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**DATE:** Monday, February 05, 2024  
**TIME:** 7 p.m.  
**PLACE:** 400 S. Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

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The City Council Committee of the Whole of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, February 05, 2024, at 8:27 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  
**\*CM PRESENT THROUGH REMOTE CALL**

**ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:** Carol Mitten, Elizabeth Hannan, Larry Boone, Andrea Ruedi, Matthew Bain, Demond Dade, Tim Cowan, Sanford Hess, William Kolschowsky, Tarek Azim

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Karen Simms

**Chair:** Christopher Evans, *Ward 2*

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

With a quorum present, CM Evans called the meeting of the Urbana City Council to order at 8:27 p.m.

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

None.

**3. Additions to the Agenda**

**Mayor Marlin** moved Ordinance No. 2024-02-005 under New Business to be introduced on 02-19-2024 instead of today.

#### 4. Public Input and Presentations

**a. Presentation: “How Do Communities Feel Safe?” - CM’s Evans and Wilken; Karen Simms, Executive Director of the Trauma & Resilience Initiative**

Presented by Karen Simms the Executive Director of the Trauma & Resilience Initiative. Suggested that during searching for alternatives to expanding law enforcement, the City of Urbana should consider comprehensive, holistic solutions. Stated that community building, equity, and collective healing strategies are important to bringing structural change toward a safer community. Spoke on how methods such as therapy or interventions that target individuals, while they work great, are not sustainable as anti-poverty programs, employment programs, community building programs, and enhancing parks and recreation when it comes to supporting the welfare of a community. Stated that data shows how building community connectiveness is what helps communities in feeling safe. Pointed to how lasting change within communities must come through services that assist whole families so that there can be sustainable change for youth. Reminded City Council that in order for their messaging to be effective, their strategies and actions must be aligned with what they say. Questions and discussion followed.

**b. Public Input**

None.

#### 5. Staff Report

None.

#### 6. New Business

**a. Resolution No. 2024-02-002R: Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement (to accept a Justice Agreement Grant) - PD**

Presented by Matthew Bain from the Police Department. Resolution would accept the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant award through an Intergovernmental Agreement. Would use the entirety of \$15,235.52 received from the grant to off-set the estimated \$27,857.14 that it would cost to complete the installation project for new squad car cameras. Followed by questions and discussion.

Motion to approve to the consent agenda by CM Wu, seconded by CM Bishop  
Voice Vote:

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

**NAY:** None

**b. Ordinance No. 2024-02-004R: An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Budget Amendment #6 - Omnibus) - HRF**

Presented by Elizabeth Hannan the Human Resources and Finance Director. Ordinance sought to amend the Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Budget by a \$5.17 million increase in the construction and design budget for two new fire stations in addition to other adjustments. The other adjustments accept the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant of \$15,236 for the City of Urbana Police Department, to be used for installation costs of new squad car cameras; for the Fire Department, a total of \$78,700 of unspent training funds from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant would be carried forward to the FT2024 budget, in

addition there is also a \$59,000 increase in the Fire Department uniform budget; the Public Works Department proposed a reallocation of \$239,000 in salary funds from vacant positions to fund \$99,000 for systematic tree pruning and on-call arbor services, \$50,000 toward a grants consultant to pursue state or federal infrastructure grants, \$15,000 to purchase mobile tablets for asset management software use in the field, \$25,000 for CADD procurement software optimization, and \$50,000 toward additional electrical traffic signal on-call services for repairs; Bridge Maintenance Project staff proposed a reallocation of \$30,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund, specifically the bridge improvement fund, to fund a new City-wide Storage Rooftop Solar project; an additional proposal for the Capital Improvement Funds & TIF would fund \$47,667 toward an expansion of design services for the Country Club Road and Perkins Road Improvement Project; City of Urbana staff proposed a \$300,000 budget for a contingency to address significant price fluctuations in replacement costs from the Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Fund. Questions and discussion ensued.

