CITY OF Bloomington ILLINOIS

MINUTES
PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019, 6:00 P.M.

The Council convened in Regular Session in the Council Chambers, City Hall Building, at 6:01 p.m., Monday, November 12, 2019.

Council Member Mwilambwe directed the City Clerk to call the roll and the following members of Council answered present:

Council Members: Jamie Mathy, Donna Boelen, Mboka Mwilambwe, Julie Emig, Joni Painter, Jenn Carrillo, Scott Black, Jeff Crabill, Kim Bray, and Mayor Tari Renner (arrived late at 6:03 p.m.).

Staff Present: Tim Gleason, City Manager; Billy Tyus, Deputy City Manager; Jeffrey Jurgens, Corporation Counsel; Jim Karch, Public Works Director; Scott Sprouls, Information Services Director; Nicole Albertson, Human Resources Director; Melissa Hon, Economic Development Director; and other City staff were present.

Mayor Renner asked for a motion to allow Council Member Crabill to participate by phone as he was unable to attend the meeting due to traveling for work purposes.

Council Member Mathy made a motion, seconded by Council Member Boelen, that Council Member Crabill be approved to participate in the meeting by phone.

Mayor Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll, which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Council Members Mathy, Boelen, Mwilambwe, Emig, Painter, Carrillo, Black, and Bray.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Recognition/Appointments

A. Proclamations recognizing Merlin Kennedy

No one was present to accept the proclamation. Mayor Renner spoke fondly of Mr. Kennedy recognizing his great contributions to the City of Bloomington and the rest of the country.

B. Proclamation recognizing Pastor William A. Bennett and his Wife, First Lady Charlatta Bennett.

William Bennett came forward to accept the proclamation.

C. Proclamation recognizing the United Way of McLean County's WOMEN UNITED Day.

No one came forward to accept the proclamation.

D. Appointment approved by City Council at the October 28, 2019 meeting.

i. Appointment of Bernie Wrezinski to the John M. Scott Health Care Commission.

Public Comment

Mayor Renner opened the meeting to receive public comment, and the following individuals provided comments to the Council:

Grace Golick	Barbara Ulbrich
Jake Van Wolvelear	Todd Miller
Cecelia Long	Roy Laws
Zachary Gittrich	Radiance Campbell
Allan Axelrod	Scott Stimeling

Council Member Bray made a motion, seconded by Council Member Boelen, to extend Public Comment by 20 minutes.

Mayor Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll, which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Council Members Mathy, Boelen, Mwilambwe, Emig, Painter, Carrillo, Black, Crabill, and Bray.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Bill Rau	Trevor Rickerd
Wayne Montey	Lisa Abbott
Stefanie Smith	Joel Studebaker
Joe Kennedy	Surena Fish

Consent Agenda

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are approved with one motion; Items pulled by Council from the Consent Agenda for discussion are listed separately.

Council Member Mwilambwe made a motion, seconded by Council Member Black, that the Consent Agenda, including all the items listed below, be approved as presented with the exception of Items 7A and 7C.

Item 7A was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Council Member Black.

Item 7B. Consideration and action to approve Bills, Payroll, Electronic Transfers, and Procurement Card Purchases in the amount of $8,059,085.16, as requested by the Finance Department.

Item 7C was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Council Member Mwilambwe.

Mayor Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll, which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Council Members Mathy, Boelen, Mwilambwe, Emig, Painter, Carrillo, Black, Crabill, and Bray.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Council Member Black.

Item 7A. Consideration and action on a Resolution Approving the FY20 John M. Scott

Health Care Grant Awards and Programmatic Agreements, in the amount of $454,550, as requested by the Community Development Department.

Council Members Black, Painter, and Mathy recused themselves from Item 7A as they are affiliated with organizations that are proposed recipients of 2019 John M. Scott Grants.

Council Member Boelen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Emig, that the Consent Agenda Item 7A be approved as presented.

Mayor Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll, which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Council Members Boelen, Mwilambwe, Emig, Carrillo, Crabill, and Bray.

Nays: None.

Recuse: Council Members Black, Painter, and Mathy.

Motion carried.

The following item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Council Member Mwilambwe.

Item 7C. Consideration and action to approve the First Amendment to the current contract with the Board of Trustees of Illinois State University (ISU), as requested by the Public Works Department.

Council Member Mwilambwe recused himself as he is affiliated with Illinois State University.

Council Member Mathy made a motion, seconded by Council Member Boelen, that the Consent Agenda Item 7C be approved as presented.

Mayor Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll, which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Council Members Mathy, Boelen, Emig, Painter, Carrillo, Black, Crabill, and Bray.

