
DATE: Monday, November 6, 2023
TIME: 6:00 pm
PLACE: 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

The City Council Committee of The Whole of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, November 6, 2023, at 6:00pm.

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

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Bourema Ouedraogo, Carol Mitten, Dave Wesner, Robert Kouzmanoff, Elizabeth Hannan, Carla Boyd, Larry Boone, Rich Surles, Melissa Hendrian, Will Kolschowsky, Dave Wesner, Breaden Belcher, Kimberly Smith, Demond Dade, Tim Cowan, Matt Baine, Cory Koker, Mike Cervantes, Dave Smysor, Adam Marcotte

OTHERS PRESENT: Kevin James, Facilitator; Jeffrey Trask PHD, C-U Reparations Coalition;

Chair: *Shirese Hursey, Ward 3*

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

With a quorum present, Chair Hursey called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 6:23 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

07-24-2023; 08-21-2023; 09-25-2023

Motion to approve the minutes by CM Wu and seconded by CM Quisenberry.

Voice vote:

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

NAY: None

3. Additions to the Agenda

CM Wilken asked that items G and H be switched so that Council Input and Communications comes before the Discussion on the Mayor & Council Strategic Goals.

4. Public Input and Presentations

a. Public Input

Joan Budde expressed concerns about the proposed development before the City regarding a self-storage facility bordering the Berringer Commons subdivision. *Elderess Melinda Carr* expressed concerns about the proposed development of Hope Village bordering the Carver Park Neighborhood and announced the intention to submit a valid petition of protest. *Reverend Kent Redmen* expressed concerns about the development of Hope Village and its impact on Carver Drive and Dorie Miller Drive. Marion Harrington expressed concerns

about the utilization of Carver Drive for the Hope Village Development.

b. Reparations for African Americans in Champaign County - CU Reparations Coalition, CM's Evans & Wilken

CM Evans provided an Introduction for Dr. Jeffrey Trask of the C-U Reparations Coalition. Dr. Trask shared his professional background and relevant experience. Dr. Trask explained the benefits of reparations to the community. Dr. Trask continued with a presentation about how other municipalities have raised community awareness of racial disparities from inequities as well as how these can be addressed through reparations. Questions and discussion ensued.

5. Staff Report

a. Presentation: Crime Update - PD

Presented by Chief Larry Boone, Deputy Chief Richard Surles and Crime Analyst Melissa Hendrian. Chief Boone provided an introduction as well as the importance of this data and its impact on the Department. Hendrian reviewed the crime statistics up to November 1st of 2023 and explained how these offenses are assessed and categorized for statistical analysis. Chief Boone shared how the data applies to the City as it would appear on a City-Wide map. Deputy Chief Surles explained the steps and plans of the Urbana Police Department to address the community safety concerns identified in the crime analysis. Questions and discussion ensued.

6. New Business

a. Resolution No. 2023-11-088R: A Resolution Estimating the Tax Levy (Fiscal Year 2023-2024) - HRF

Presented by Human Resources and Finance Director Elizabeth Hannan and Deputy Finance Director Robert Kouzmanoff. Item estimates the Tax Levy and authorizes the City to start the process for levying taxes for fiscal year 2023-2024. Questions and discussion ensued.

Motion to approve to the consent agenda by CM Wu and seconded by CM Kolisetty.

Vote by roll call:

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

NAY: None

b. Ordinance No. 2023-11-040: An Ordinance Amending Urbana City Code Chapter Three, Section 3-43 (Maintaining the number of Class R&T-1 liquor licenses for Davis Candlin LLC d/b/a Boomerangs, 1309 East Washington Street, Urbana, Ill.) - Exec

Presented by Mayor Marlin. Item authorizes the transfer of Liquor License from the building owners to the new manager of Boomerangs.

Motion to approve to the consent agenda by CM Quisenberry and seconded by CM Bishop.

Vote by roll call:

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

NAY: None

c. Ordinance No. 2023-11-041: An Ordinance Vacating a Street (Boyden Street, east of Cunningham Avenue, between Oakland Avenue and Kerr Avenue) - PW

Presented by Tim Cowan the Public Works Director. Item allows for the Boyden Street section east of Cunningham Avenue and between Oakland Avenue and Kerr Avenue to be vacated by the City and returned to the businesses most proximal. Item requires 3/4 of council members approval for passage. Questions and discussion ensued.

Motion to approve to the consent agenda by CM Quisenberry and seconded by CM Bishop.

Vote by roll call:

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

NAY: None

d. Resolution No. 2023-11-089R: A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Illinois Department of Human Services Grant Agreement – Supporting Municipalities for Asylum Seeker Services Agreement – Cunningham Township Supervisor’s Office - CD

Presented by Breaden Belcher the Grants Manager. Item authorizes the City of Urbana awarding Cunningham Township Supervisor’s Office the Illinois Department of Human Services grant for Supporting Municipalities for Asylum Seeker Services. Questions and discussion ensued.

Motion to combine items 4-6 in omnibus by CM Wu and seconded by CM Kolisetty.

Vote by roll call:

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

NAY: None

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

Vote by roll call:

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

NAY: None

e. Resolution No. 2023-11-090R: A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Illinois Department of Human Services Grant Agreement – Supporting Municipalities for Asylum Seeker Services Agreement – New American Welcome Center - CD

Presented by Breaden Belcher the Grants Manager. Item authorizes the City of Urbana awarding the New American Welcome Center the Illinois Department of Human Services grant for Supporting Municipalities for Asylum Seeker Services. Questions and discussion ensued.

Approved in omnibus.

f. **Resolution No. 2023-11-091R: A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Illinois Department of Human Services Grant Agreement – Supporting Municipalities for Asylum Seeker Services Agreement – The Refugee Center - CD**

Presented by Breaden Belcher the Grants Manager. Item authorizes the City of Urbana awarding the Refugee Center the Illinois Department of Human Services grant for Supporting Municipalities for Asylum Seeker Services. Questions and discussion ensued.

Approved in omnibus.

7. Council Input and Communications

CM Quisenberry thanked the Urbana Police Department for the Community Safety listening session held in ward 7. *CM Kolisetty* announced combined listening session for Community Safety for Ward 1 and 4 on November 9th. *CM Wilken* ward 6 listening community safety session has not yet been scheduled, shared information about the landscape recycling center pumpkin smash event, announced that at the November 20th meeting she intends to sponsor a resolution requesting the Zoning Administrator begin a rezoning application for the High Cross Road property. *Mayor Marlin* addressed previously expressed concerns about the impact of parking on Dorie Miller Drive and Carver Park drive and shared that there will not be a significant change in traffic and that the City of Champaign controls the parking regulations on those streets. *CM Hursey* expressed concerns about the access to the proposed Hope Village Development via Carver Drive and stressed the impact of any additional traffic to the community. Thanked UPD for their Community Safety listening session in ward 3 and shared additional education opportunities regarding Dr. Trask's earlier presentation.

8. Discussion

a. Facilitated Discussion - Mayor & Council Strategic Goals Update

City Administrator Carol Mitten provided an introduction to the discussion item and shared that many of the previously set strategic goals have been met and it is now time for the Council to revise and refocus the remaining goals. Facilitator Kevin James shared 4 questions he tasked the body with addressing in their teams. Clerk Sandefur explained the housekeeping and meeting logistics. Council members and the Mayor were to break into groups of two by ward number to then form a team with City staff at four separate tables in the corners of the Council Chambers. No more than two elected officials were permitted at any one table. Each table was instructed to not speak to other tables so as to ensure that the deliberative process could be preserved and that the elected body would not discuss City business in an inappropriate manner. These deliberations for each group occurred simultaneously during a recess work shop and the groups were instructed at the end of the 45 minutes to come back to the dais and as a large group discuss their team's responses to each of the 4 questions.

Motion to enter recess for 10-minute facilities break followed by a 45 minutes workshop as described above by CM Quisenberry and seconded by CM Wu.

Voice vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Kolisetty, Bishop

NAY: None

Recessed at 8:50 PM.

Motion to return from recess by CM Wu and seconded by CM Bishop.

Returned at 9:46 pm.

Kevin James walked the Council through a guided discussion and asked each team to have one elected official report out on their team discussions on the asked questions. Following the discussion of each question the below consensus response was voted up or down via straw poll.

Question 1: Shall the revised Council goals exceed the current term and go through to December of 2025? The council consensus following discussion and straw poll resulted in 7 thumbs up in the affirmative for the revised goals extending through to December of 2025.

Question 2: How was the previous process and are there any recommended changes? Council did not take a straw poll but did reach consensus in a desire for greater collaboration in future goal setting with mid-level management staff to ensure those who are executing these tasks are informing the process.

Question 3: Are the 4 categories of strategic area previously set in the existing council goals still valid? Following discussion, the council came to a consensus via unanimous straw poll that all 4 categories of strategic area were still valid with 8 thumbs up in the affirmative.

Question 4: Allowed an opportunity to express any changes or new strategies to the existing 4 categories of strategic area.

For strategic area 1 Public Safety and Wellbeing the council reached a consensus via straw poll that they did not want to make any changes to the previous goals for this strategic area established in the last set of Council goals via 8 thumbs up.

For strategic area 2 Housing the council reached a consensus via straw poll to keep the remaining goals not yet achieved from the previous set of goals and be open to the addition of future goals to be added to this strategic area with 8 thumbs up.

For strategic area 3 Infrastructure the council reached a consensus via straw poll that they would like to amend the wording from Green Infrastructure to be Sustainable Infrastructure but to otherwise retain all of the strategies previously adopted in the previous council goals with 8 thumbs up.

For strategic area 4 Economic Health the council reached consensus via straw poll that they would like to reword the first two strategies from the previous set of goals and were open to the addition of future goals to this strategic area via 7 thumbs up.

Kevin James advised that further details of possible new strategies will be workshopped in future goal setting discussions by the Council and that a new resolution will come before Council to adopt these revised goals.

9. Adjournment

With no further business before the committee of the whole Chair Evans adjourned the meeting at 10:26 p.m.

Darcy Sandefur

Recording Secretary

This meeting was video recorded and is viewable [on-demand HERE](#). **Minutes approved: 1-16-2024**