Motion to approve to the regular agenda by CM Quisenberry and CM Kolisetty  
Voice Vote:

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

**NAY:** Evans

- c. ~~Ordinance No. 2024-02-005: An Ordinance Repealing Urbana City Code Chapter 2, Article IV, Division 5, Section 2-95 (Market at the Square Advisory Board) - CD~~

Moved to 02-19-2024 Committee of the Whole.

- d. **Ordinance No. 2024-02-006: An Ordinance Vacating an Alley (North/South Alley between 704 and 706 East High Street) - PW**

Presented by Tim Cowan the Public Works Director. Ordinance proposed a vacation of an unmaintained, unpaved alley 12 feet in width located between 704 and 706 East High Street. Pictures and diagrams of the alley were shared by the presenter. The vacation would serve to remove the potential burden and costs of maintenance activities along this right-of-way. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion to approve to the consent agenda by CM Bishop, seconded by CM Wu  
Voice Vote:

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

**NAY:** None

- e. **Ordinance No. 2024-02-007: An Ordinance Vacating an Alley (North/South Alley in the Block Bounded by North Webber Street, Railroad (to the North), North Lynn Street, and the East/West Alley North of East Main Street) - PW**

Presented by Tim Cowan the Public Works Director. Ordinance proposed a vacation of a 12 foot wide North/South alley located in the block bounded by North Webber Street, the Railroad (to the north), North Lynn Street, and the East/West alley (to the south), North of East Main Street. The vacation would serve to remove the potential burden and costs of maintenance activities along this right-of-way. Pictures and diagrams of the alley were presented. Mayor Marlin noted that the adjacent property owner, Chris Evans, is not CM Evans. Discussion ensued.

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

Voice Vote:

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

**NAY:** None

- f. **Ordinance No. 2024-02-008: An Ordinance Vacating an Alley (North/South Alley West of 606 East Green Street) - PW**

Presented by Tim Cowan the Public Works Director. Ordinance proposed a vacation of an unmaintained, non-functional 12 foot wide North/South alley located along the West side of 606 East Green Street. The vacation would serve to remove the potential burden and costs of maintenance activities along this right-of-way. Pictures and diagrams of the alley were shown. Questions and discussion ensued.

Motion to approve to the consent agenda by CM Wu, seconded by CM Kolisetty

Voice Vote:

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

**NAY:** None

- g. **Resolution No. 2024-02-003R: A Resolution Approving a Right-of-way License Agreement with Experience Champaign-Urbana (African American Heritage Trail Interpretive Sign Adjacent to 1205 North Goodwin Avenue) - PW**

Presented by Tim Cowan the Public Works Director. Resolution would authorize 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 (N. Goodwin Avenue) adjacent to 1205 N. Goodwin Avenue that would commemorate the African American Heritage Trail in the Dr. Ellis neighborhood. Pictures and diagrams regarding the sign, placement, and area used were presented. Questions and discussion ensued.

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

Voice Vote:

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

**NAY:** None

## 7. Council Input and Communications

**CM Quisenberry** praised feedback from community. Asked City Council to consider language used by other cities who have passed a ceasefire resolution regarding Israel and Palestine. Noted that votes on ceasefire resolutions have been contentious, cited tie-breaker by the Mayor of the City of Chicago. Pointed to 4-3 vote in Iowa City that had modified language regarding calls for hostage release, cessation of violence from both Israel and Hamas. Encouraged City Council to do due diligence when considering wording for a ceasefire resolution. **CM Hursey** commented on presentation by Karen Simms, wished that she had shared the PowerPoint presentation. Summarized presentation in her own words, stating that people often talk, but have actions so loud that people cannot hear what they are saying. Urged City Council to keep the lessons from the presentation by Karen Simms in mind while moving forward.

## 8. Adjournment

With no further business before the committee of the whole Chair Evans adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Seok Hyun Cho

Deputy City Clerk

This meeting was video recorded and is viewable [on-demand HERE](#). **Minutes approved: 03-18-2024**