of population that would imbalance the population of Ward 7 and cause a ripple of changes to be required. Acknowledged the intent behind the changes, but stated that further balancing would be necessary. Voiced support for moving forward with Finalist 2 or the currently modified map.

Strawpoll: Moving the modified Finalist 2 forward for further legal review.

AYE: 5

NAY: 2

CM Wilken noted that, despite her best efforts to avoid this outcome, Ward 6 has shifted to become a more suburban, affluent Ward with the modifications made. Hoped for more diverse representation within the Ward. Mayor Marlin put forward the question of if this map should be put forward for public comment or if it should be directly sent to Will Kolschowsky to be entered into GIS for preparation to use in the Ordinance. CM Quisenberry stated that the modified map should be shared by the public if it is chosen to move forward and that a copy can be shared with the public before it is brought as an Ordinance to the next Committee of the Whole. Mayor Marlin stated that it can be simultaneously sent to Will Kolschowsky for preparation and published for public comment before it is presented to the Committee of the Whole on 06-17-2024. Stated that the Ordinance is passed to City Council on 06-24-2024, the finalized Ward Map should be available for the public on 07-01-2024. Chair Kolisetty thanked the Council for their work on the maps and Will Kolschowsky for the technical support in the presentation.

b. Budget Discussion

Presented by Elizabeth Hannan, HR and Finance Director/CFO. Elizabeth Hannan spoke upon Councilmember suggestions for additions, changes, and removals from the budget. Clarified that these suggestions were from City Council and do not include any recommendations from Mayor Marlin. Shared significant revisions to the Budget Ordinance, stating that \$1,000,000 from the grocery tax will be added back as a one-time revenue due to a delay in the implementation of the elimination of the grocery tax; a mismatch was present within the transfer of funds between the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund, causing an \$800,000 one-time expenditure from the General Fund which would be entirely offset by the incoming revenue from the grocery tax; and that a \$105,000 recurring expense from within the UPD's budget that was moved to fund the BerryDunn study are now able to be used for other purposes such as funding proposed changes to the UPD, reducing recurring expenditures by \$105,000.

Shared that the estimated bottom line without any additional reductions from the proposed budget is that \$679,000 is available for additional expenditures and \$105,000 of that is available for recurring expenditures. Further stated that additional reductions can be used to offset new expenditures. Organized suggestions from City Council into potential new recurring expenses, one-time expenses, and savings to offset expenses.

Spoke upon the potential recurring expenses that were suggested. Stated that an Arbor Technician would cost \$95,000 on a recurring basis and it would require an additional one-time expense of \$32,250 for initial equipment purchases. Stated that 3 Additional Social Workers would have an estimated recurring cost of \$350,000. Stated that no cost estimate is currently available for a general request for a Non-Police Alternative Response Model.

Shared cost estimates for one-time expenses that were suggested which mostly fall under the general category of human services: Re-entry Services, \$50,000; Drug and Alcohol Treatment, \$50,000; Housing and Relocating Domestic Violence Victims, \$100,000; Tenant-based Rental Assistance, \$120,000; Scholarships for Trades and Hospitality Industry, \$200,000; Illinois Fire Service Institute Scholarships, \$104,000; and a Park District Summer Jobs program, \$100,000. Additionally noted that would require additional supporting structure and an allocation process to allow for Council participation in those discussions. Stated that the Small Business Grants (est. \$50,000) and a suggestion for a Downtown Tourist & Entertainment District (est. \$50,000) would be able to be potentially covered under TIF expenses.

Shared potential reductions in expenditure costs from Council suggestions. Stated that an increase in Fire Station bonding to \$10,000,000 from \$9,000,000 which would reduce the General Fund support by \$1,000,000, however if more debt is issued there will be more interest to be paid that would cost an additional estimated amount of \$220,000 over the 10-year repayment period. Listed proposed reductions for patrol staffing: an increase of patrol staffing by 1 officer, rather than 5 officers would result in \$540,000 of recurring savings with an additional one-time saving of \$227,000; and that a reduction in the request of 5 officers would be \$675,000 in recurring savings with an additional one-time saving of \$284,000. Stated that the rejection of the Community Engagement Team request of 3 officers would be a one-time saving of \$476,000 in FY2025 and \$767,000 from the fund balance which was reserved to fund the second and third years of the pilot program. Stated that not accepting the proposal for 2 Community Service Representatives would result in \$224,000 in recurring savings as well as a \$46,000 one-time saving. Stated that not approving the request for 1 Social Worker would represent \$117,000 in recurring savings. Stated that the budgets for police officers require further time to develop specific numbers in savings as each individual position varies significantly in cost.

CM Wilken requested clarification on the savings estimates in patrol staffing reductions, asking if it would cost \$135,000 per year for a single officer rather than \$675,000 for 5. Elizabeth Hannan stated that the \$540,000 in savings represents the cost saved from the 4 potential officer positions, but the numbers for each position are not evenly divisible and further calculations are required to provide specific numbers. CM Evans stated that his proposals were put forward for review, but he had not taken into consideration the interest that would be added on from increasing the bonding for the construction of the fire stations and that it would be taken into consideration.

CM Wilken stated that the budget proposals by CM Evans seem reasonable and align with the Mayor/Council goals that had been established. Agreed with Elizabeth Hannan's point regarding the structure required for the allocation of the human services proposals. Stated, in her opinion, that the proposed budget is financially irresponsible as it does not seem balanced and sustainable for the future. Voiced confusion on how Mayor Marlin has rebuilt the City's financial stability over her past two terms before maxing out the budget in her last year. Stated that it would constrain the next elected officials. Expressed that it seems as though there will be no recurring funds remaining if this budget were to be accepted and the fund balance is being brought dangerously low. Stated that the proposed \$2,500,000 increase in UPD's budget is unnecessary as bonuses, retention costs, wage increases, additional positions, and a high salary for the Chief of Police were accepted by City Council. Stated that a non-police response needs to be further developed to allow for the police to better conduct policework and that information on overtime costs is required for further understanding of the UPD's budget. Stated that police policies must be addressed first before considering increasing the UPD's budget. Shared concern that a cost estimate and further exploration for an alternative response model is still required. Stated that the

proposed budget leaves no room for further consideration and implementation of an alternative response model. Expressed concern for potential police officer referrals to social services when they remain underfunded. Voiced disapproval of the police budget increases and the proposed budget. Mayor Marlin stated that she believes the financial budget proposed is financially responsible, balanced, and sustainable. Stated that the proposal of taking \$1,000,000 from the fire station construction funds to put toward Discretionary Spending for Councilmember Initiatives is an earmarking of funds and falls outside of the standard allocation and grant application process. Echoed that the additional bonding of \$1,000,000 for the construction of the fire station would incur an additional estimated \$220,000 cost. Voiced that the requests for public safety move the City of Urbana toward accepting the requests from the public. Stated that the patrol officers have been understaffed for 20 years compared to peers within the State and across the nation. Cited two shooting incidents that occurred on 06-01-2024 as an example of the inability to adequately respond to those incidents due to being understaffed. Stated that the 2 Community Service Responders alongside the 1 Social Worker is the foundation for building an alternative response model. Spoke upon the 3 Community Engagement Officers, sharing support for Chief Boone's vision for the implementation of those officers in South Urbana to better address crime and improve community relations within that area. Stated that the financial policies are being followed, reasonable growth is additionally expected, and that the proposed budget does not set future elected up for failure. CM Quisenberry stated that the budget raises reasonable questions and referred to the proposed 3-year pilot program, asking if it would be able to be terminated if money was not available or other methods of funding through tax increases would be sought after in that case. Expressed that it seems as though the UPD is not yet fully or efficiently staffed after taking into consideration input from the BerryDunn study and from Chief Boone. Spoke in support of some increase in patrol officers and the structure for staffing that has been proposed by Chief Boone. Stated that the information required to commit to the development of an alternative service model is not present until the BerryDunn study has concluded. Spoke in support of setting aside funding within the budget to be able to explore an alternative response model once the information becomes available. Voiced support for an additional arborist, but stated that the arborist may not be necessary until next year or one can be hired for a partial amount of the fiscal year. Spoke against the suggestion to increase the bonding for the fire station construction, stating that borrowing money to support social services does not seem sustainable. Expressed support for using the remainder of the grocery tax funds to attempt to execute some of the suggested Council expenses in a future budget year. CM Wu stated that the City of Urbana has funded social services through ARPA funding and has taken a significant amount of time to navigate. Stated that although social services require support the allocation of funds from the City requires structure to be able to effectively support them. Stated that the structure could be similar to that being used for Youth Grants as it would allow for a focused funding of specific services. Stated that she will not be voting in the affirmative for any of the suggestions made by City Council as it is not fair to organizations within the community that would like to participate in using these funds. Stated that just because a call for service is non-criminal it does not make it not dangerous to the responder, citing the example of domestic disputes. Stated that the process of deciding if a community service responder or a patrol officer is dispatched to a non-violent call for service will take time to develop before implementing and requires the completed report from BerryDunn. Expressed that there is nobody within City Council and the public that seemed to be against an alternative response model, but there is no definite answer on what that model may look like. Voiced that City Council needs to recognize the significant disparity between the workload and current staffing, speaking in support of the addition of more patrol officers and 2 non-sworn officers to begin determining how to implement alternative responders. Stated that this current City Council ran for office during a turbulent time in the United States and

