City of Bloomington Illinois

MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 27, 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 City Council convened in Regular Session virtually via Zoom conferencing with Deputy City Manager, Billy Tyus, and City Clerk, Leslie Yocum, in-person in City Hall's Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m., Monday, July 27, 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	

COVID-19 Update by City Manager

Billy Tyus, Deputy City Manager, informed Council that staff were working through submission procedures for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Cares Act funds allotted for business aid and that staff had received 208 applications for residential financial aid. He explained review procedures and stated that the CDBG program was designed to be a last resort for funding assistance for the community. He reported that the number of COVID-19 cases in the community had increased and stressed that staff continued to monitor the situation. He ended by providing Council an update on Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance progress in the community.

Recognition/Appointments

A. Recognition of Re-Appointment and Appointments to various Boards & Commissions

Mayor Renner recognized the re-appointment of Ryan Whitehouse to the Connect Transit Board and the following appointments: (1) Deborah Presley, Connect Transit Board; (2) Kelsey Harms, Citizens' Beautification Committee; and (3) Nikki Williams, Zoning Board of Appeals.

Public Comment

Mayor Renner opened the meeting for public comment and the following individuals spoke virtually: (1) Willie Halbert and (2) John Walther. Leslie Yocum, City Clerk, then stated that Willie Halbert had also emailed public comment, which she provided to Council before the meeting.

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 Bray made a motion, seconded by Council Member Black, that the Consent Agenda with the exception of Items 8.C., 8.G., and 8.K. 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 8.A. Consideration and action to approve Bills and Payroll in the amount of $7,284,853.09, as requested by the Finance Department. *(Recommended Motion: The proposed Bills and Payroll be approved.)*

Item 8.B. Consideration and action to approve Cheryl Magnuson to Blm-Nml Area Convention & Visitors Bureau Board, as requested by the Administration Department. *(Recommended Motion: The proposed Appointment be approved.)*

Item 8.C. was removed from the Consent Agenda by Council Member Carrillo.

Item 8.D. Consideration and action to approve a Contract with Mid-Illinois Mechanical, Inc. (Bid #2021-03), for the Water Treatment Plant Boiler Replacement project, in the amount of $253,000, as requested by the Public Works Department. *(Recommended Motion: The Technicality be waived and the proposed Contract be approved.)*

Item 8.E. Consideration and action to approve a Contract with Henson Disposal, Inc., for excavation materials disposal (Bid #2020-35), in the amount of $31.50 per ton of excavation materials, as requested by the Public Works Department. *(Recommended Motion: The proposed Contract be approved.)*

Item 8.F. Consideration and action to approve a Contract with Republic Services, for street sweeping debris disposal (Bid #2020-37), in the amount of $54.65 per ton of street sweeping debris, as requested by the Public Works Department. *(Recommended Motion: The proposed Contract be approved.)*

Item 8.G. was removed from the Consent Agenda by Council Member Boelen.

Item 8.H. Consideration and action to grant General Liability Settlement Authority in the amount of up to $73,690.91 to Martin Kiesewetter, home owner of 13 Brookridge Court, as requested by the Human Resources Department. *(Recommended Motion: The proposed General Liability Settlement be approved.)*

Item 8.I. Consideration and action on a Resolution Approving the Water Infrastructure Master Plan, as requested by the Public Works Department. *(Recommended Motion: The proposed Resolution be approved.)*

Item 8.J. Consideration and action on a Resolution Authorizing Transfer of the Continuum of Care Coordinated Entry Grant to Providing Access to Help (PATH), as requested by the Community Development Department. *(Recommended Motion: The proposed Resolution be approved.)*

Item 8.K. was removed from the Consent Agenda by Council Member Boelen.

Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda

The following item was pulled by Council Member Boelen:

Item 8.G. Consideration and action to approve a Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Resolution for Improvement Under the Illinois Highway Code, and a Local Public Agency General Maintenance Estimate of Maintenance Costs, to allocate State MFT funds for street lighting electrical energy and rental charges through the FY 2021 Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) General Maintenance Program, in the amount of $500,000, for the period May 1, 2020, through April 30, 2021, as requested by the Public Works Department.

Council Member Boelen asked questions on how the State Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funds could be used. Kevin Kothe, Public Works Director, responded and then informed Council that the City was responsible for a small portion of street lighting and the rest was provided through Ameren Illinois or Cornbelt Energy.

Council Member Boelen asked additional questions on State MFT fund use. Mr. Kothe responded accordingly. Council Member Boelen clarified that State MFT funds and Local MFT funds were earmarked for different types of infrastructure projects.

Mayor Renner reminded Council that the item was routine in nature and suggested that the City Manager address similar questions of Council prior to the meeting.

Council Member Mathy reminded Council that he continued to work with staff on the incorporation of Smart Cities technology.

Mayor Renner reiterated how Consent Agenda items should be handled.

Council Member Boelen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Bray, that the proposed MFT Resolution and Estimate be approved.

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.

The following item was pulled by Council Member Boelen:

Item 8.K. Consideration and action on an Ordinance Amending the Budget Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2021 in the amount of $507,400, and to approve the Contract with Diamond Design & Construction, Inc. in the amount of $445,101.00 for the FY2021 De Brazza's Plaza Monkey Exhibit - Bid #2021-08 (Base bid + Alt. #3), as requested by the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department.

Council Member Boelen thanked Mayor Renner for his clarification on the Consent Agenda process. She believed Council Members should highlight concerns/questions received by their constituents and expressed concerns about State reimbursement associated to Item 8.K.

Council Member Boelen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Bray, that the proposed Ordinance and Contract be approved.

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.

The following item was pulled by Council Member Carrillo:

Item 8.C. Consideration and action to approve the Purchase of a 2020 Ford F-250 with snow plow from Currie Motors of Frankfort, Illinois, using Northwest Municipal Suburban Purchasing Contract (#178) in the amount of $37,067, as requested by the Public Works Department and the Police Department.

Council Member Carrillo motioned, seconded by Council Member Crabill, to not approve the item.

Council Member Bray asked Jeff Jurgens, Corporation Counsel, for clarification on the potential next steps. Mayor Renner explained that if the current motion passed, the purchase would not be made; however, if the motion failed, it would open the floor to an alternate motion. Mr. Jurgens confirmed.

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

AYES: Carrillo, Crabill

NAYES: Mathy, Boelen, Mwilambwe, Emig, Painter, Black, Bray

Motion failed.

Council Member Bray made a motion, seconded by Council Member Painter, that the proposed Purchase be approved.

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

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

NAYES: Carrillo, Crabill

Motion carried.

Regular Agenda

The following item was presented:

Item 9.A. Presentation of a Financial Update: FY2020 and FY2021 COVID Projections, as requested by the Finance Department.

Deputy City Manager Tyus reminded Council that revenues were better than projected and asked Scott Rathbun, Finance Director, to address Council.

Mr. Rathbun presented the preliminary FY 2020 Year End Update. He reviewed General Fund budget projections from April 2020 and the effects that reopening had had on revenues. He provided a list of major tax revenue summaries and highlighted a few key variances from the year-to-date budget. He noted that the City had a profitable 10-month start to the fiscal year and highlighted various FY 2020 Major Tax Revenues. He pointed out that COVID-19 had made a $1.5 million dollar impact on the City and discussed multiple General Fund revenues/expenditures, major tax revenues, and revisions to the COVID-19 revenue projections. He reviewed the General Fund COVID projection summary which included the total impact to revenue/expense reductions and the projected use of reserve balance due to COVID. He assured Council that with a projected FY 2021 Reserve balance ending with $19.3 million dollars, the City would be over the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) recommended two months minimum of expenditures ($18 million dollars). Mr. Rathbun reminded Council the COVID-19 financial situation continued to remain fluid and welcomed comments.

Council Member Mathy applauded local restaurants who had recently proactively closed temporarily to sanitize their establishments to prevent spread and safeguard against COVID-19. He encouraged the community to shop local as much as possible and to continue to be safe.

The following item was presented:

<u>Item 9.B. Consideration and potential action regarding Ordinance 2020-18, An Ordinance Declaring A Local Emergency Due to the COVID-19 Virus & Enacting Various Emergency Measures, as requested by the Legal Department.</u>

Deputy City Manager Tyus stated that there were no changes being presented to Ordinance 2020-18. Mayor Renner asked if the Council had any questions for Mr. Tyus. No questions were asked.

The following item was presented:

<u>Item 9.C. Consideration and action on Council Member Mwilambwe's Agenda Initiative Proposal to make Juneteenth a City holiday, as requested by the Administration Department.</u>

Council Member Mwilambwe thanked Council for their support of the Initiative. He discussed the terms 'City holiday' and 'observance' and expressed his preference that Juneteenth become an observance; meaning staff would not have the day off. He discussed the importance of institutionalizing Juneteenth and charging the Human Relations Commission to lead an annual community celebration. He believed that staff should also be directed to work with community members, other local municipalities, and any possible local sponsors to further observance of the holiday and discussed potential celebration ideas.

Council Member Painter made a motion, seconded by Council Member Bray, that that staff be directed to draft and bring back an Ordinance for consideration, formally making Juneteenth a City holiday.

Mayor Renner confirmed with Council Member Mwilambwe his intentions in that City staff would not have paid leave for Juneteenth. Council Member Mwilambwe confirmed. Mayor Renner suggested staff present Council options to consider Juneteenth as a paid holiday and unpaid holiday.

Council Member Carrillo expressed her support in the adoption of Juneteenth consistent with other holidays where staff received a paid day off.

Council Member Mathy also expressed similar support.

Mayor Renner asked Deputy Tyus his opinion on the presentation of multiple options for Council consideration. Mr. Tyus requested staff have the opportunity to discuss potential options and provide an update to Council before the next meeting. Mayor Renner agreed.

Council Member Boelen echoed the Mayor's request for Juneteenth options and a discussion on how to encourage local businesses to participate.

Council Member Black expressed interest in a Human Relations Commission presentation on Juneteenth and echoed the Mayor's request for Juneteenth options.

Council Member Mwilambwe discussed potential activities for Juneteenth.

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.

City Manager's Discussion

Deputy City Manager Tyus noted National Farmer's Market Week and mentioned programs being held to celebrate. He also reminded the community to complete the 2020 Census and to continue to remain diligent against COVID-19.

Mayor's Discussion

Mayor Renner reiterated the importance of diligence against COVID-19 and stressed that staff continued to monitor the situation. He reminded the community that the State could return to Phase 3 of the Governor's Reopen Illinois Plan at any time.

Council Member's Discussion

Council Member Crabill reminded the community of his monthly virtual Town Hall meeting on Monday, August 3, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Council Member Mathy thanked the Public Works crews on their quick execution of bulk waste pick-up. He reminded the community that Census staff would begin visiting residences who did not complete the 2020 Census and encouraged citizens complete it online.

Council Member Boelen expressed concerns about COVID-19 and encouraged citizens to practice good hygiene.

Council Member Black highlighted the positive feedback of Downtown's outdoor dining and encouraged staff to create policies for long-term considerations of these spaces.

Council Member Emig applauded local businesses who practiced safety measures against COVID-19 for their guests and employees. She thanked Council Member Mwilambwe for his Juneteenth Initiative and echoed Council Member Mathy's Census 2020 comments. She concluded with praising recent Downtown Sidewalk Sales that had occurred.

Council Member Mwilambwe recommended a creative photograph of Council wearing their 2020 Census shirts while practicing social distancing.

Executive Session - Cite Section

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment

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

Motion Carried (Viva Voce).

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

Tari Renner, Mayor

ATTEST

Amanda Mohan, Deputy City Clerk