

CITY OF
BLOOMINGTON
COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE MEETING
MAY 20, 2024



COMPONENTS OF THE COUNCIL AGENDA

RECOGNITION AND PROCLAMATION

This portion of the meeting recognizes individuals, groups, or institutions publically, as well as those receiving a proclamation, or declaring a day or event.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Each regular City Council meeting shall have a public comment period not to exceed 30 minutes. Every speaker is entitled to speak for up to 3 minutes. To be considered for public comment, please complete a public comment card at least 5 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. The Mayor will randomly draw from the cards submitted. Public comment is a time to give comment. It is not a question and answer period and the City Council does not respond to public comments. Speakers who engage in threatening or disorderly behavior will have their time ceased.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member, City Manager or Corporation Counsel so requests; in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in the Regular Agenda, which typically begins with Item No. 8.

The City's Boards and Commissions hold Public Hearings prior to some Council agenda items appearing on the Council's Meeting Agenda. Persons who wish to address the Council should provide new information that is pertinent to the issue before them.

PUBLIC HEARING

Items that require receiving public testimony will be placed on the agenda and noticed as a Public Hearing. Individuals have an opportunity to provide public testimony on those items that impact the community and/or residence.

REGULAR AGENDA

All items that provide the Council an opportunity to receive a presentation, ask questions of City Staff, seek additional information, or deliberate prior to making a decision will be placed on the Regular Agenda.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor - Mboka Mwilambwe

City Council Members

Ward 1 - Jenna Kearns
Ward 2 - Donna Boelen
Ward 3 - Sheila Montney
Ward 4 - John Danenberger
Ward 5 - Nick Becker
Ward 6 - Cody Hendricks
Ward 7 - Mollie Ward
Ward 8 - Kent Lee
Ward 9 - Tom Crumpler

City Manager - Jeff Jurgens

Deputy City Manager - Billy Tyus

Deputy City Manager - Vacant

CITY LOGO DESIGN RATIONALE

The **CHEVRON** Represents:
Service, Rank, and Authority
Growth and Diversity
A Friendly and Safe Community
A Positive, Upward Movement and
Commitment to Excellence!

MISSION, VISION, AND VALUE STATEMENT

MISSION

To Lead, Serve and Uplift the
City of Bloomington

VISION

A Jewel of the Midwest Cities

VALUES

Service-Centered,
Results-Driven,
Inclusive

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

- Financially Sound City Providing Quality Basic Services
- Upgrade City Infrastructure and Facilities
- Grow the Local Economy
- Strong Neighborhoods
- Great Place - Livable, Sustainable City
- Prosperous Downtown Bloomington

AGENDA



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - REGULAR SESSION MEETING AGENDA
GOVERNMENT CENTER BOARDROOM, 4TH FLOOR, ROOM #400
115 E. WASHINGTON STREET, BLOOMINGTON, IL 61701
MONDAY, MAY 20, 2024, 6:00 PM

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call of Attendance

3. Recognition/Appointments

- A. Proclamation for National Law Enforcement Appreciation Month, as requested by the Police Department. (*Recommended Motion: None, Recognition only.*)
- B. Proclamation for National Public Works Week, as requested by the Administration Department. (*Recommended Motion: None; Recognition only.*)

4. Public Comment

Individuals wishing to provide emailed public comment must email comments to publiccomment@cityblm.org at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting. Individuals wishing to speak in-person or remotely may register at www.cityblm.org/register at least 5 minutes before the start of the meeting for in-person public comment and at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting for remote public comment.

5. 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.

- A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the March 18, 2024 Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (*Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.*)

6. Regular Agenda

- A. Presentation on the Public Safety & Community Relations Board (PSCRB) Annual Report, as requested by the Administration Department. (*Recommended Motion: None; Presentation only.*) (*Presentation by Dr. Ashley Farmer, Public Safety Community Relations Board Member, 5 minutes; and City Council Discussion, 10 minutes.*)
- B. Panel Presentation and Discussion on Community Housing Needs, as requested by the Administration Department. (*Recommended Motion: None; Presentation only.*) (*Presentation by Meenu Bashkar, President, Mid Illinois Realtors Association, Ray Lai, Executive Director for McLean County RPC, Mark Adams, Community Planner for McLean County RPC, Patrick Hoban, President/CEO Bloomington Normal Economic Development Council, 20 minutes; and City Council Discussion, 30*

Minutes.)

- 7. City Manager's Report**
- 8. Executive Session**
- 9. Adjournment**

Individuals with disabilities planning to attend the meeting who require reasonable accommodations to observe and/or participate, or who have questions about the accessibility of the meeting, should contact the City's ADA Coordinator at 309-434-2468 mhurt@cityblm.org.



RECOGNITION/APPOINTMENTS ITEM NO. 3.A.

FOR COUNCIL: May 20, 2024

WARD IMPACTED: City-Wide Impact

SUBJECT: Proclamation for National Law Enforcement Appreciation Month , as requested by the Police Department.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: None, Recognition only.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINK:

Goal 1. Financially Sound City Providing Quality Basic Services

STRATEGIC PLAN SIGNIFICANCE:

Objective 1a. Budget with adequate resources to support defined services and level of services

BACKGROUND: The included Proclamation is a public statement that brings attention to factors that affect our community.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING IMPACT: N/A

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IMPACT: This request meets the following goals and objectives of the Bloomington Comprehensive Plan 2035: N/A

Respectfully submitted for consideration.

Prepared by: Amber Bishler, Office Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

[ADM 2B Proclamation](#)



Mayoral Proclamation
Recognizing May as
National Law Enforcement Appreciation Month



It is with great significance that we recognize National Law Enforcement Month in 2024, a time to honor the service and loss of those law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting our communities and safeguarding our democracy.

WHEREAS, there are approximately 800,000 law enforcement officers serving in communities across the United States, including the dedicated members of the Bloomington Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Illinois is the proud home of more than 42,000 dedicated police officers, including 127 members of the Bloomington Police Department who selflessly put their lives on the line to keep our community safe; and

WHEREAS, the Bloomington Police Department, established in 1850, lost two police officers in the line of duty: Detective Sergeant John E. "Jack" Penn on August 12, 1931, and Patrolman Billy Paul Osborn on February 19, 1986; and

WHEREAS, these Bloomington Police officers stand as leaders and public servants, engaging and building trust with, and educating the community about the importance of collaboration and public safety; and

WHEREAS, we appreciate the extraordinary efforts and sacrifices made by police officers and their family members daily to protect our homes, schools, workplaces, places of worship, and roadways; and

WHEREAS, it is vital that we, as a community, recognize National Law Enforcement Month as an opportunity to show our full support for these professionals who work tirelessly to keep us safe.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mboka Mwilambwe, Mayor of the City of Bloomington, Illinois, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as **National Law Enforcement Appreciation Month**. I urge all residents to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude and sincere appreciation to our Law Enforcement Officers for their unwavering commitment to serving our community and protecting lives. Let us honor their service.

Mboka Mwilambwe

Mboka Mwilambwe
Mayor



Leslie Yocum

Leslie Yocum
City Clerk



RECOGNITION/APPOINTMENTS ITEM NO. 3.B.

FOR COUNCIL: May 20, 2024

WARD IMPACTED: City-Wide Impact

SUBJECT: Proclamation for National Public Works Week, as requested by the Administration Department.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: None; Recognition only.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINK:

Goal 5. Great Place - Livable, Sustainable City

STRATEGIC PLAN SIGNIFICANCE:

Objective 5b. City decisions consistent with plans and policies

BACKGROUND: The included Proclamation is a public statement that brings attention to factors that affect our community.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING IMPACT: N/A

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IMPACT: This request meets the following goals and objectives of the Bloomington Comprehensive Plan 2035: N/A

Respectfully submitted for consideration.

Prepared by: Michael Hill, Management Analyst

ATTACHMENTS:

[ADM 1C Proclamation](#)



*Mayoral Proclamation
Recognizing May 19-25, 2024
As National Public Works Week
“Advancing Quality of Life for All”*

WHEREAS, public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to the public health, high quality of life, and well-being of the people of the City of Bloomington, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, these infrastructure, facilities, and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, who are engineers, managers, and employees at all levels of government and the private sector, who are responsible for rebuilding, improving, and protecting our nation’s transportation, water supply, water treatment, and solid waste systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential for our residents; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the residents, civic leaders, and children in Bloomington to gain knowledge of and to maintain an ongoing interest and understanding of the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, the year 2024 marks the 64th annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Mboka Mwilambwe, do hereby proclaim May 19-25, 2024, as National Public Works Week. I urge all residents to join with representatives of the American Public Works Association and government agencies in activities, events, and ceremonies designed to pay tribute to our public works professionals, engineers, managers, and employees and to recognize the substantial contributions they make to protecting our national health, safety, and quality of life.

Mboka Mwilambwe
Mboka Mwilambwe
Mayor



Leslie Yocum
Leslie Yocum
City Clerk



CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 5.A.

FOR COUNCIL: May 20, 2024

WARD IMPACTED: City-Wide Impact

SUBJECT: Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the March 18, 2024 Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: The proposed Minutes be approved.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINK:

Goal 1. Financially Sound City Providing Quality Basic Services

STRATEGIC PLAN SIGNIFICANCE:

Objective 1d. City services delivered in the most cost-effective, efficient manner

BACKGROUND: The minutes of the meetings provided have been reviewed and certified as correct and complete by the City Clerk. In compliance with the Open Meetings Act, minutes must be approved thirty (30) days after the meeting or at the second subsequent regular meeting whichever is later. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, minutes are available for public inspection and posted to the City's website within 10 days after approval.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING IMPACT: N/A

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IMPACT: This request meets the following goals and objectives of the Bloomington Comprehensive Plan 2035: N/A

Respectfully submitted for consideration.

Prepared by: Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk

ATTACHMENTS:

[CLK 1B 03182024 DRAFT Minutes](#)



MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024, 6:00 P.M.

The Committee of the Whole convened in regular session in the Government Center Chambers at 6:00 P.M. Mayor Mboka Mwilambwe called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Mboka Mwilambwe	Mayor	Present
Jenna Kearns	Council Member, Ward 1	Present
Donna Boelen	Council Member, Ward 2	Present
Sheila Montney	Council Member, Ward 3	Present
John Danenberger	Council Member, Ward 4	Present
Nick Becker	Council Member, Ward 5	Present
Cody Hendricks	Council Member, Ward 6	Present
Mollie Ward	Council Member, Ward 7	Present
Kent Lee	Council Member, Ward 8	Present
Tom Crumpler	Council Member, Ward 9	Present

Public Comment

Mayor Mwilambwe read a public comment statement of procedure. The following spoke in-person: (1) Mark Adams; (2) Noah Tang; (3) Anthony Krispin; (4) Fred Wollrab; (5) Robert Vericella; (6) Matt Strupp; (7) Mark Adams; and (8) Patrick Hoban. Frankie Pelusi and Matt Burgess registered to speak in-person, and Georgene Chissell registered to speak remotely, but they were not available when called. Zach Carlson emailed public comment.

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 Boelen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Hendricks, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Item 4.A. Consideration and Action on Approving the Minutes of the February 19, 2024 Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Mayor Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call roll:

AYES: Kearns, Boelen, Montney, Danenberger, Becker, Hendricks, Ward, Lee, Crumpler

Motion carried.

Regular Agenda

The following item was presented:

Item 5.A. Presentation of the Downtown Streetscape Draft Final Design Report, as requested by the Administration Department.

City Manager, Tim Gleason, introduced the Item and celebrated the long-standing conversation of Downtown Streetscape coming to fruition. He provided brief history on the design process, described the extensive public outreach, and discussed time that had gone into preparing the report. He then recognized the Steering Committee that spearheaded the project.

Billy Tyus, Deputy City Manager, was excited to present the final report after a year and a half of work. He shared how improvements would greatly improve both what is seen above ground, as well as below ground addressing aging infrastructure. He talked about how, should Council decide, the Streetscape Project would be able to move forward without impacting other infrastructure repairs throughout the community and noted various State funding opportunities to be implemented. Mr. Tyus encouraged the public to view the project's phases and follow along as each phase returned to Council for consideration.

Mike Sewell, Project Manager with Crawford, Murphy, and Tilly ("CMT"), echoed appreciation to the Steering Committee, and discussed how through public input they learned the preferred look for the project was a hybrid of modern design highlighted by Downtown's original, historic architecture. He explained how the design approach would create a unified sense of place unique to other downtowns in Central Illinois.

Chris Stritzel, Project Principal with CMT, discussed how the Streetscape Report is inclusive for all including exterior improvements ensuring Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") compliance, as well as vastly improving pedestrian and cyclist safety. He then explained the extensive steps taken to ensure input solicited was from a vast stakeholder group.

Mr. Sewell discussed major utility infrastructure projects included in the Report, as well as the sustainable, easily replaceable materials suggested for projects, in order to minimize long-term expenses. He walked through the Report's 10 phases emphasizing how no phase was dependent on another and still achieved significant impacts to the area. Mr. Sewell then talked about various venues, reimagined park spaces, and outdoor open spaces. He presented multiple opportunities for public art that would encourage socializing and photo opportunities and discussed the cost estimates for the Downtown Core Program (\$59,010,000), the Highway Program (\$6,722,000), and the Downtown Fringe Program (\$11,422,500). He noted that a large portion of the cost included infrastructure that would have needed replaced in the next 10 years.

Council Member Crumpler and Neil Brumleve, Landscape Architect with MassieMassie & Associates, discussed how the suggested pavers to be used would further ensure Downtown was ADA accessible, as well as promoted longevity and low replacement cost.

Council Member Hendricks and Mr. Sewell discussed how refuse, recycling, and parking.

Council Member Boelen noted that any new construction should mimic existing architecture. She supported the phased approach and reiterated her advocacy for revitalization.

Council Member Ward and Mr. Sewell talked about ADA accessibility and Phase 2 infrastructure improvements that would improve flooding in surrounding neighborhoods.

Council Member Montney expressed concern with the cost of the plan considering the many competing priorities in the community.

Council Member Becker and Mr. Sewell discussed potential grant funding of at least \$2 million. Council Member Becker echoed appreciation of the phased approach and suggested seeking ways to amend phase work if funding in a particular year wasn't fully available.

Council Member Crumpler motioned, seconded by Council Member Ward, to extend Council Discussion time by 5 minutes.

Mayor Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call roll:

AYES: Kearns, Boelen, Montney, Danenberger, Becker, Hendricks, Ward, Lee, Crumpler

Motion carried.

Council Member Crumpler and Mr. Tyus discussed the phases being independent of one another and how each phase completed would have its own successes.

Council Member Boelen noted that the Town of Normal had received most of their funding from the federal government when they completed their Uptown development.

City Manager Gleason walked through next steps and noted a kickoff project would be considered at the April Council meeting.

Mayor Mwilambwe thanked the CMT representatives, and all of the stakeholders involved for their work and expressed his support for the plan and its focus on infrastructure.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.B. Presentation of the Connect Transit Preliminary Budget, Financials, and Annual Report on Transit Operations, as requested by the Administration Department.

City Manager Gleason introduced the Item and noted an update on the Downtown Transfer Station would be provided at the April Committee of the Whole meeting.

David Braun, Connect Transit General Manager, presented ridership statistics on fixed and mobility routes. He went on to discuss how the lowered Fair-Rate-For-All had impacted the number of routes. He then compared Connect Mobility expectations of service and the success of the new service, Connect Flex, in Ward 2. Mr. Braun then discussed a financial five-year forecast and noted various public outreach efforts on projects and services. He went on to present the Fiscal Year ("FY") 2025 proposed budget, as well as the proposed Capital Budget, highlighting various projects and funding sources.

Council Member Montney and Mr. Braun discussed cost efficiencies across all routes.

Council Member Crumpler asked for additional detail on goals set and how staff planned to achieve them. Mr. Braun responded accordingly.

Council Member Hendricks was interested in additional information on the Better Bus Stop campaign. Mr. Braun elaborated on how staff had evaluated all the bus stops and determined improvements necessary. He briefly touched on a potential "Adopt a Stop" partnership with other local organizations.

Council Member Ward and Mr. Braun discussed the current vetting process for two potential areas to expand the Connect Flex routes, a ride-share program. He noted a recommendation would be presented to the Connect Transit Board in early Fiscal Year 2025. They ended by discussing complaints on trash-littered stops.

Council Member Boelen and Mr. Braun discussed potential changes in transit programs and how those zones would be covered. Council Member Boelen appreciated the Connect Flex program in Ward 2, which had had no public transportation previously.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Gleason shared a video highlighting upcoming events. He then recognized newly hired employees and highlighted Fiscal Year 2025 Budget items that would be coming on agendas soon. He also recognized a few staff members involved in the Downtown for All Plan.

Executive Session

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment

Council Member Boelen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Hendricks, to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call roll:

AYES: Kearns, Boelen, Montney, Danenberger, Becker, Hendricks, Ward, Lee, Crumpler

Motion carried (viva voce).

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 P.M.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

ATTEST

Mboka Mwilambwe, Mayor

Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk



REGULAR AGENDA ITEM NO. 6.A.

FOR COUNCIL: May 20, 2024

WARD IMPACTED: City-Wide Impact

SUBJECT: Presentation on the Public Safety & Community Relations Board (PSCRB) Annual Report, as requested by the Administration Department.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: None; Presentation only.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINK:
Goal 4. Strong Neighborhoods

STRATEGIC PLAN SIGNIFICANCE:
Objective 1c. Engaged residents that are well informed and involved in an open governance process

BACKGROUND: The Annual Report of the Public Safety and Community Relations Board will be presented to Council.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: Public Safety and Community Relations board

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING IMPACT: N/A

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IMPACT: This request meets the following goals and objectives of the Bloomington Comprehensive Plan 2035: N/A

Respectfully submitted for consideration.

Prepared by: Michael Hurt, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer



REGULAR AGENDA ITEM NO. 6.B.

FOR COUNCIL: May 20, 2024

WARD IMPACTED: City-Wide Impact

SUBJECT: Panel Presentation and Discussion on Community Housing Needs , as requested by the Administration Department.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: None; Presentation only.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINK:

Goal 3. Grow the Local Economy

Goal 4. Strong Neighborhoods

STRATEGIC PLAN SIGNIFICANCE:

Objective 3a. Retention and growth of current local businesses

Objective 4c. Preservation of property/home valuations

BACKGROUND: This Item represents the second in a series of public conversations about housing as the City and other community agencies work to address housing challenges in our community. Plans are for a panel to discuss some of the issues being faced and answer questions.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING IMPACT: N/A

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IMPACT: This request meets the following goals and objectives of the Bloomington Comprehensive Plan 2035: Goal H-1 (Ensure the availability of safe, attractive and high quality housing stock to meet the needs of all current and future residents of Bloomington), Objective H-1.2 (Ensure an adequate supply of affordable housing for low to moderate income households), and Objective H-1.3 (Create a life long community by fostering housing stock that meets the needs of residents of all ages and abilities)

Respectfully submitted for consideration.

Prepared by: Billy Tyus, Deputy City Manager