recognized a need for change within public safety. Stated that in the recruitment of Chief Boone, City Council wished to hire someone with innovative ideas on how to better serve the community and City Council should follow through with the purpose behind hiring him to allow for him to implement those ideas. Chair Kolisetty passed the chair to CM Wu. CM Kolisetty expressed disappointment in hearing the same language used, when Council was elected, to push for a pilot program without any significant justification behind it. Stated that if the same talking points are used now, that the BerryDunn study has been a waste of taxpayer's money and insulting to the incomplete study. Voiced discomfort in regards to the proposed increase in UPD's budget before the BerryDunn study has had a chance to be completed, stating that it is financially irresponsible to commit to those increases before there is a chance to explore alternative response models as the budget seems to severely limit that option. Stated that City Council has been fair with listening to the community's feedback and in collaborating with the UPD. Voiced that the recurring expenses from the proposed expansion of UPD is irresponsible, Chief Boone has admirably put forward his vision for change, but the feasibility and sustainability of those changes need to be considered. Stated that the impact of long-term commitments needs to consider that the City of Urbana is small and has a high percentage of low-income individuals when considering the allocation of staffing and resources across all City departments. Stated that further information is required when choosing to address the issue of understaffing because it is not solely a concern of UPD, but it is a concern of departments City-wide. Stated that City Council has voiced their support for an arborist and increased staffing for Community Development to apply for additional federal grants. Expressed that it is shameful that the City Clerk's Office only has two individuals within it. Stated that it is not appropriate or financially reasonable to address the 20-year issue of understaffing in the UPD all at once. Stated opposition to the proposed new expenditures from the proposed reductions in expenditures as the distribution of funds to support social services requires a competitive and responsible process instead of it being earmarked. Chair Wu returned the chair to CM Kolisetty. CM Hursey stated that a Community Engagement Team would be important, citing the crime statistics indicating a rise in crime in a specific Ward due to a potential lack of patrol officers. Shared personal experience of growing up in North Urbana, seeing patrol officers within Ward 3 over the summers due to the high number of shootings. Stated that seeing those patrol officers made her feel safe and that a rise in crime and a lack of patrol officers in that specific Ward makes the public feel unsafe. Stated that a significant amount of retail theft is occurring across all Wards, leading to businesses also feeling unsafe. Shared negative personal experience of calling the police and not having anyone show up promptly to assist. Stated that a Community Engagement Team and an increase in patrol officers could help restore the feeling of safety. Voiced that it is the people who most need the help who feel the most impact of the understaffing. Stated that focus of conversation needs to be shifted from ideologies to the reality of the situation. CM Wilken clarified that CM Evan's requests for social services funding can be allocated a pot of funds before having an allocation structure built around it, citing the example of the Environmental Grants that were made last year and has had assistance from the Grants Division Manager in forming its structure. Spoke in support of combining the social services funds potentially available through the General Fund into a pot before creating the process of allocating it. Spoke in support of the addition of 2 or 3 additional patrol officers as the sole expansion to the UPD's budget. Expressed hesitance to flagging funds for the exploration of an alternative response model before the details are set, stating concern for the lack of input the public and Council may have at that point. Stated that instead of flagging funds, a budget amendment could be made when an alternative response model is further developed. Acknowledged the potential value for a Community Engagement Team and the needs for patrol, but stated that investment into actual community resources and social services should be prioritized first. Stated that the UPD have the potential to increase safety as well as decrease it, citing a recent CPRB case of UPD officers chasing, tackling, and tasing a

young, Black man who had only changed walking direction away from the officers due to a fear of police violence. CM Evans shared confusion on the acceptance of the idea of a patrol officer shortage, citing personal experiences of seeing multiple police officers responding to various non-violent calls for service in-person and through shared videos. Stated that after personal review and review with members of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the BerryDunn report remains incomprehensible in how they arrived at their conclusions. Asked if a community task force could be formed to further study public safety issues within the City of Urbana before committing to increases to UPD's budget, as per the recommendations from BerryDunn and the guidelines on 21st Century Policing.

