



**MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2020, 6:00 P.M.**

This meeting was conducted under Governor Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-07, Section 6 implemented in response to COVID-19, which suspended in-person attendance under the Open Meeting Act, 5 ILCS 120.

The Committee of the Whole convened in Regular Session virtually via Zoom with City Manager, Tim Gleason, and City Clerk, Leslie Yocum, physically present in City Hall's Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m., Monday, August 17, 2020. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Tari Renner.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tari Renner	Mayor	Remote	
Jamie Mathy	Ward 1	Remote	
Donna Boelen	Ward 2	Remote	
Mboka Mwilambwe	Ward 3	Remote	
Julie Emig	Ward 4	Remote	
Joni Painter	Ward 5	Remote	
Jennifer Jazmin Carrillo	Ward 6	Remote	
Scott Black	Ward 7	Remote	
Jeff Crabill	Ward 8	Remote	
Kim Bray	Ward 9	Remote	

Public Comment

Mayor Renner opened the meeting for public comment. Leslie Yocum, City Clerk, stated no one had registered to speak live and no emailed public comments were received.

COVID-19 Update by City Manager

Tim Gleason, City Manager, provided an update on local statistics as they related to COVID-19 and City staff.

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 and voted on separately.

Council Member Carrillo made a motion, seconded by Council Member Crabill, that the Consent Agenda, including all items listed below, be approved as presented.

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

AYES: Mathy, Boelen, Mwilambwe, Emig, Painter, Carrillo, Black, Crabill, Bray

Motion carried.

Item 5.A. Consideration and action to approve the Minutes of the June 15, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Item 5.B. Consideration and action to approve the Minutes of the July 13, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Presentation, Discussion, and Direction on Future Agenda Topics

No presentations, discussion or direction on future agenda topics were discussed.

Council Initiatives

The following item was presented:

Item 6.A.1. Consideration and action on a Council Initiative submitted by Council Member Carrillo to make Indigenous Peoples Day a City holiday, as requested by the City Council.

Council Member Carrillo introduced the Initiative. She hoped Council could recognize the indigenous people by permanently adopting a day for them like the proposed Juneteenth holiday recommended via Council Initiative of Council Member Mwilambwe. She believed that white supremacy organizations were becoming more active and that it was important to recognize and celebrate indigenous people. She provided examples of intentional and unintentional ways that white supremacy presented itself in society. She then noted examples of local and national changes to remove Columbus Day and replace it with Indigenous Peoples Day. Council Member Carrillo concluded by stating the importance of recognizing contributions to society made by indigenous people.

Mayor Renner asked each Council Member to state their interest or disinterest in support of Council Member Carrillo's Council Initiative.

Council Member Mathy expressed support.

Council Member Boelen did not support the Initiative and expressed her disinterest in canceling culture or removing the opportunity for dialog and study about it in world history. She stated the Columbus Day was an Italian American Holiday and did not support the Initiative.

Council Member Mwilambwe expressed support.

Council Member Carrillo stated that she hoped staff could review the Initiative and present options similar to what they were doing with Juneteenth.

Council Member Emig expressed support in the Initiative and stress that Columbus had caused a lot of harm. She did not believe that replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day diminished Italian Americans.

Council Member Painter was conflicted and provided additional history on Columbus Day being implemented after 11 Italians were lynched. She pointed out that no matter the action taken by Council she didn't believe the City could remove it as it was a State holiday. She did not support replacing one heritage with another, but did believe that Indigenous Peoples Day should be celebrated.

Council Member Black believed staff's focus should remain on the global pandemic.

Council Member Crabill expressed support in the Initiative and believed Columbus Day celebrated the actions against Indigenous People.

Council Member Bray was not in favor of the Initiative for reasons other Council Member's had mentioned. She discussed a conversation she had had with the American Indian Community and that did not support the initiative. She echoed the statements made by Council Member Black as well.

Mayor Renner and Mrs. Yocum discussed Council Initiative procedures. Mrs. Yocum confirmed that the majority of Council had expressed support in the item moving forward for staff evaluation.

Mayor Renner commented to his experiences with Columbus Day.

City Manager's Report

Tim Gleason, City Manager, recognized the following newly hired staff for the City: Morgan Hinchey, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department and Robert Castillo, Police Department. He informed Council that he had asked Public Works to provide a presentation of ongoing and completed projects of 2020 at the next meeting.

Executive Session - Cite Section

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment

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

Motion carried (viva voce).

The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON



Tari Renner, Mayor

ATTEST



Amanda Mohan, Deputy City Clerk