Nays: None.

Recuse: Council Member Mwilambwe

Motion carried.

Regular Agenda

The following was presented:

Item 8A. FY2019 Audit Presentation, as requested by the Finance Department.

City Manager Gleason introduced the item and discussed how he felt the audit resulted as a win for the City. He introduced Finance Director Scott Rathbun, who introduced the item and welcomed Jason Coyle, Auditor of Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, the City's auditing company.

Mr. Coyle discussed the coffer, the large audit report put out each year, and complimented the City for doing a large-scale coffer that offers a level of transparency to Bloomington citizens that is not often provided by most municipalities. He walked through the coffer on a high-level and offered comments on a variety of areas. He then turned his attention to the Management Letter his firm had put out from the audit.

Council Member Boelen asked Mr. Coyle to define a few terms used in the coffer. Mr. Coyle responded accordingly.

Council Member Black asked how the audit report fit into the City's bond rating. Mr. Gleason stated that it fits appropriately and will be part of upcoming discussions he planned to have with Council. Mr. Rathbun also added comments on reserves and how they tie to bond ratings. Council Member Black mentioned that he would rather see money used, than sitting untapped. He wished to learn more about AAA Bond Ratings in the future.

Mayor Renner also commented on AAA Ratings. A discussion pursued regarding the pros and cons of AAA Bond Ratings.

Mr. Gleason emphasized the health of the City and the community as a whole.

The following was presented:

Item 8B. Property Tax Levy - Estimate, as requested by the Finance Department. City Manager Gleason introduced the item and discussed the purpose of the item.

Mr. Gleason discussed the item and stated that he and staff were following Council direction in bringing the item forward.

Mayor Renner added that the strength of property values in the City has been strong over the last few years and has been impactful to City decisions.

Mr. Gleason reminded Council that the City's portion of the Library's levy is only 15% but pointed out that it will make a substantial difference.

Mr. Rathbun came forward to address Council regarding the Levy. He walked through a presentation, making comparisons from 2015 to 2019, and providing visuals.

Council Member Boelen asked a question regarding IMRF pensions. Mr. Rathbun responded accordingly.

Council Member Mwilambwe made a motion, seconded by Council Member Boelen, that the proposed Property Tax Levy Estimate be approved.

Mayor Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll, which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Council Members Mathy, Boelen, Mwilambwe, Emig, Painter, Carrillo, Black, Crabill, and Bray.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

City Manager's Discussion

Mr. Gleason introduced the calendar of events and discussed the recent Director's Retreat.

Mayor's Discussion

Mayor Renner thanked Council Member Mwilambwe for his recent help with one of his Wesleyan classes and went on to recognize the recent funeral of Mr. Merlin Kennedy.

Council Member's Discussion

Council Member Bray thanked City Manager Tim Gleason for leading staff in being servant leaders and recognized him as a servant leader. She requested that staff, the Police specifically, and other specific members of the community present to Council at the upcoming Committee of the Whole meeting.

Council Member Black echoed Council Member Bray's comments regarding the need for warming and cooling centers offered in the community. He recommended the possibility of a joint meeting. He discussed cannabis and requested a clear timeline for final votes for cannabis.

Council Member Carrillo also requested a clear timeline for final votes on cannabis. She recommended that the community visit Merlin Kennedy's exhibit at the McLean County History Museum. She also complimented City firefighters for their response to the recent Diesel Dick's fire.

Council Member Mwilambwe expressed interest in having an additional discussion at the Committee of the Whole as suggested by Council Member Bray. He went on to discuss a recent Veteran's Day Ceremony he attended, as well as a proclamation he recently presented on behalf of the Mayor to the Stanford Labor School.

Council Member Boelen spoke about the new Veterans Clinic that opened last week.

Council Member Mathy spoke fondly of the Veterans Day Ceremony. He thanked Chief Donath for speaking to his Rotary and talked about an idea to use the Arena as a warming/cooling center.

Council Member Emig gave a shout out to the Community in Conflict Exhibition, thanked all involved with the Diesel Dick's fire, complimented the Fire Department on the work they do in the community to promote fire safety, and praised the kids that came out to speak at public comment during the meeting about warming/cooling centers.

Executive Session

A. Review of Minutes - Section 2 (c)(21) of 5 ILCS 120

At the request of the City Clerk, the item was delayed until December 9, 2019.

Adjournment

Mayor Renner asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Council Member Boelen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Carrillo, that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried unanimously (viva voce).

The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

Tari Renner, Mayor

ATTEST

Leslie Yocum, City Clerk