
DATE: Monday, March 17, 2025
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: 400 S. Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

The City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in special session Monday, March 17, 2025, at 7:01 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

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: CM Shirese Hursey, CM James Quisenberry

STAFF PRESENT: Bourema Ouedraogo, Carol Mitten, Larry Boone, Matt Roeschley, Elizabeth Hannan

OTHERS PRESENT: Yesenia Adrianzen, Student at University of Illinois Urbana Champaign (UIUC); Elise Koh, Student at UIUC; Jimena Martinez, Student at UIUC

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

With a quorum present, Mayor Marlin called the special meeting of the Urbana City Council to order at 7:01p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

a. 02-10-2025 City Council Minutes

Motion to approve by CM Wu, seconded by CM Kolisetty.

Voice Vote:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken

NAY: None.

3. Additions to the Agenda

None.

4. Presentations and Public Input

a. Beyond Plastics – UIUC Environmental Leadership Students

Presented by Yesenia Adrianzen, Student at University of Illinois Urbana Champaign (UIUC); Elise Koh, Student at UIUC; Jimena Martinez, Student at UIUC. Yesenia Adrianzen spoke in support of implementing a Plastic Bag Tax in the City of Urbana based on the health and environmental impacts of plastics. Shared the UIUC Environmental Leadership Students have researched the negative health impacts of plastics in collaboration with the national Beyond Plastics organization who advocate for regulations and bans on plastics. Elise Koh spoke on the dangers of exposure to plastic and their near permanent existence in the environment once created. Stated plastics have been detected within the human body in addition to the highest

and lowest points of the world. Jimena Martinez stated plastics pose a danger to humanity as it introduces cancer-causing carcinogenic chemicals from the production process into the body. Stated the chemicals can further disrupt the endocrine system, affecting the body both physically and neurologically. Yesenia Adrianzen elaborated on the environmental degradation caused by the introduction of plastics into ecological systems. Elise Koh stated the City of Urbana acknowledges the dangers of plastics through the Plastic Bag Tax and studies have shown the impacts of the tax on consumers is minimal. Jimena Martinez stated the Plastic Bag Tax is an opportunity to listen to requests from constituents. Yesenia Adrianzen requested Council to direct City Staff to continue the development and implementation of the Plastic Bag Tax.

b. Public Input

Robert Michael Doyle reminded the City of Urbana for its 50th anniversary of the approval of Ordinance No. 7576-43: An Ordinance on Human Rights which supported gay rights before the State of Illinois, or the Federal Government had codified support for gay rights. Shared his beginnings in queer advocacy in 1975 and his work in supporting the passage of the City of Champaign's Human Rights Ordinance in 1977. Stated the City of Champaign's Human Rights Ordinance protected residents on the basis of their gender identity, making it the first City in Illinois and the third or fourth City in the nation to protect residents on the basis of gender identity. Stated he then spoke before Urbana City Council to advocate for the passage of a similar Ordinance, which was then later approved. Hoped for the City of Urbana to show pride in their accomplishments and for the 50th anniversary to be celebrated. Called for the resistance of the ongoing rise of fascism in the Federal Administration through the celebration of that which they hate. Announced his celebration of the 50th anniversary of coming out as gay will be held on April 9th at Quality Bar in downtown Champaign. **Madison** read a letter on the behalf of Dr. Anita Chan in support of Ordinance No. 2024-12-042. Shared the Ordinance is a commonsense proposal to improve transparency, protect civil liberties, protect due process, and balance the authority of the City against new public safety technologies. The letter stated surveillance technologies are broad in their applications, but they serve to invasively observe personal data and identifying information. The letter stated the technologies exceed the public's vision of what it means to police in public spaces and infringes on due process. The letter continued, stating the Ordinance seeks to minimize the impact of surveillance technology on the lives of residents while also giving Council, and the public, an opportunity to provide input on the use of the technologies and informs the community through an annual reporting process.

5. Council Input and Communications

CM Wilken thanked the public for their attendance and the UIUC Environmental Leadership group for their presentation. Voiced appreciation for the public input from the Community Data Clinic and requested a copy of the letter to be emailed to Council if possible. Thanked everyone who has reviewed and worked on Ordinance No. 2024-12-042. Stated the development of the Ordinance would benefit from analyzing similar Ordinances, receiving more expert input, hearing from the community on what they would like to see, and completing the transition to new City leadership. Stated the relationship with the current City administration has been uncollaborative and hoped for the momentum to continue on its development with the potential for the Ordinance to be further deferred to return after the transition to new leadership. **Mayor Marlin** stated City Staff is continuing to research Ordinance No. 2024-12-042 and discussions will continue in the upcoming Committee of the Whole meeting on April 7, 2025.

6. Reports of Standing Committees

None.

7. **Committee of the Whole** (*Council Member Christopher Evans, Ward 2*)

1. Consent Agenda

None.

2. Regular Agenda

- a. **Ordinance No. 2025-03-007:** An Ordinance Amending the Annual Budget Ordinance (Budget Amendment #6 – HRF)

The Ordinance amends the FY2025 Annual Budget to adjust small scheduled equipment budget adjustments, budget transfers, and capital improvement expenditures.

Motion to approve by CM Evans, seconded by CM Wu.

Roll Call Vote:

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

NAY: None.

- b. **Ordinance No. 2025-03-008:** An Ordinance Providing the for Issuance of Not to Exceed \$9,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2025 – HRF

The Ordinance approves the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$9,000,000 for fire station construction in alignment with the approved Annual Budget and Capital Improvement Plan.

Motion to approve by CM Evans, seconded by CM Wu.

Roll Call Vote:

AYE: Wu, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken

NAY: Evans

8. **Reports of Special Committees**

None.

9. **Reports of Officers**

None.

10. **Adjournment**

With no further business before the Urbana City Council Mayor Marlin adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Seok Hyun Cho

Deputy City Clerk

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

Minutes approved: 4/14/25