CM Wilken voiced support for an initiative to form a community task force. Asked why the regular and step-overtime is proposed to increase even with the expansion in UPD staff. Elizabeth Hannan state that there would be a small level of increase in overtime budgeting even if there were no expansion to reflect wage adjustments. CM Wilken followed up, asking if the staff increases were taken into account when determining overtime budgets. Elizabeth Hannan requested a representative from the Urbana Police Department come to answer the question. Rich Surles, Deputy Chief of Police presented slides displaying information regarding overtime within UPD from FY 2021, FY 2022, FY 2023, and year-to-date FY 2024. Shared that, in FY 2021, the overtime expenditures came within under the budget for patrol officers, but exceeded the budget for Criminal Investigations Division (CID). Attributed the underspending due to COVID officer restrictions put in place during that time. Shared that in FY 2022, they were \$50,000 over-budget for regular overtime for patrol officers due to callbacks, holdovers, patrol activities, and other mandated overtime work. Stated that overtime is inflated by having to approve vacation, sick, and leave time for patrol officers. Stated that, in FY 2022, the CID overtime expenditures doubled the budget due to having to respond to people being shot, sexually assaulted, or severe battery. Shared those similar impacts on overtime expenditures were seen in FY 2023, with \$66,000 in regular overtime for patrol officers going over the budget and CID doubling the budgeted overtime in expenditures. Shared FY YTD 2024 data, stating that regular overtime has exceeded budgeted overtime by around \$50,000 and CID overtime has almost doubled the budgeted overtime. CM Quisenberry asked what the vacancies were during FY 2023 and FY 2024. Rich Surles stated that they were about 20% vacant when he took over as Interim Chief of Police. Stated that it takes 1 year from hire to have a useful patrol officer and it is difficult to find quality candidates in this day and age. CM Kolisetty asked why UPD is anticipating increased overtime in FY 2025 despite the proposed increases in staffing. Deputy Chief Surles stated that the increases were due to wage increases. CM Kolisetty asked if overtime is expected to decrease at full staffing. Larry Boone, Chief of Police stated that it would not be expected to decrease, citing personal knowledge of other police departments within the nation consistently going over the budgeting amount of overtime. Stated that from his personal knowledge, overtime is expected to increase, providing an example of having emergency action plans for staff in response to a major event. Stated that the City of Urbana lacks emergency action plans for events and that UPD officers should be staffed at events, such as the MLK Jettie Rhodes Day Celebration, using overtime. Stated that overtime is never perfect and there are no police departments in the nation that stay within their overtime budget. CM Kolisetty asked if the significant overspending in overtime is anticipated to continue. Chief Boone stated that the rate of overtime increasing is changing, but overtime expenditures will continue to exceed the budgeted overtime. Stated that as Chief of Police, large events that have not previously had UPD staffing, will request police officers to be present at those events using overtime funds. CM Kolisetty asked if it is expected to exceed the budgeted overtime amount. Chief Boone stated that, from personal experience in police departments, there has never been a year where a police department had not exceeded the budgeted overtime amount. CM Kolisetty asked if any

