

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

To the legal voters, residents of the Town of Cunningham in the County of Champaign and State of Illinois, that the Annual Town Meeting of said Town will take place on

Tuesday, April 8, 2025

Being the second Tuesday of said month

At the hour of 6:00 p.m. | City of

Urbana Council Chambers

400 South Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

For the transaction of the miscellaneous business of the said township; and after a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as it may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting; and to consider and decide the following:

AGENDA

1. Call to Order by Town Clerk
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. April 9, 2024
3. Adoption of Public Input Guidelines
4. Election and Oath of Moderator
5. Public Participation
6. Program Updates from Cunningham Township Supervisor's and Assessor's Office
7. Reports of Officers
8. Annual Financial Statement of Supervisor (Fiscal Year 2023-2024)
9. Time and Place of Next Annual Town Meeting – [6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 14, 2026]
10. Adjournment

TOWNSHIP ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT can be found -
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1JuAeKOvFAvn1tkkKPUSE5V9jPQp6IUHk>

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ELECTORS OF THE
TOWN OF CUNNINGHAM
MINUTES**

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

The Annual Meeting of the Town of Cunningham was held at 6:00 p.m. April 9, 2024, in the Urbana City Council Chambers at 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, Illinois 61801.

CALL TO ORDER

The Town Clerk, Darcy E. Sandefur, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Elected Officials present: Danielle Chynoweth, Township Supervisor. Electors present: Bryan Maxwell, Mark Enslin, Michael Dzionot, Sana Sabowala, Catherine Winter, Laura Pensel, Maryalice Wu, Geri Theobald, Joe Miebach, Dennis Sears, Abigail Smith, Chris Evans, Rohn Koester, Ben Joselyn, Paul Kotheimer, Teresa Barnes, Jordan Sickle, Katherine Popete, Allan Axelrod, Allen McGinty, Aleksander Stolyar, Nancy Westcott, Laura Haber, Bram Osterhout, Alice Lusebrink, Rebecca Obochowski, Donald Uchtmann, Scout Dossak, Timothy Chen, Stephen Maguire, Derek Briles, Yarden Ashur, Audrey Ishii, John C Marlin, Joshua Woolf-Senoff, Lyudmick Stolyar, James Kilgore, Sheridan Sullivan, Abigail Goldman-Nagel, Luis Alcantara, Lilah Leopold, Michael Baldwin, Lance Pittman, Karla Sanabria, Lesley Owens, Dyson Singer, Judith Bach, Lilyan Levant, Eileen Kohen, Ira M. Levenson, Ehud Yairi, Diane Gottheil, Esther Patt, Nancy Uchtmann, Lauren Senoff, Inga Karliner, Jon Thaler, Ben Wells, Benjamin Theobald, Faith Ryan, Tegan Doherty, Tom Bowler, James Quisenberry, Samuel Froiland, Marc Snir, Carol Inskeep, Lisa Chason, Matthew Murrey, Timothy Manning, Margaret (Peggy) Patton, Julia Freeman, Jeffrey Glassman, Nicholas Olsen, Barry Isralewitz, Janis Grace, Era Ginsberg, Ivan Velkovsky, Daniel Folger, Gwyneth Krepcio, Abby Bubrow, Jonathan Barnes, Arthur Paganini, Alexis Rivera, Mallika Ramachandran, Jane McClintock, Julian Barbieri, Shauna Miller, Lillian Wright, Grace Wilken, Penny Hanna, Deborah Hollenberg, Shzana Palaska, Theodore Gray, Matthew Scener, Maayan Weinberg, Songyu Lu, Lexie Vogel (Alexandra), Jennifer Goodine, David Cisneros, Taylor Kosiah, Gabriel Nardie, Karl Weingartner, Marcey Goldstein, Diane Wolfe Marlin, Bruce Michelson, Theresa Michelson, Colin Dodson, Michael Woolf, Jason Reinglass, Rachel Strasser, Margaret Miller, Farah Abi-Akar, Julie Watkins, Frances Harris, Alvaro Pizarro Vallejos, Amy Byman, Maxwell Haynes.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Town Clerk Sandefur called for the approval of the minutes of the April 11, 2023 Annual Town Minutes. Motion was made by Elector Chynoweth and seconded by Elector Froiland for the Annual Minutes be approved. Minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

ADOPTION OF PUBLIC INPUT GUIDELINES

Town Clerk Sandefur called for the adoption of public input guidelines, identical to those appended to City Council agendas. Motion was made by Elector Chynoweth and seconded by Elector Briles to adopt the proposed public input guidelines as amended. Questions and discussion ensued. Motion passed by a unanimous display of cards.

Motion to amend the motion to include the proposed rules read by Elector Chynoweth where 1) Any qualified voter can speak once per agenda item for up to 3 minutes, 2) Any qualified voter may submit their ballot to the clerk from any time after the motion is made and seconded until discussion is closed and voting time is ended, 3) Public input, open to non-residents and non-voters as well, shall be moved to the end of the meeting and is limited to 3 minutes per person for up to no longer than 1 hour with written input being accepted and published as part of public record by Elector Patt, seconded by Elector Chynoweth. Questions and discussion followed. Motion passed by a majority display of cards.

ELECTION OF MODERATOR

Town Clerk Sandefur called for nominations from the floor for the electors to select a moderator from the electors in attendance. Elector Chynoweth nominated from the floor Mark Enslin to serve as moderator, seconded by Elector Gottheil. Mark Enslin accepted the call to moderate this Annual Meeting. Elector Chynoweth spoke on Mark Enslin's experiences and merits relevant to serving as moderator. Town Clerk Sandefur called for any further nominations from the floor, seeing none, the nomination was closed. Motion passed by a unanimous display of cards.

OATH OF MODERATOR

Town Clerk Sandefur proceeded to administer the Oath of Office to Moderator Enslin.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Moved to the end of the meeting.

PROGRAM UPDATES FROM CUNNINGHAM TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR'S AND ASSESSORS' OFFICE

Presented by Danielle Chynoweth, Cunningham Township Supervisor. Supervisor Chynoweth advised that she would also be presenting the annual financial statement.

Last year the General Assistance program expended \$249,479.46 supporting 149 households. 159 households were supported through the Rental Assistance program totaling \$224,703.55. Stated 82 households were served through the Street Outreach program totaling \$3,821.51. Stated 27 households received support from the emergency housing program. Stated 29

households including 58 children were supported through the Subsidized Housing program, totaling \$36,136.85.

\$22,680 was expended to provide food support in partnership with the Channing Murray Foundation, Hope Food Pantry, Wesley Food Pantry, and Solidarity Gardens. The food support programming helped deliver 398 buckets of food and 4,010.5 lbs. of produce so 469 adults and 105 children were served.

Stated 73 individuals were served through the Transportation Support program, totaling to \$7,957.99. Shared that the Digital Inclusion program was able to assist 78 individuals. Stated 279 households were supported with utility bill assistance totaling \$122,366. Stated the Angel Donor fund brought in \$33,000 in donations from 56 unique donors.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF SUPERVISOR (FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023)

Supervisor Chynoweth advised that hard copies of Annual Financial Statements are on file in the Township office and the Clerk's office. Chynoweth reviewed the income and expense totals for 2023 and showed graphs detailing the programmatic breakdown of expenditures. Supervisor Chynoweth showed the program assistance levels and how they compare to national poverty and unemployment statistics. Displayed statistics on housing precarity within the county and national levels.

Shared information on Bridge to Home Services offered by the township. Questions and discussion ensued. Shared information and statistics on the Street Outreach program and the program demographics. Spoke on the housing assistance programs provided and its successes. Spoke on the School Outreach program and the information learned from the assessment of the program. Detailed the Angel Donor funded Housewarming Assistance program which helps recently unhoused participants furnish their new homes. Shared information on the Utility Assistance program which has served 483 households since its inception. Spoke on the successes of the Bucket Bridge, also known as the Sharing Table program. Shared information on the Solidarity Gardens project, how to access it, and the upcoming events promoting it. Thanked their collaborators for their assistance. Shared that the amount of unhouse participants in the General Assistance program per year has decreased since the beginning of when the data was tracked in 2019.

Requested assistance from the community by asking them to view neighbors as humans and refer those who require assistance to the township. Questions and discussion followed.

The complete Annual Financial Report can be viewed here:

https://www.city.urbana.il.us/Cunningham_Township/Ordinances_Resolutions/Financial_Reports/Town%20of%20Cunninham%20FY23%20Financial%20Statements.pdf

SHALL THE FOLLOWING ADVISORY QUESTION OF PUBLIC POLICY BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT FOR SUBMISSION TO THE VOTERS IN CUNNINGHAM TOWNSHIP, IN CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, FOR THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024 ELECTION: “*Shall the City of Urbana adopt a policy whereby the City shall not invest in any fossil fuel company, or any subsidiary, affiliate, or parent of any fossil fuel company?*”

Moderator Enslin called for a motion and a second. Elector Axelrod moved approval, seconded by Elector Hollenburg. Questions and discussion ensued. Motion passed by 83 affirmative votes against 29 negative votes via ballots.

SHALL THE FOLLOWING ADVISORY QUESTION OF PUBLIC POLICY BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT FOR SUBMISSION TO THE VOTERS IN CUNNINGHAM TOWNSHIP, IN CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, FOR THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024 ELECTION: “*Shall the United States federal government and subordinate divisions stop giving military funding to Israel, which currently costs taxpayers 3.8 billion dollars a year, given Israel’s global recognition as an apartheid regime with a track record of human rights violations?*”

Moderator Enslin called for a motion and a second. Elector Dodson motioned for approval, seconded by Elector Hollenburg. Questions and discussion ensued. Motion passed by 76 affirmative votes against 40 negative votes via ballot.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – (6:00 p.m., TUESDAY, APRIL 8 2025)

Elector Uchtmann motioned for approval, seconded by Elector Ryan. Questions and discussion followed. Motion carried by a unanimous raise of hands.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ilya Barishnikov apologized to the public for having to view propaganda on Israel through the Township. Emphasized intent to propose several resolutions for the next year’s town meeting regarding various foreign policy and funding issues. Stated Palestinian inhabitants of Israel do not have any rights, are legally prohibited from certain occupations, and these human rights violations should be discussed when calling Israel an apartheid state. Stated Israel is being targeted due to antisemitism. **Olga Tumanova** expressed appall to the opinions shared during the meeting. Stated all American citizens were united and approved of the measures the United States took to eliminate Al-Qaeda after 9-11-2001. Stated that the events on 10-7-2023 were the same as those on 9-11-2001 and all Israelis killed were peaceful citizens. Called for the eradication of Hamas and for the arms sales to Israel to continue. **Peggy Patten** provided written input (see attached).

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before this Annual Meeting, Moderator Enslin declared this Annual Town Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Seok Hyun Cho,
Cunningham Township Deputy Clerk

DRAFT

My statement: April 9, 2024

To Cunningham Township MTS. Record

My name is Peggy Patten, a registered voter in Urbana. I will be voting against the proposed advisory referendum. Any hope for a path forward for peace in the Middle East must include understanding and dialogue. And our local efforts should be predicated on understanding and dialogue. Our anger at the desperate situation in Gaza should be directed toward our elected officials in Washington who are not doing enough to stem the violence. I will continue to demand they do so. Our outrage with the Netanyahu administration about the conditions in Gaza should not be used to sow divisions with our Jewish friends and neighbors locally and in Israel who are also calling for a lasting peace in the Middle East. The proposed advisory referendum will hamper any efforts at understanding and dialogue. I urge others to join me in keeping the advisory referendum off the ballot in November.

Please add my statement to the meeting record. Peggy (Margaret) Patten

PUBLIC INPUT GUIDELINES

(PROPOSED)

The City of Urbana welcomes Public Input during open meetings of the City Council, the City Council's Committee of the Whole, City Boards and Commissions, and other City-sponsored meetings. Our goal is to foster respect for the meeting process, and respect for all people participating as members of the public body, city staff, and the general public. The City is required to conduct all business during public meetings. The presiding officer is responsible for conducting those meetings in an orderly and efficient manner. Public Input will be taken in the following ways:

Email Input

Public comments must be received prior to the closing of the meeting record (at the time of adjournment unless otherwise noted) at the following: citycouncil@urbanaininois.us. The subject line of the email must include the words "PUBLIC INPUT" and the meeting date. Your email will be sent to all City Council members, the Mayor, City Administrator, and City Clerk. Emailed public comments labeled as such will be incorporated into the public meeting record, with personal identifying information redacted. Copies of emails will be posted after the meeting minutes have been approved.

Written Input

Any member of the public may submit their comments addressed to the members of the public body in writing. If a person wishes their written comments to be included in the record of Public Input for the meeting, the writing should so state. Written comments must be received prior to the closing of the meeting record (at the time of adjournment unless otherwise noted).

Verbal Input

Protocol for Public Input is one of respect for the process of addressing the business of the City. Obscene or profane language, or other conduct that threatens to impede the orderly progress of the business conducted at the meeting is unacceptable.

Public comment shall be limited to no more than five (5) minutes per person. The Public Input portion of the meeting shall total no more than two (2) hours, unless otherwise shortened or extended by majority vote of the public body members present. The presiding officer or the city clerk or their designee, shall monitor each speaker's use of time and shall notify the speaker when the allotted time has expired. A person may participate and provide Public Input once during a meeting and may not cede time to another person, or split their time if Public Input is held at two (2) or more different times during a meeting. The presiding officer may give priority to those persons who indicate they wish to speak on an agenda item upon which a vote will be taken.

The presiding officer or public body members shall not enter into a dialogue with citizens. Questions from the public body members shall be for clarification purposes only. Public Input shall not be used as a time for problem solving or reacting to comments made but, rather, for hearing citizens for informational purposes only.

In order to maintain the efficient and orderly conduct and progress of the public meeting, the presiding officer of the meeting shall have the authority to raise a point of order and provide a verbal warning to a

speaker who engages in the conduct or behavior proscribed under “Verbal Input”. Any member of the public body participating in the meeting may also raise a point of order with the presiding officer and request that they provide a verbal warning to a speaker. If the speaker refuses to cease such conduct or behavior after being warned by the presiding officer, the presiding officer shall have the authority to mute the speaker’s microphone and/or video presence at the meeting. The presiding officer will inform the speaker that they may send the remainder of their remarks via e-mail to the public body for inclusion in the meeting record.

Accommodation

If an accommodation is needed to participate in a City meeting, please contact the City Clerk’s Office at least 48 hours in advance so that special arrangements can be made using one of the following methods:

- Phone: 217.384.2366
- Email: CityClerk@urbanillinois.us