



**MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2021, 6:00 P.M.**

The City Council convened in regular session, in-person in the Government Center Chambers at 6:00 p.m., Monday, August 16, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mboka Mwilambwe.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Mboka Mwilambwe	Mayor	Present	
Jamie Mathy	Council Member, Ward 1	Present	
Donna Boelen	Council Member, Ward 2	Present	
Sheila Montney	Council Member, Ward 3	Present	
Julie Emig	Council Member, Ward 4	Present	
Nick Becker	Council Member, Ward 5	Present	
Jennifer Jazmin Carrillo	Council Member, Ward 6	Remote	6:02 PM
Mollie Ward	Council Member, Ward 7	Present	
Jeff Crabill	Council Member, Ward 8	Present	
Tom Crumpler	Council Member, Ward 9	Present	

Remote Participation

Mayor Mwilambwe confirmed with Council Member Carrillo that she wished to attend remotely due to medical reasons.

Council Member Mathy made a motion, seconded by Council Member Ward, to allow Council Member Carrillo to participate remotely due to medical reasons.

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

AYES: Mathy, Boelen, Montney, Emig, Becker, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler

ABSTAIN: Carrillo

Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Mwilambwe read a statement of procedure for public comment and then opened the meeting for public comment. Tom Larry and Susan Crawford spoke in-person. No emailed public comment had been received.

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

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

AYES: Mathy, Boelen, Montney, Emig, Becker, Carrillo, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler

Motion carried.

Item 4.A. Consideration and action to approve the Minutes of the June 21, 2021, Committee of the Whole Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Regular Agenda

The following item was presented:

Item 5.A. Presentation and discussion of topics related to City infrastructure and recent storm events, as requested by the Public Works Department and the Administration Department.

City Manager Tim Gleason provided a brief overview of the presentation and stated that staff would discuss next steps.

Billy Tyus, Deputy City Manager, addressed Council and provided additional insight and goals of the presentation.

Kevin Kothe, Public Works Director, addressed Council. He began by recognizing various staff members and emergency responders. He discussed multiple charts documenting rainfall measurements from June 25-26, 2021. The charts showed the intensity of rain in a short amount of time. Mr. Kothe explained that the data helped staff in the creation of hydraulic modeling.

Mr. Tyus stressed the volume of water received in a short timeframe.

Mr. Kothe provided examples of historic news articles discussing various other large flood events locally and how the City had combated those issues by installing 8-inch round stormwater drainpipes. He reminded Council that, while basements and streets had flooded, Bloomington was fortunate to not have suffered any loss of life. Mr. Kothe went on to discuss the inflow and infiltration of cross connections, potential contaminations, as well as subdivisions still affected. He discussed multiple tests that staff could do to test for inflow and infiltrations of cross connection sewer lines, and explained how newly-built subdivisions addressed sewer and storm drain installations. He emphasized the importance of proper water drainage and provided examples of how drainage could get disrupted.

Mr. Tyus highlighted multiple contributing factors to sewer overflow.

Mr. Kothe presented multiple maps and then compared flooding claims submitted to PMA (Pennsylvania Manufacturing Association, the City's third-party administrator for workers' compensation, liability, and property benefits) against different types of sewer lines, noting other affected areas that did not have combined sewer lines. He then discussed Bloomington's water basins and the amount of water they had collected during the massive rainfall. He touched on challenges of re-routing storm water in urban areas and went on to discuss two proposed ponds and a conveyance route from the most recent Sewer and Stormwater Master Plan. He suggested the two ponds would significantly impact future

potential flooding and provided a quick overview of various Capital Projects within the Sewer and Storm Water for the next five years. Mr. Kothe concluded with a discussion on sewer backup prevention and potential future possibilities.

City Manager Gleason and Mr. Kothe discussed the Overhead Sewer Program and contributing factors to the total cost on an average home. They then discussed the Public Works campus as an ideal location for a potential retention basin. City Manager Gleason reported on staff's efforts to acquire additional funding for the mentioned infrastructure projects. Mr. Tyus highlighted potential savings of \$6.9 million and an approximate 2-year expedited completion date if phases of the Locust Colton Combined Sewer Overflow ("CSO") project were consolidated.

Mayor Mwilambwe noted Council's desire to accelerate the Locust Colton CSO.

