
DATE: Monday, October 11, 2021
TIME: 7:00pm
PLACE: *Virtually Via Zoom, 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

The City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, October 11, 2021, at 7:00pm.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT: Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayor; Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

ELECTED OFFICIALS VIRTUALLY PRESENT: 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: Jason Liggett, Dave Wesner, Bourema Ouedraogo, Carol Mitten, William Koloschowsky, Sheila Dodd, Tim Cowan

OTHERS PRESENT:

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

With a quorum virtually present, Chair Mayor Marlin called the meeting of the Urbana City Council to order at 8:10 PM.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

June 21st, 2021 Public Hearing and September 13th, 2021

Motion to approve by CM Wu. Seconded by CM Kolisetty.

CM Wilken and CM Hursey provided the clerk's office with corrections.

Vote by roll call:

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

NAY:

3. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

4. PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC INPUT

Indigenous Peoples Day Proclamation made by Mayor Marlin who read an excerpt from a publication of *Ingenious Illinois: the history of ingenious tribes in and around Champaign County*.

Eviction Crisis in Champaign County

Presented by Collin Dodson and Hrant Kebantsi from the Party for Socialism and Liberation. Provided a timeline of the eviction crisis locally. Provided a background of local efforts made to prevent evictions. Compiled statistics on local debt owed towards rent. Provided the council with action items to help address the eviction crisis.

***Motion to extend presentation by CM Wu and seconded by CM Wilken.**

Vote by roll call:

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

NAY: None.

Presented resumed the presentation and outlined issues within the current aide systems.

Public Input: *Rev. Dr. Evelyn Underwood* asked for more quantitative data on ALPR. Urged the council to take additional time to examine quantitative data. *Christopher Hanson* was called upon and didn't provide input. *Tracy Chong* asked how she would be able to play a video for public input as someone did last

week. Expressed concerns about the conflict between the human rights ordinance and the FOP contract limiting CPRB membership. *Eddie Pratt Jr.* spoke in solidarity with the PSL regarding eviction moratorium. Urged council to take stronger action. *Ben Theobald* urged the council to take action with the county sheriff's office about the eviction moratorium. *Allan Max Axelrod* asked Tim Cowan to follow up with his public comment from last week. Reviewed efforts made by PSL to address eviction moratorium including local elected who have signed petitions to urge the Sheriff to halt evictions. *Sarah Nixon* thanked members of the public for their involvement. Commented on Supervisor Chynoweths comments following public input in township meeting. *Julie Watkins* agrees with other public comment and the presentation regarding eviction moratorium.

5. COUNCIL INPUT AND COMMUNICATIONS

CM Bishop thanked PSL for highlighting the eviction issues. Read letter Council sent to Sherriff Huerman to dissuade him from enforcing evictions. Proposed having a discussion about communication between council and administrations. **CM Wu** thanked CM Bishop for her efforts in producing the letter to the sheriff. Announced she has scheduled a meeting to follow up on concerns with rental assistance programs. **CM Quisenberry** also thanked CM Bishop for her efforts with the letter and thanked CM Wu for following up on complaints about rental assistance issues. Wanted to follow up on comments made previously at township board regarding roles and responsibilities. **CM Kolisetty** started input by naming and acknowledging the tribes whose land we currently occupy. Suggested council follow up with the University for how to honor these commitments. Wanted to know why some community members are allowed to share video input and not others. Expressed concern about errors within minute records and communication about correction. **CM Wilken** thanked those involved with presentation today and to those involved with the preparation of the letter sent to Sherriff. Is interested in drafting something stronger to send to the sheriff on evictions. Wanted to follow up on council priorities special meeting. Shared ways to honor Indigenous people's day. **CM Hursey** thanked CM Bishop for her diligence. Echoed concerns about evictions. Urged public to also take eviction moratorium proposals to the county board as they have greater opportunities to respond. In response to previous comment made about the NAACP not representing the black community, Hursey said that it's a national organization that has been around 1920s that has always recognized violence against black people. Ended remarks stating a black man was shot on Saturday. **Mayor Marlin** shared that later in the meeting Carol will provide an update on many of the questions raised. Wanted to provide clarification on mental health hotline legislation in regards to the co-responder model comment from last week. Clarified video input not being part of public input.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

7. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Committee Of The Whole (Council Member Shirese Hursey – Ward 3)

1. CONSENT AGENDA

None.

2. REGULAR AGENDA

a. **Resolution No. 2021-10-043R:** A Resolution Approving the Urbana HOME Consortium Community Housing Development Organization Agreement (Habitat CHDO Developer FY 2020) – CD

Presented by CM Hursey.

Motion to approve by CM Hursey and seconded by CM Bishop. Discussion ensued.

Vote by roll call:

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

NAY: None

8. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

None.

9. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Mayor Marlin announced the ALPR Town Hall meetings cohosted with NAACP. Announced the back to business grants from the state of Illinois. *Carol Mitton* reported that they will be sharing a proposal from the facilitator to have council goal setting conversations. Those meetings will be later in November or early December. Provided an update on the challenges of staffing the city is facing. Announced new arrivals to the Public Works department. Announced new UPTV production coordinator Borame. Provided data on staffing situation. Questions and discussion ensued. William Kolschowsky provided an update on ARPA timeline. Explained opportunities for council and public input opportunities. Sheila Dodd helped answer questions.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Mayoral Appointments

a. Staff Appointment

1. City Engineer – John Zeman

Presented by Mayor Marlin and Public Works director Tim Cowan. Mayor Marlin read a description of qualifications and background.

Motion to approve by CM Wu and seconded by CM Hursey. Discussion ensued.

Vote by roll call:

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

NAY: None

PRESENT: Wilken

b. Board and Commission Appointment

1. Urbana Arts and Culture Commission

– Heather Rose

- Howard Schein

- Blair Ebony Smith

Presented by Mayor Marlin. Mayor Marlin read their background and qualifications.

Motion to approve by CM Bishop and seconded by CM Kolisetty.

Vote by roll call:

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

NAY: None

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Urbana City Council Chair Marlin adjourned this meeting at 10:08 P.M.

Darcy Sandefur

Recording Secretary

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

Minutes approved: 11/08/2021