
DATE: Monday, July 1, 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, July 1, 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 Jaya Kolisetty, CM Chaundra Bishop, CM Grace Wilken, CM James Quisenberry

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: CM Shirese Hursey

STAFF PRESENT: Carol Mitten, Dave Wesner, John Zeman, Linda Trevena, Scott Tess

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chair: *Grace Wilken, Ward 6*

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

With a quorum present, Chair Wilken called the meeting of the Urbana City Council to order at 7:05p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

None.

3. Additions to the Agenda

None.

4. Presentations and Public Input

a. Public Input

Written Public Input was read by Chair Wilken on behalf of Kanittha Fay.

5. Staff Report

Mayor Marlin provided an update on the Alternative Response Task Force, stating that it represents the next phase in the BerryDunn study and it will be guided by Michelle Weinzetl and involve representatives of community practitioners, City personnel, and community input. Stated further BerryDunn suggestions on areas of expertise requested for the task force will be circulated amongst City Council later in the week for their input. Stated BerryDunn seeks to commence meetings with the task force by the end of July and complete development of an alternate response model before the end of the year, leading into the development of the report on alternative response models from BerryDunn. Stated further discussion within City Council will occur in the next meeting.

6. New Business

- a. **Resolution No. 2024-07-048R:** Resolution of Support for a State of Illinois Community Development Block – Coronavirus Grant (CDBG-CV) – CD

Presented by Carol Mitten, City Administrator. The Resolution approves the submission of an application on July 31, 2024, in partnership with Hope Village Inc., an Illinois not-for-profit organization, to DCEO for \$1,200,000 in CDBG-CV funding to aid in the construction of Hope Village. Carol Mitten clarified that requiring a Resolution to approve the submission of an application is uncommon, but a necessary step in this case. Stated \$15,000,000 in CDBG-CV grant funds have been made available by the State of Illinois for the development of homeless shelters with the goal of increasing shelter capacity to pre-COVID levels. Stated the Grants Division will submit an application to the State for \$1,200,000 in CDBG-CV funds to support the construction of Hope Village, with City Council's approval. Stated if the application is approved, grant contracts will be executed in November 2024. Stated the current cost estimate for Hope Village construction is \$12,500,000 with approximately \$10,800,000 already secured. Stated Hope Village Inc. has been established as a non-profit to oversee construction and long-term operation of Hope Village. Stated the application has already received five letters of support from service provider agencies and the application materials available for public review at the Community Development Department. Stated the estimated annual operating expenses will be \$2,900,000 and will be supported through rental income, fundraising, and grants. Stated the Housing Authority of Champaign County has committed 24 housing vouchers to Hope Village and is a 15-year commitment. Questions and discussion ensued.

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

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

- b. **Resolution No. 2024-07-049R:** A Resolution Approving a Professional Energy Consulting Services Agreement (Good Energy, L.P.) – PW

Presented alongside Resolution No. 2024-07-050R by Scott Tess, Sustainability & Resilience Officer. The Resolution approves a services agreement for professional energy consulting with Good Energy, L.P. for a term equal to the contract term of the municipal electric aggregation supply contract. Scott Tess stated the services agreement will allow for the consultant to enter the City of Urbana into a group with other municipalities in Central Illinois to search for attractive prices for municipal electric aggregation supply contracts. Stated Resolution No. 2024-07-050R authorizes the Mayor and City Administrator to quickly execute a supply offer once a bid is acquired. Stated the consultant is looking at a single-bid event occurring later in July. Questions and discussion followed.

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

Voice Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Bishop, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAY: None.

- c. **Resolution No. 2024-07-050R:** A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Service Agreement with the Lowest Responsible Bidder for the Supply of Electricity for Residential and Small Commercial Retail Customers – PW

Presented by Scott Tess, Sustainability & Resilience Officer. The Resolution authorizes the Mayor and City Administrator to execute a service agreement for the supply of electricity for residential and small commercial retail customers who do not opt out of such a program, taking place within the applicable time constraints required by the bidder; provided, however, that the energy price to be paid per kilowatt hour pursuant to the agreement is predicted to result in savings for the City's residential and small commercial retail customers over the term of the agreement.

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

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

- d. **Resolution No. 2024-07-051R:** A Resolution Approving a Right-of-way License Agreement with Experience Champaign-Urbana (an Interpretive Sign adjacent to 120 West Main Street) – PW

Presented by John Zeman, City Engineer. The Resolution authorizes the Mayor to execute a license agreement, allowing Experience Champaign-Urbana to construct, maintain, operate, and repair an above-ground interpretive sign within the public right-of-way (W. Main Street) adjacent to 120 W. Main Street. John Zeman stated that Experience Champaign-Urbana seeks to acquire a license agreement for an interpretive sign in the area adjacent to 120 W. Main Street to commemorate the African American Heritage Trail in the Downtown Urbana Area. Displayed location by the Cinema Theater on a map and in street images. Shared graphics illustrating the proposed interpretive sign. Shared the proposed sign content which highlights Black businesses in Urbana. Recommended that the Mayor be authorized to execute this license agreement and shared the next steps for when the Resolution is approved. Questions and discussion ensued.

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

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

- e. **Ordinance No. 2024-07-025:** An Ordinance Amending Schedule H of Section 23-93 of the Urbana Local Traffic Code Requiring Stop Signs at a Certain Intersection (Melissa Lane at Marc Trail) – PW

Presented by John Zeman, City Engineer. The Ordinance seeks to require northbound traffic on Melissa Lane to stop before entering the intersection at Melissa Lane and Marc Trail to make the signage pattern consistent within the subdivision. John Zeman stated the Traffic Commission unanimously voted to recommend the Ordinance during its May 7, 2024 meeting. Provided a background on the intersection and stated it had recently been fully built out in October 2023 and requires a stop sign for traffic flow. Shared images detailing the location of the proposed stop sign alongside the currently existing stop signs in the area. Questions and discussions followed.

Motion to approve to the consent agenda by CM Wu, seconded by CM Kolisetty. Questions and discussion ensued.

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

- f. **Ordinance No. 2024-07-026:** An Ordinance Amending Schedule M of Section 23-190 of the Urbana Local Traffic Code Tow Away Zones (Gregory Street north of Fairview Avenue) – PW

Presented by John Zeman, City Engineer. The Ordinance seeks to prohibit parking and allow for towing vehicles within the cul-de-sac on Gregory Street, located between 475 feet and 500 feet north of the centerline of Fairview Avenue. John Zeman provided background on the impacts of the tow away zone as if a person were to park their vehicle within the cul-de-sac, it would prevent other vehicles from navigating the cul-de-sac as intended to allow for a three-point turn and turn around. Shared that “No Parking - Tow Away Zone” signs were temporarily installed on June 3, 2024 after discussion with Deputy Chief of Police, Rich Surles. Displayed maps illustrating the proposed tow away zone on the North end of Gregory Street. Stated a resident from the area had shared a complaint to the Urbana Park District regarding cars parking in the cul-de-sac. Shared a map showing that Harvey Street, with a similar cul-de-sac, has an existing tow away zone at the end of it and the proposed tow away zone at the end of Gregory Street will be identical to it. Questions and discussion ensued.

Motion to approve to the consent agenda by CM Kolisetty, seconded by CM Bishop.

Voice Vote:

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

NAY: None.

- g. **Resolution No. 2024-07-052R:** A Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Intergovernmental Cost Sharing Agreement for an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency-Sponsored One-Day Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event – PW

Presented by Scott Tess, Sustainability & Resilience Officer. The Resolution would approve the execution of an intergovernmental cost sharing agreement for a 2024 household hazardous waste collection event sponsored by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). The IEPA is partnering with the City of Urbana, City of Champaign, Village of Savoy, and Champaign County to conduct an annual household hazardous waste

collection event which the City of Urbana would contribute 18.6% of the total cost, up to a maximum share of \$793.48. Scott Tess provided background on the household hazardous waste collection event that takes place annually as well as materials that classify as household hazardous waste. Stated that the IEPA is substantially funding this event and the primary cost for the municipalities is from the event management aspect. Clarified that there will be two golf carts for the entirety of the event for \$275 rather than \$275 for a single golf cart. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to approve to the consent agenda by CM Kolisetty, seconded by CM Quisenberry. Questions and discussion ensued.

Voice: Vote:

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

NAY: None.

7. Council Input and Communications

Mayor Marlin informed the community and Council that many vacancies remain on various Boards and Commissions, encouraging people to volunteer for those open positions. Stated the Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission, Building Safety Code Board of Appeals, Civilian Police Review Board, Community Development Commission, Design Review Board, Historic Preservation Commission, Human Relations Commission, Plan Commission, Sustainability Advisory Commission, and Tree Commission have seats open for volunteers. Stated more information can be found at <https://urbanaillinois.us/boards>. *Chair Wilken passed the Chair to CM Wu. CM Wilken* echoed that Councilmembers are willing to take the survey on Municipal Electric Aggregation and there is an interest in further discussing those topics in the next meeting. Shared curiosity for the Alternative Response Task Force and appreciation for the early notice for the discussion.

8. Adjournment

With no further business before the committee of the whole Chair Wu adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Seok Hyun Cho

Deputy City Clerk

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

Minutes approved: 8/5/24

Cho, Seok Hyun 'Rafael'

From: Kanittha Fay <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, July 1, 2024 6:56 PM
To: !City Council; Boone, Larry
Subject: Public Input - 7.1.24 Please read

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

Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Dear Mayor Marlin, City Council, City Clerk, Chief Boone, and Admin Team,

I would like to follow up and share with you information that I was not able to fit into the 3-minute input last week.

The School Resource Officer (SRO) at Urbana High School (UHS) is a success story that can be used as an example in our city and perhaps our nation in many different ways. I have attached **a photo** of a student who, on his own, walked to shake hands with Chief Boone during his turn to receive the Mayoral Recognition Program certificate during the celebration. (Please note- this program recognizes students from all backgrounds, including our life skills students who volunteer in our community and provide services.)

Our Urbana High School students have developed skills to interact and communicate with our police officers. **This is one of the best things we could offer to our youth.** As adults, we experience traumas from police which often from outside Urbana and project them onto each other and, sadly, onto our youth.

As someone who was repeatedly mistreated by police at an early age, I understand the fear and mistrust. It took me 25 years of professional experience working with police to start gaining appreciation and respect for law enforcement officers. Even though Urbana Police had kindly protected me during my time in Urbana, I did not fully understand the **healthy relationship between citizens and law enforcement officers** until I witnessed the UHS SRO interact with students, teachers, families, and volunteers.

I understand that not everyone has had the opportunity I had to witness this incredible change at the high school, so I urge you, **our elected officials**, to seek out and talk to our school district to learn more about this innovative change. By doing so, we can **flip the script and have a respectful and positive** working relationship with our law enforcement officers.

I will do my best to support Chief Boone and Urbana Police in **advocating for our youth and residents** to develop healthy relationships with our law enforcement officers.

I hope you join me.

Thank you,

Kanittha Fay

