



**MINUTES**  
**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022, 6:00 P.M.**

The City Council convened in regular session in Government Center Chambers at 6:00 p.m., Monday, May 16, 2022. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mboka Mwilambwe.

**Roll Call**

| Attendee Name   | Title                  | Status  | Arrived   |
|-----------------|------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Mboka Mwilambwe | Mayor                  | Present |           |
| Grant Walch     | Council Member, Ward 1 | Present |           |
| Donna Boelen    | Council Member, Ward 2 | Present |           |
| Sheila Montney  | Council Member, Ward 3 | Present | 6:29 p.m. |
| Julie Emig      | Council Member, Ward 4 | Present |           |
| Nick Becker     | Council Member, Ward 5 | Present |           |
| De Urban        | Council Member, Ward 6 | Present |           |
| Mollie Ward     | Council Member, Ward 7 | Present |           |
| Jeff Crabill    | Council Member, Ward 8 | Present |           |
| Tom Crumpler    | Council Member, Ward 9 | Present |           |

**Public Comment**

Mayor Mwilambwe read a statement of procedure for public comment. The following individuals provided in-person public comment: (1) Karen Urban; (2) Jordan Baker; (3) Kathy Norton; (4) Dava Brookslow; (5) Surena Fish; and (6) Carla Bailey-Smith. No emailed public comment was 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 Ward made a motion, seconded by Council Member Boelen, that the Consent Agenda, including all items listed below, be approved as presented.

Item 4.A. Consideration and action to approve the Minutes of the April 11, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Mayor Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call the roll:

**AYES:** Walch, Boelen, Emig, Becker, Urban, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler

**ABSENT:** Montney

**Motion carried.**

**Regular Agenda**

*The following item was presented:*

Item 5.A. Presentation on the American Rescue Plan, as requested by the Administration Department.

City Manager, Tim Gleason, reported that the City had received half of the awarded \$13,400,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”) funds. He reminded Council the deadlines for obligating and awarding funds. He then discussed \$7,000,000 in various improvement projects that were either approved, obligated, or to be considered. He stated that \$6,400,000 ARPA funds remained and added considerations for next steps to discuss areas of interest. He explained that staff sought Council’s input on categories of focus.

Council Member Boelen and City Manager Gleason discussed the potential to allocate funds for Economic Development and the City’s need to prove loss of revenue in that particular area as a result of COVID. Council Member Boelen referenced ARPA language. City Manager Gleason assured Council staff would do as directed. They then discussed the potential to increase fund use for water and sewer infrastructure projects. Council Member Boelen preferred that processing be done through the Economic & Community Development Department to ensure accountability and reporting measures.

Council Member Walch asked for confirmation on the amount of ARPA funds that remained to be allocated. City Manager Gleason responded, clarifying the remaining funds needed to be allocated into one of the categories presented. Council Member Walch strongly expressed his desire to allocate ‘found’ money to sewer infrastructure.

Council Member Ward supported sewer and street infrastructure, but recognized multiple needs within the community that she believed should be supported as well.

Council Member Emig asked if the City had the capacity to complete more road and sewer infrastructure if ARPA funds were allocated. City Manager Gleason stated that he would review the data and provide an answer to Council at a later time. She then asked if he saw any opportunities for more funds to be identified. He responded that staff were exploring potential grants. Council Member Emig expressed support to use ARPA funds for socio-economic needs.

Council Member Montney arrived at 6:29 p.m.

**Council Member Crabill made a motion, seconded by Council Member Ward, to extend the discussion by 20 minutes.**

**Mayor Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call the roll:**

**AYES:** Walch, Boelen, Emig, Montney, Becker, Urban, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler.

**Motion carried.**

Council Member Crumpler expressed interest using ARPA funds to offer incentives for developers to infill within Bloomington, as well as the installation of broadband internet as the community moved more electronic.

Council Member Montney highlighted the financial significance of sewer issues in older homes within the City. She reminded Council that the City was only able to address 1.8% of the streets annually.

Council Member Crabill expressed interest in allocating additional funding annually to infrastructure repairs. He discussed various needs listed in the Economic Development

Council's study, which included housing as a primary need. He noted using funds to revitalize downtown.

Council Member Becker stated that compromises needed to be made in order to use the ARPA funds to better the City. He added that the infrastructure needed to be addressed in order to avoid compounding problems.

Council Member Boelen noted a previous Council had ruled to utilize local companies, which penalized outside companies from bidding. She suggested reconsidering that rule.

*The following item was presented:*

Item 5.B. Presentation of the myBloomington App, as requested by the Administration Department.

City Manager Gleason provided a brief overview of the app myBloomington's history.

Katherine Murphy, Communications & External Affairs Manager, provided a more in-depth history of the app, which was introduced in 2015. She explained that residents can access the portal at any time and that it could be used to submit requests such as pothole repair, property maintenance complaints, garbage collection issues, and grass complaints. She compared usage of the app from March to December in 2015 of 372 requests to the 2021 calendar year with 10,456 requests. She then discussed system upgrades and improvements.

Council Member Crumpler and Mrs. Murphy discussed the relationship between the Hub and the App. She stated they are one and the same, in that requests at the Hub are entered into the App.

Council Member Crabill stated that he had not noticed any changes to the App. Mrs. Murphy noted that staff continued to add additional categories. Council Member Crabill then asked about other added features and Mrs. Murphy stated that residents could now add comments. He then asked who was in charge of assigning priorities. She explained that it was determined by the assigned department. Council Member then discussed visibility of the App. Council Member Crabill and Craig McBeath, Director of Information Technology, discussed searchability of the App. Council Member Crabill encouraged residents to give the App a try and if their issue is not resolved, then contact their Council Member.

Council Member Boelen pointed out that photos could be uploaded and that follow up emails could be received.

Council Member Emig asked how to make the technology more accessible. Council Member Emig and Mrs. Murphy then discussed the possibility of developing a QR code.

Council Member Walch asked about the most frequent requests, as well as the average response time. Mrs. Murphy stated that the App greatly reduced staff time and mentioned a few common requests.

Council Member Ward suggested ways to submit or mark requests as higher priority.

Council Member Montney suggested tracking fulfillment time to see progression over time.

Council Member Becker asked how old requests not resolved were addressed. Mrs. Murphy stated that she was in charge of escalating those requests. He then commented to issues with receiving email notifications or follow-up when issues were reported via the Hub.

## City Manager's Report

City Manager Gleason highlighted the City's new hires, upcoming educational classes, and pool passes going on sale.

## Executive Session

No Executive Session was held.

## Adjournment

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

Mayor Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call the roll:

Motion carried (viva voce).

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

Mboka Mwilambwe  
Mboka Mwilambwe, Mayor

ATTEST

Amanda Stutsman  
Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk

