

# COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

DATE: Monday, October 8, 2018

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

PLACE: Urbana City Council Chambers, 400 S. Vine St., Urbana, IL 61801

The City Council Committee of The Whole of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, October 8, 2018, in the Council Chambers of the Urbana City Building.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT:** Aaron Ammons; Bill Brown; Dean Hazen; Eric Jakobsson; Jared Miller; Dennis Roberts; Maryalice Wu; Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayor; Charles A. Smyth, City Clerk

#### **ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE:** None

#### **ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Brandon Boys; Michelle Brooks; William Gray; Elizabeth Hannan; Don Ho; Libby Horowitz; Charles Lauss; Kay Meharry; Carol Mitten; Todd Rent; John Schneider

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mike Burrus; Elderess Melinda Carr; Rob Dalhaus III; Timothy Larson; Rev. Dr. Evelyn Underwood; Brian Vura-Weis; Jesse Wald; Kristin Walters; Members of the Media

Chair: Dean Hazen, Ward 6

#### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

There being a quorum, Chair Dean Hazen called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 7:00pm.

## 2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Council Member Jared Miller made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 24 meeting. Motion was seconded by CM Maryalice Wu and carried by voice vote.

#### 3. Additions to the Agenda

There were none.

### 4. Public Input

Rev. Dr. Evelyn Underwood did not wish to speak but wanted her concerns about the Dr. Ellis Subdivision sewer problems entered into the record.

Elderess Melinda Carr did not wish to speak but wanted her continued concerns about the Dr. Ellis Subdivision sewer problems, equity and historic impact entered into the record.

Jesse Wald thanked committee members for all that has been done in the city to make it bike and pedestrian friendly. He suggested having more bike paths downtown, near Urbana Middle School and near the library. He also suggested putting reflective markers on the bike paths for for nighttime travel.

Mayor Marlin proclaimed October 10, 2018 International Walk to School Day in the City of Urbana. She presented the proclamation to Jesse Wald.

Brian Vura-Weis spoke to committee members about the dockless bikes that have been carelessly left along the road, in walkways and various other places. He said these are an eyesore and thought it would help to have bike racks or docks to park them, and added he did not mind the bike share program, but does not like the litter created when the bikes are left lying around the City. Mayor Marlin said the public could call 1-800-836-2256 to have

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improperly parked bikes picked up by the dockless bike share company. The City is working on a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section for the City website to help with citizen concerns about the bikes.

An update on services provided at CU at Home Homeless Ministry was given by the Executive Director, Rob Dalhaus III. He said it has moved from 34 East Green Street to 70 East Washington Street in Champaign, in the former Times Center. It includes the Phoenix, which is a daytime drop in center at that location. They have four scattered site transitional houses for men, women and family and can also provide transportation for those in need if services are not available locally. They will continue partnership with the CU Men's Shelter and allow them to use the location to house the emergency shelter for men, beginning November 12, 2018.

Mike Burrus spoke about Soccer Planet, which opened in 2011 and provided a place for soccer players to play. Mr. Burrus, Mark Sikora and Achim von Bodman purchased Soccer Planet in June from founders Liz and Graham Berry. They hope to expand the business in the future with the addition of another building.

Timothy Larson, a research scientist at the University of Illinois, spoke about Sister City Zomba, Malawi, and a research project funded by Geoscientists without Borders. They are working on providing water resources to villages near Zomba. He introduced Professor Zuze Dulanya and Professor Evance Mwathunga, both at the University of Malawi, Zomba. They will be at the Lewis Auditorium at the Urbana Free Library on October 10, at 6:30 to speak about their work on groundwater research in Malawi.

#### 5. **Presentations**

Kristin Walters presented a slideshow illustrating various First Fridays events and gave a report of for the period July 2017 through June 2018. When asked what her vision was for the future, she said there is a need for many dedicated volunteers who have time to devote, better communication with the public and creative thought. She said Madeleine Wolske and Kelsey Langley are now taking the lead on First Fridays, but they also have full-time jobs. Social media is the current mode of advertising, since other methods can add to costs. The creation of an app for First Fridays, that would provide all the information for upcoming events, was suggested.

## 6. **Staff Report**

Economic Development Coordinator Libby Horowitz presented the Business and Development Report for September. She said Frasca International, Inc. has been awarded a contract from the U.S. Navy to build ten on-ground helicopter flight simulation training devices, working as subcontractor to FightSafety in Colorado. The \$73 million military contract is the largest received by Frasca to date.

A recycle crafts goods retail store, The Idea Store, has moved and will open in Lincoln Square Mall on October 24.

Upcoming events include:

- 10<sup>th</sup> annual Champaign-Urbana Fold and Roots Festival, October 18-20
- UBA Connections Over Cocktails at Carpet Advantage, October 23, 5:30-7:00pm
- UBA Downtown Urbana Trick or Treating, October 26, 1:00-6:00pm
- 7. **Ordinance No. 2018-10-065**: An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Budget Amendment #5 Omnibus)

Financial Analyst Don Ho presented this ordinance. He said these are routine items that are rebudgeted annually and are timing adjustments to one-time expenditures. One item in the budget amendment that is not a rebudget item is the University Avenue Safety Project. It is a transfer between project funds. City Code requires a budget amendment for any increase in a fund that is over 10%.

A list of capital projects that have crossed fiscal years was requested for the next City Council meeting. There was a question about an amount budgeted for new City welcome signs. This is to relocate and replace a sign that was at Perkins Road and Cunningham Avenue.

CM Miller made motion to send Ordinance No. 2018-10-065 to council with recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Eric Jakobsson and carried by voice vote.

8. **Ordinance No. 2018-10-066**: An Ordinance Approving an Assignment and Assumption of a Redevelopment Agreement Between the City of Urbana, Illinois and Central Illinois Soccer Enterprises, LLC in Connection with the Cunningham Avenue Corridor Redevelopment Project Area

Economic Development Manager Brandon Boys presented this ordinance. He explained this would transfer all rights under the agreement made in a 2011 agreement with the previous owner, to the current owners. This would include ongoing annual property tax rebate payment incentives, which have almost reached the maximum amount of \$300,000.

CM Wu moved to send Ordinance No. 2018-10-066 to council with recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Dennis Roberts and carried by voice vote.

9. **Resolution No. 2018-10-047R**: A Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of an Illinois Arts Council Agency (IACA) Grant for Public Arts Program Operating Support (FY2019 Urbana Public Arts Program)

Economic Development Manager Brandon Boys said the resolution would accept the 2019 annual general operation arts support grant, which is offered only to exceptional arts organizations, and is a little larger than past grants for the program.

CM Jakobsson made a motion to send Resolution No. 2018-10-047R to council with recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by Alderman Roberts and carried by voice vote.

10. **Resolution No. 2018-10-048R**: A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a First Amendment and Restatement of an Intergovernmental Agreement By and Between the City of Urbana, Illinois and the Housing Authority of Champaign County, Illinois Concerning the Urbana Townhomes Property

Community Development Director John Schneider presented this resolution. He said this agreement amends the 2013 agreement between the Housing Authority of Champaign County (HACC) and the City of Urbana. The amendment removes Aspen Court, which had been part of the project and was purchased by TWG, and adds Brinshore Development as the developer of the low income housing project. It also extends the term of the agreement, which will allow Brinshore sufficient time to apply for tax credits for the project development.

A motion was made by CM Roberts to send Resolution No. 2018-10-048R to council with recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Miller and carried by voice vote.

11. **Ordinance No. 2018-10-067**: An Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Certain Real Estate (1301 East Washington Street / 2018)

Economic Development Manager Brandon Boys presented this ordinance. He said the City has been

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working to sell the property at 1301 East Washington Street since 2008. This ordinance would allow the property to be sold at auction at a minimum of \$5,000, contingent upon the demolition of all buildings and parking lots on the site within 90 days of closing. A public hearing will be held on Monday, October 15, 2018 concerning sale of this property.

CM Wu made a motion to send Ordinance No. 2018-10-067 to council with recommendation for approval. Motion seconded by CM Aaron Ammons and carried by voice vote.

## 12. **Adjournment**

With no further business before the Committee, Chair Hazen declared the meeting adjourned a 8:06pm

Kay Meharry

Recording Secretary

Materials and video for this meeting can be found at: <a href="https://www.urbanaillinois.us/node/7322">https://www.urbanaillinois.us/node/7322</a>

Minutes approved: October 22, 2018