conversations have been held on accurately budgeting overtime. Chief Boone stated that it is impossible to do so. Stated that overtime expenditures have been high due to understaffing and it is difficult to budget overtime due to various, unpredictable circumstances. Elizabeth Hannan stated that overtime exceeding its budget is often mitigated due to turnovers and vacancies within the department. Stated that transfers from budgeted salaries to the overtime budget should have occurred to cover the amounts. Deputy Chief Surles clarified that the data comes from viewing the budgeted amounts and year-end data. Stated that budgets were realigned through the year by using transfers, as per Elizabeth Hannan's description. CM Kolisetty asked if the proposed budget takes those alternations into account. Deputy Chief Surles stated that he does not know the answer to that question. Stated that the CID budget is an example that speaks to the unpredictability of overtime, pointing out that responses to incidents do not take into consideration the overtime budget. CM Kolisetty emphasized the importance of staying within the budget due to the financial conditions within the proposed budget. CM Wilken refocused the conversation back to the City Council's budget discussion, thanking the speakers for being a resource. Stated that when the overtime budget from the UPD is compared to the Urbana Fire Department (UFD), the UPD still is significantly under the UFD's overtime budget. Pointed to UFD's high overtime budgets and its ability to significantly reduce that amount through new staffing. Stated that the increased number of staffing for the UPD does not seem to decrease their budgeted overtime. CM Evans asked if overtime for the UPD is divided by 20 patrol officers at \$59 an hour. Elizabeth Hannan requested clarification on the question. CM Evans referred to their previous email conversations regarding overtime as clarification where he asked for a quantification of the hours of overtime being spent where it was found to be around 4,000 hours at the \$59 an hour rate. Elizabeth Hannan agreed with CM Evans. CM Evans stated that it is unrealistic to mathematically provide averages for police departments due to unpredictable variables, but overtime budgets can provide an idea of how police officers may be stressed. Elizabeth Hannan stated that overtime is complicated for both UPD and UFD as some things are predictable, but many things are unpredictable such as injuries on duty, family emergencies, and major crimes. CM Wilken asked how to proceed from this point. Stated that strawpolls should be done next week to narrow down actions before being brought to the next Committee of the Whole. Elizabeth Hannan stated that it would make it easier for staff if Council has the conversation on coming to consensus on Council budget discussions. CM Wilken asked for clarification if there is a budget discussion planned for next week's meeting or if there would be a way to set it on the agenda. Mayor Marlin stated that a budget discussion is already planned for next week's agenda.

9. Council Input and Communications

None.

10. Adjournment

With no further business before the committee of the whole Chair Kolisetty adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Seok Hyun Cho

Deputy City Clerk

This meeting was video recorded and is viewable on-demand [HERE for 6/3](#) and [HERE for 6/4](#).

Minutes approved: 06-17-24

Cho, Seok Hyun 'Rafael'

From: Clancy, Kathryn B H <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, June 3, 2024 3:16 PM
To: !City Council
Subject: Urbana Police Budget - comment for public record

***** Email From An External Source *****

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Hello,

My name is Kathryn Clancy and I am a resident of Urbana, Illinois. I am writing to ask that my comment be entered into the public record.

I do not support hiring more police officers, nor increasing funding for police more generally. At a time when our trees are dying, our constituents are facing long-term disability from post-viral disease, food and housing costs are soaring out of control, and we are living in a town where one of our largest employers is willing to call riot cops on peaceful protestors, I think we have bigger concerns. The evidence base that more cops reduces crime or in any way betters our communities is scant, if not absent. Whereas the evidence that addressing the climate crisis, the pandemic, unchecked capitalism, and the conflict in Palestine will measurably improve the world does in fact exist.

Thank you,
Kate

KATHRYN CLANCY, PHD

Professor and Associate Head

Center for Advanced Study Associate 2023-2024

Department of Anthropology

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Beckman Institute of Advanced Science & Technology | Institute for Genomic Biology | Program in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation | Gender and Women's Studies

www.kateclancy.com | www.clancylabs.com

Period: The Real Story of Menstruation, out now: [Bookshop](#) | [Barnes & Noble](#) | [Amazon](#)



Under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act any written communication to or from university employees regarding university business is a public record and may be subject to public disclosure.

Cho, Seok Hyun 'Rafael'

From: Adam <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, June 3, 2024 12:34 PM
To: !City Council
Subject: Public input for 2024-06-03 city council meeting

*** Email From An External Source ***

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Please ready my comments into the record.

Dear City Council members,

Tonight, Chief Boone will likely tell you that the Urbana police department needs another huge increase in the budget because he's following Obama's task force on 21st century policing.

One of the key components of 21st century policing is to have police coordinate with "mental health professionals, social workers, crisis counselors, and other professionals making decisions alongside the police regarding planning, implementing, and responding to mental health crisis situations." Page 44 of the task force's final report, which can be found at:

https://cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/taskforce/taskforce_finalreport.pdf

Take note that they're talking about law enforcement COORDINATING with these teams. They are not suggesting that the officers BE these teams.

In order to make this happen, we need they have teams to collaborate with. Working with non-profit organizations is a good start, but with no full time staff it is not sufficient. We need programs that are funded, with at least one of these professionals on call so they can respond to situations whenever they occur.

Boone may also say that officers need to have 40% free time where they're not responding to calls, investigating crimes, nor doing reports. The logic Chief Boone gave at a listening session at Salt and Light last year is that if they had all this free time, they'd hang out in schools, barbershops and gather intelligence on what citizens are doing and build trust with the community.

As a community member who wants the police to build trust with the community, I can say that this is NOT a recipe for doing so.

A way to build trust with the community is to fix the racial disparity in traffic stops, which are at the highest they've been at in 10 years.

Here's a link to a news article detailing this historical and ongoing problem:

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fcu-citizenaccess.org%2f2023%2f11%2fracial-disparity-in-urbana-police-traffic-stops-highest-in-10-years%2f&c=E,1,Z2xZF_KNPRkabCkOaIVIH1s_UoTurrATfn7Kp5yUAKGIVfDMGGzfXE9D4tqBlik1IUytAov6f8MBA0ajG8nyaZiSCaj-at-Vo6hZQPWglSeLELbw7kLwGgEptwl,&typo=1

This problem isn't about the conduct of some other police force in another state, it's about the policing being done right here in Urbana, every day.

The way to build trust is to listen to us when we say:

"We don't want an enormous police force at the expense of other services."

The way to build trust is to hear us when we say:

"We want non-police community responders."

Urbana PD should be supporting these community requests, so the departments with whom they should be collaborating actually exist, and have the resources they need to do their jobs.

So I call on the city council to reject the budget proposal to increase the UPD budget this year. Give your constituents what they want, even though it conflicts with what UPD is asking for. Don't push us to the 98.5% recurring spending limit, making it more difficult to implement alternative responder programs in the future.

Show everyone with your vote that you want to see the racially biased traffic stops to be fixed, before giving the police more money, and more free time.

Because the presentation given by Berry-Dunn after just the first portion of their study acknowledged that, in practice, the additional free time is largely by used for traffic enforcement. And as the last ten years of data have shown us, we already have a well documented problem in that area.

Sincerely,
Adam Nichols

Cho, Seok Hyun 'Rafael'

From: Kanittha Fay <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, June 3, 2024 6:10 PM
To: !City Council
Subject: Public Input - Please read

***** Email From An External Source *****

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Dear Mayor Marlin and City Council Members,

I want to express my concerns about crime, particularly domestic violence and shootings in our city. As you know, it can be very dangerous for social workers to enter the scene. With that said, we need enough police officers to accompany the social workers. For your convenience, here is the [link](#) to the crime statistics by the Urbana Police Department.

I urge you to consider both short-term and long-term solutions and vote to support the proposed budget.

Sincerely,

Kanittha Fay

Cho, Seok Hyun 'Rafael'

From: Charles Davidson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, June 2, 2024 6:58 PM
To: !City Council

***** Email From An External Source *****

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Hello my name is Charles Davidson I'm a long time resident of Urbana il,I'm writing to give you my thoughts on the hiring of the 15 Police Officers that is up for debate.coming back and forth to the city council meeting and listening to all the people that's concerned about the hiring of the 15 Police,and doing my own research,the Community do not think it's a good idea to go forward with this idea, manly because of the financial strain it would put on the [city.plus](#) you we need more funds for our Community,like housing homelessness,you could have bought 3 tiny homes for the money you paid Larry Dunn. You can easily pay Officers for overtime if you need more help,I think they will appreciate it.if you listening to what your community says and that's what you suppose to [do.you](#) will find a better way to make this work for the People. Thank you.and Please read this in public input, have a blessed day.

My Name is Charles Davidson and I approve this message.

Cho, Seok Hyun 'Rafael'

From: Edgar [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, June 3, 2024 7:11 PM
To: !City Council
Subject: Public Input: VOTE NO TO PROPOSED INCREASED POLICE BUDGET

***** Email From An External Source *****

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Councilmembers:

Please read this email aloud for public comment.

My name is Edgar, I've lived in and near Champaign-Urbana my entire life. I urge you to listen to your constituents and vote no on the increased police budget proposal and make good on the promises you've made regarding investment in alternative public safety models.

I attended last week's city council meeting and was genuinely appalled by the comments made by Councilmember Shirese Hursey, which, to me, made clear how disconnected from reality the council can be. As our council, it's your job to amplify the voices of your constituents and listen to, represent, and reasonably meet our needs. When I heard Shirese state that she "didn't hang out with the criminal element" in regards to her attitude toward police, it made me question how councilmembers see criminality and their community members who commit crime. Who are those that commit crime but people who don't have their needs met? Crime is a language spoken by the unrepresented, the unfunded, and the marginalized. Urbana crime is a direct reflection of your failure as public leaders to meet your constituents' needs. An additional budget increase for our police force while cutting funds toward Community Development, Social Services, Public Arts, Urbana Public Television, the Human Rights and Equity office, and Urban Forestry - the things that are preventative care toward crime - will not solve the social conditions which create crime.

Additionally, comments were made by Councilmember Shirese toward public opinion of Urbana Police Force stating that she's seen police officers pump gas for community members. This comment made my partner and I laugh, sheerly at the ridiculousness of how far disconnected this comment is from not just the general experience of the public but also how far removed this is from the point of why your constituents are standing here before you today opposing this increased budget. We don't need cops to pump our gas and we don't need 2 million of our tax dollars going toward cops just because they're capable of being nice people. That isn't the point. The point of the matter is that the council has promised its constituents funding toward alternative methods of public safety and has failed to deliver on that promise. Now, your constituents have to come before you and beg you to do what it is you said you'd do in the first place. It's shameful.

While Mayor Marlin picks and chooses which emails to read aloud which fit her desired narrative, there are people sitting in the crowd today which would kill for a budget increase like the one you're considering handing to a police force which does not need a penny more of funding. People who could make a real difference in the lives of your community and a real difference in public safety. I can tell you firsthand that the funds currently allocated to community development, affordable housing, and free resource centers is not enough. Houselessness has increased 30% from 2023 and many of us cannot comfortably pay our bills or feed ourselves. When you brag about how much you've invested in care for the community, your constituents laugh because we cannot feel its effects. While Mayor Marlin makes \$75k a year, I make one third of her annual salary and I'm still taking time out of my full time schedule to make and fund free community meals for your community members which you have failed.

Please, put these funds toward community services which would actually benefit your community members and better meet their needs.

Thank you,
Edgar

Cho, Seok Hyun 'Rafael'

From: Marlin, Diane
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 3:53 PM
To: Cho, Seok Hyun 'Rafael'
Subject: RE: Regarding Written Public Input for 6/3/24 from S. Beckett

From: Steve Beckett <[REDACTED]>
Date: June 3, 2024 at 2:09:02 PM CDT
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Public Comment

Please have Mayor Marlin read for public comment at tonight's meeting

I was the County Board parliamentarian for ten years during my service on the Champaign County Board. I have attended several hundred governmental meetings over my lifetime, but of course the most serious ones were during my time on the county board. We often had to discuss personnel matters and did so always in compliance with the law and good personnel practices.

Frankly, I was embarrassed to learn that Alderman Evans spoke publicly in his thoughts about any Urbana governmental staffer. That is something that should never, ever occur. It is highly unethical, and violative of the personnel exception to the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Any governmental officer with an ounce of common sense would know that such conduct is improper.

My ties to Urbana are longstanding. I am proud to have my law business here and proud to call Urbana my hometown. I appreciate the commitment to public service of all Urbana City Council members, and suggest that an apology is in order from at least one of them to the staff members who were the subject of his unethical tirade..

Steve Beckett

--

J. Steven Beckett
Steve Beckett Law Office LLC



From: Cho, Seok Hyun 'Rafael' <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 3:40 PM
To: Marlin, Diane <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Sandefur, Darcy <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Regarding Written Public Input for 6/3/24 from S. Beckett

Hello Mayor Marlin,

Could you forward us a copy of the written public input from Steve Beckett that you read on Monday to enter into the minutes?

Thank you,

Rafael Cho
Deputy City Clerk

City of Urbana, City Clerk's Office
400 S Vine, Urbana, IL, 61801
217-384-2365 x702



Under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), any written communication to or from City of Urbana employees, officials or board and commission members regarding City of Urbana business is a public record and may be subject to public disclosure.

Cho, Seok Hyun 'Rafael'

From: Dua Aldasouqi <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, June 3, 2024 7:53 PM
To: !City Council
Subject: No more police

***** Email From An External Source *****

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Hello!

Please ready my comment out loud.

Dua Aldasouqi, Muslim CU resident.

To accept adding police without even considering alternative response models and the individual needs of our community is to not serve the residents of this community but rather individual and personal interests.

Dua Aldasouqi, MA, RDN
Owner & Founder

A Muslim Dietitian
www.amuslimdietitian.com
IG: [@amuslimdietitian](https://www.instagram.com/amuslimdietitian)

ALMAZ Wearables
www.almazwearables.com
Pinterest: [@almazwearables](https://www.pinterest.com/almazwearables)

Cho, Seok Hyun 'Rafael'

From: Lys <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 9:38 AM
To: !City Council
Subject: Re: To Urbana City Council Members

***** Email From An External Source *****

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Please read this at the next meeting. Thanks.

Ms. Hall

On Tue, Jun 4, 2024 at 9:21 AM Lys <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Good morning,

My name is Alyssa Hall and I am a resident of Urbana.

I've lived here for the past three years and love the area.

There are things that could vastly improve the area and more police presence is not one of them.

Crime in Urbana has been low for the past few years and the majority of the calls have been for non-violent crimes.

What we do know is that many people are ALICE (asset limited, income restrained, employees) who need assistance meeting the bills.

We could spend that money elsewhere on funding subsidized housing, foodbanks, mental health, and job creation.

We could also spend the money on schools, mental health mobiles, treatment for addictions.

So many other things.

What we do know is that more police makes things worse and makes people feel LESS safe.

Please do not spend the money on cops.

Thanks.

--

Ms. Hall

Cho, Seok Hyun 'Rafael'

From: Boone, Larry
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 11:00 AM
To: Marlin, Diane; Mitten, Carol; !City Clerk
Subject: RE: To be read at council

Dear City Council Members,

I have been an Urbana Resident since 1999. I was concerned to learn that the Urbana City Council had voted against implementing the community engagement component of the 21st Century Policing Program. The hiring of additional police officers will allow for more safety for the hardworking officers and the implementation of the police community engagement efforts planned under Chief Boone's vision for an authentic, positive, and proactive engagement of officers with community members.

Community policing is just one approach to address some of the social issues, that citizens in Urbana face, particularly since the Urbana police have signed on to the "10-shared principles" offered by the NAACP as well as implementing the 21st Century Policing Report (police-community engagement) and the guidance offered within it.

As a resident, who formerly lived in Indiana, with vicarious and actual traumatic experiences with the police, I grew up with a fear of the police and believe that if I had some authentic, meaningful, and corrective experiences in a community circumstance like the proposed community engagement model it might have helped me not be triggered whenever I see the flashing lights and to not to have an automatic distrust of police. As someone who teaches about bias and stereotyping, I am well aware of how negative experiences are encoded in the brain.

I understand that there are also models that allow social workers and therapists to respond with police to service calls that are in nature psychological, emotional, or related to social inequities like homelessness and living unhoused. I am also aware of the shortage of social workers and other trained professionals available to participate in these services. I believe that Chief Boone will hire, train, and set up supervisory conditions that will put in place a community policing model that will improve the Urbana Police Department's positive engagement with community members to build trust and safety.

I would appreciate it if the council would approve Chief Boone's recommendations for community engagement staff and additional officers to be used to implement the community engagement programs referenced in the 21st Century Policing Report.

As a member of the NAACPCC, a Wisdom Leader serving with the Trauma Resilience Initiative, and with the Race Relations subcommittee of the CU Community Coalition. I hope you will find a way to reconsider your no-vote on this important initiative that I believe will help address some of the trauma, violence, and other safety issues in our community.

Thank you for your reconsideration of these expressed concerns.

Best Regards,

Joycelyn Landrum-Brown, Ph.D.

Instructor, Illinois-Urbana Champaign, DSJE/Psychology "Introduction to Intergroup Dialogue Facilitation", Fall 2024 OLLI Fall 2024, "Racial Literacy"

MLK Jr. "Living the Dream" Scholarship Application Review Committee NAACPCC Education Committee Co-chair Race Relations Subcommittee, Co-Chair, Champaign Urbana Community Coalition Wisdom Leader CU Trauma & Resilience Initiative Co-Chair, Social Action Committee, CUAC Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
President and Lead Consultant, Landrum-Brown & Associates

Sent from my iPhone

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