Council Member Ward and Mr. Kothe discussed how other communities funded separation of combined sewer lines. Council Member Ward was concerned about rain density versus PMA claims. Mr. Kothe explained that flooding correlated to increased flow of water downstream. Council Member Ward and Mr. Kothe discussed Mr. Kothe's thoughts on the Overhead Sewer Program funding installation of sewer check valves.

Council Member Montney commented on budgeted funds for proactive versus reactive sewer repairs. She was in favor of expediting the Locust Colton CSO and supported applying COVID-19 relief funding to sewer infrastructure projects.

Council Member Becker agreed with Council Member Montney's comments. He then asked Mr. Kothe to provide Council with the total dollar amount needed to complete all of the suggested sewer infrastructure projects. After a discussion between City Manager Gleason, Mr. Kothe, and Council Member Becker, it was determined that approximately \$13.6 million would be needed.

Council Member Emig requested a list of infrastructure project priorities that would make the largest impact. Mr. Kothe recommended completion of the Locust Colton CSO project, completion of City-wide hydraulic modeling, and the building of 2 water retention basins. Council Member Emig supported the addition of the retention basins.

Council Member Boelen reminded the community that their monthly utility bill provided funding for various infrastructure. She was also interested in a prioritized infrastructure list.

Council Member Mathy supported potential green space alternatives and then discussed retention basins in detail with Mr. Kothe. Council Member Mathy suggested expanding the City's freshwater systems and suggested additional areas to consider for hydraulic modeling. He then echoed the support of expediting the Locust Colton CSO and installing 2 water retention basins.

Council Member Crabill was concerned that additional CSO projects had not been proposed for the next 5 years. Mr. Kothe explained that while CSO projects would help, there must be a location to collect the runoffs from those sewer lines. They then discussed potential problems that could arise when consecutively managing multiple large projects, including staffing and funding. Council Member Crabill asked for a map that distinguished PMA claims from sewer back up versus rain flooding. They then discussed the opportunity for the City to cover costs of the overhead sewer program for qualified applicants through the Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") program.

Council Member Crumpler and Mr. Kothe discussed process and timelines of the CDBG program. Council Member Crumpler supported the submission of multiple residences on a block to be processed together under the Overhead Sewer and CDBG programs.

Council Member Becker asked for staff to consider ways to expedite review and approval processes.

City Manager Gleason summarized staff's direction for next steps.

Council Initiatives

The following item was presented:

Item 5.B.1. Discussion regarding a Council Initiative submitted by Council Member Ward to create a plan to provide near-term financial assistance to residents whose property was flooded with sewage during the storms of June 25/26, 2021, as requested by the City Council.

Council Member Ward explained that the purpose of the Initiative was to provide immediate aid to residents. She explained that the Initiative would provide staff direction to research and prepare funding sources or opportunities.

Council Members Crabill, Becker, and Ward, along with Corporation Counsel, Jeff Jurgens, discussed procedure.

Council Member Ward made a motion, seconded by Council Member Emig, to have staff evaluate and prepare an analysis on the proposed Initiative and bring it back for further Council discussion.

Council Member Boelen believed it was a noble Initiative, but recommended that residents reach out to other entities for financial assistance.

Council Member Montney expressed confusion on the procedure. Leslie Yocum, City Clerk, clarified Council Initiative procedure.

Council Members Becker and Crumpler were concerned on the City's authority to provide assistance and did not support the Initiative as presented.

Council Members Emig, Carrillo, and Crabill supported the Initiative.

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

AYES: Mathy, Emig, Carrillo, Ward, Crabill

NAYS: Boelen, Montney, Becker, Crumpler

Motion carried.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Tim Gleason highlighted Parks and Recreation's upcoming fall program registration, as well as The Bloomington Center for Performing Arts' event calendar. He then recognized two new staff members and provided a COVID-19 update. He noted that the City was working closely with both local universities and the McLean County Health Department to monitor COVID cases as students returned to the area. He updated Council on the two Police Chief finalists and asked the community to provide input on the candidates over the next few days.

Executive Session

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment

Council Member Mathy made a motion, seconded by Council Member Boelen, to adjourn.

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

AYES: Mathy, Boelen, Montney, Emig, Becker, Carrillo, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler

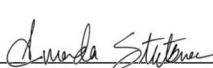
Motion carried (viva voce).

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON


Mboka Mwilambwe, Mayor

ATTEST


Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk

