
DATE: Monday, July 24, 2023
TIME: 7:00 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, July 24, 2023, at 7:00pm.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin; Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk;, CM Christopher Evans, CM Shirese Hursey*, CM Jaya Kolisetty, CM Grace Wilken, CM Chaundra Bishop
*Denotes present after roll

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: CM Maryalice Wu, CM James Quisenberry

STAFF PRESENT: Bourema Ouedraogo, Carol Mitten, Dave Wesner, Elizabeth Hannan, Alyana Robinson, Kimberly Smith, Darrius White, Stepheny McMahon, Kevin Garcia, Breaden Belcher, Tim Cowan, Scott Tess

OTHERS PRESENT: Melissa Cartwright, Executive Director CU at Home;

Chair: *Jaya Kolisetty, Ward 4*

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

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

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

05-01-2023 Public Hearing and 05-01-2023 Meeting Minutes
Motion to approve by CM Bishop and seconded by CM Evans.
Voice vote:
AYE: Evans, Hursey, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken
NAY: None

3. Additions to the Agenda

Marlin shared that the Use of Force report will be rescheduled to a future meeting.

4. Public Input and Presentations

a. Public Input

Rich Castle expressed a desire for more information to be provided to the residents before the homeless shelter is approved. *Rashad Basheer* spoke in support of the Hope Village development. *Commissioner Turnbull* spoke in support of the Hope Village development. *Jennifer Puttman* provided reassurance about the Hope Village development and encouraged the Council to approve it. *Allan Max Axelrod* spoke about a disconnect in the communication between residents and project partners on the Hope Village development. *Jonah* expressed concerns about the pending men's homeless shelter in the neighborhood.

Elderess Melinda Carr read a letter from the president of the Carver Park Neighborhood Association in opposition to the Hope Village development and also voiced her own concerns and opposition to the Hope Village development. *Kayla Johnson* the director of Hospice Hearts expressed concerns about safety of their volunteers being in proximity to the proposed men's shelter. *Anna* asked that the neighborhood surrounding the men's shelter be consulted further about this proposal. *Jackelyn Curry* shared a correction to the plan commission meeting minutes. *David Perron* a volunteer with hospice hearts shared his concerns about the proximity of the men's shelter to the animal shelter. *Serenity* expressed that gun violence needs to be addressed. *Lisa Gigots* spoke in support of the Hope Village development and provided clarity about the intended purpose of the project. *CM Evans* read a letter of support for Hope Village and the proposed Men's Shelter from *Danielle Chynoweth*. *CM Evans* read a letter written by *Bridget Pieke* the owner of *Close Knit yarn shop*, in opposition to the Men's Shelter. *CM Evans* read a letter asking the Council to take more time before deciding on the Men's Shelter by *Julie Latt*. *CM Hursey* read a letter from *Rev. Dr. Ricky E Parks* in support of the Hope Village development. *CM Evans* read a letter on behalf of *Charlette P* expressing concerns about the proximity of the proposed men's shelter to the existing animal rescue. *CM Wilken* read a letter on behalf of *Claudia Lenhoff* in support of the Hope Village development. *CM Wilken* read on behalf of *Wanda E Ward* in support of the Hope Village development. *CM Evans* read a letter on behalf of *Katie Reetz* expressing concerns and opposing the proposed men's shelter. *CM Evans* read a letter on behalf of *Nikki Gentry* expressing concerns about the proposed men's shelter. *Sarah Nixon* spoke in support of the men's shelter proposal and addressed some of the sentiments expressed by other speakers. *Mayor Marlin* read a letter on behalf of *Mohamad* the owner of the *World Market and Strawberry Fields Café* in support of the *Hotel Royer* agreement. *Mayor Marlin* read a letter on behalf of *Darren Riggs* in support of the *Hotel Royer* agreement. *Darlene Bailey* expressed concerns about the infrastructure in the neighborhood surrounding the Hope Village development.

b. Proclamation in Memory of Kristian "KP" Philpotts

Mayor Marlin read a joint proclamation with the cities of Champaign, Urbana, Bloomington, Charleston, and Normal in memory of Kristian "KP" Philpotts in recognition of his 30th birthday.

c. Presentation: Public Realm Summer Activation

Presented by Steph McMahon the economic development director. McMahon shared staff efforts towards better utilization of downtown spaces such as a downtown stage for performances, increasing the benches downtown, increasing the number of the Curbanas, custom built picnic tables, durable outdoor games, new light post banners, and an asphalt mural. Questions and discussion ensued.

~~**d. Presentation: Use of Force Report -- PD**~~

Moved to future meeting, see additions to the agenda.

5. Staff Report

Mayor Marlin reminded the public about the oath of office for the newly hired Police Chief next Monday.

6. New Business

a. **Ordinance No. 2023-07-021: An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Budget Amendment #9 - Omnibus) - HRF**

Presented by Alyana Robinson the financial analyst and Elizabeth Hannan the Human Resources and Finance Director. Item revises the annual budget for FY 2023 to reflect previously encumbered funds based on incorrect estimates including the City facilities remodel and the ILEAS project. Questions and discussion ensued.

Motion to approve to the regular agenda by CM Bishop and seconded by CM Hursey.

Vote by roll call:

AYE: Evans, Hursey, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken

NAY: None

b. **Resolution No. 2023-07-074R: A Resolution Authorizing City Intervention in Pending Property Tax Assessment Appeals Before the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board (Hampton Inn, PTAB Docket #2022-02633) - Exec**

Presented by Carol Mitten the City Administrator. Items authorize the City to appeal the assessed value of properties that exceed a difference of \$100,000.

Motion to combine items B-D in an omnibus by CM Wilken and seconded by CM Bishop.

Vote by roll call:

AYE: Evans, Hursey, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken

NAY: None

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

Vote by roll call:

AYE: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Bishop, Wilken

NAY: None

c. **Resolution No. 2023-07-075R: A Resolution Authorizing City Intervention in Pending Property Tax Assessment Appeals Before the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board (Hunsinger Enterprises, PTAB Docket #2022-02834) - Exec**

Presented by Carol Mitten the City Administrator. Items authorize the City to appeal the assessed value of properties that exceed a difference of \$100,000.

Approved in omnibus.

d. **Resolution No. 2023-07-076R: A Resolution Authorizing City Intervention in Pending Property Tax Assessment Appeals Before the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board (Willowbrook, PTAB Docket #2022-02875) - Exec**

Presented by Carol Mitten the City Administrator. Items authorize the City to appeal the assessed value of properties that exceed a difference of \$100,000.

Approved in omnibus.

- e. **Resolution No. 2023-07-077R: A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Urbana HOME Consortium Subrecipient Agreement (C-U at Home, LLC – Men’s Non-Congregate Mid-Barrier Shelter HOME ARP FY 2021/2022) - CD**

Presented by Breaden Belcher the interim grants manager. Item authorizes a grant agreement between the City and CU at Home to utilize HOME ARP funds to purchase the property to be utilized as a transitional mid-barrier shelter to house 8 clients. Questions and discussion ensued. Melissa Cartwright the executive director of CU at Home assisted in responding to questions.

Motion to keep in Committee of the Whole for further discussion by CM Evans and seconded by CM Wilken.

Vote by roll call:

AYE: Evans

NAY: Hursey, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken

Motion failed.

Motion to approve and send to the regular agenda by CM Wilken and seconded by CM Bishop.

Voice vote:

AYE: Evans, Hursey, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken

NAY: None

- f. **Ordinance No. 2023-07-022: An Ordinance Amending a Redevelopment Agreement with Icon Hospitality, LLC – CD**

Presented by Steph McMahon the economic development coordinator with support from the Hotel Royer leadership team. Due to the unforeseen issues with supply chain disruptions the team is requesting an extension to ensure the project is fully completed in line with the agreement. Questions and discussion ensued.

Motion to send to the regular agenda by CM Wilken and seconded by CM Hursey.

Vote by roll call:

AYE: Evans, Hursey, Kolisetty, Wilken

NAY: Bishop

- g. **Ordinance No. 2023-07-023: An Ordinance Approving a Preliminary Planned Unit Development (Hope Village - Plan Case 2476-PUD-23) – CD**

Presented by Kevin Garcia the planner. Item authorizes the preliminary planned residential unit development of Hope Village in collaboration with the University of Illinois, Carle Health, and Champaign County Healthcare Consumers. Plan commission voted to send unanimously to Council with conditions. Garcia shared the location map and site plan. Garcia shared a tentative timeline. Questions and discussion ensued.

Motion to send to the regular agenda by CM Bishop and seconded by CM Evans.

Vote by roll call:

AYE: Evans, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken

NAY: Hursey

**CM Hursey left the meeting.*

7. Discussion

a. Single-Use Bag Tax

Presented by Tim Cowan the Public Works Director and Scott Tess the Sustainability and Resiliency Officer. Mitten provided an overview of the staff projects that in the pursuit of implementing a single-use bag tax the city would have to put less time towards other programs. Tess shared information about the current efforts towards climate action and expressed that there is not currently additional staff time to put towards new projects without sacrificing other projects. Questions and discussion ensued. Council directed staff to provide information about what needs to be done in order to accommodate this for a future budget.

8. Council Input and Communications

None.

9. Adjournment

With no further business before the committee of the whole Chair Bishop adjourned the meeting at 10:56 p.m.

Darcy Sandefur

Recording Secretary

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

Minutes approved: