



MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023, 6:00 P.M.

The Committee of the Whole convened in regular session in the Government Center Boardroom at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem, Donna Boelen, called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance ending with a moment of silent prayer/reflection.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Mboka Mwilambwe	Mayor	Absent
Jenna Kearns	Council Member, Ward 1	Present
Donna Boelen	Council Member, Ward 2, Mayor Pro Tem	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 Pro Tem Boelen read a public comment procedure statement. Deborah Johnson spoke in-person. 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 Crumpler made a motion, seconded by Council Member Montney, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Item 4.A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the March 20, 2023 Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen directed the Clerk to call roll:

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

Motion carried.

Regular Agenda

The following item was presented:

Item 5.A. Presentation of the Bloomington Police Department's 2022 Annual Report, as requested by the Police Department.

Deputy City Manager, Billy Tyus, introduced Police Chief, Jamal Simington, to present Bloomington Police Department's ("BPD") 2022 Annual Report.

Chief Simington noted that BPD was working toward renewing its four-year accreditation through the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Program and expected to complete the renewal in the coming months. He presented on staff numbers, accreditation by division, community engagement efforts, crime and dispatch statistics, employee recognitions, and accomplishments in fulfilling target initiatives, and addressing civilian needs.

Council Member Crumpler asked Chief Simington to comment on whether the number of DUI arrests documented in the annual report had increased or decreased from the prior year. Chief Simington responded that the number of DUI arrests had slightly decreased.

Council Member Ward expressed concern about the reported increase in gun violations. Chief Simington responded noting that there was a national upward trend in gun violations due to the increasing availability of guns wrongfully possessed. He also noted BPD's increased success in confiscating guns.

Council Member Hendricks made a motion, seconded by Council Member Crumpler, to amend Council discussion time by five minutes.

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen directed the Clerk to call roll:

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

Motion carried.

Council Member Ward also requested data on resolved cases. Mayor Pro Tem Boelen noted that the Behavioral Health Coordinating Council tracks suicide statistics.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.B. Presentation of the Bloomington Fire Department's 2022 Annual Report, as requested by the Fire Department.

Deputy City Manager Tyus introduced Fire Chief, Eric West, and Deputy Fire Chief, Cory Matheny, to present Bloomington Fire Department's ("BFD") 2022 Annual Report.

Chief West presented on staffing statistics while operating under capacity, staff changes, incident statistics, fire call volume per month, mutual aid, fire and EMS response statistics, education and training, public events and engagement, recruitment, fire investigations, accomplishments, and 2023 projects.

Council Member Crumpler and Chief West discussed the BFD's efforts to increase diversity within the department, as well as streamline hiring processes and position requirements. Deputy City Manager Tyus added that increasing fire career awareness had also been a priority.

Council Member Montney asked Chief West to expand on the number of auto accidents included in EMS calls. Chief West estimated that auto accident-related calls was 5-10%.

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen requested an overview of the relationship between lower staff numbers and the ability to respond to calls. Chief West clarified that shifts were never short-staffed, but that travel time was occasionally limited.

Council Member Ward asked if there was a connection between older, historic parts of town and fire incidents. Chief West noted no connection had been observed.

City Manager's Report

Deputy City Manager Billy Tyus welcomed two new City employees and highlighted community event opportunities including Parks & Recreation classes for kids.

Executive Session

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment

Council Member Ward made a motion, seconded by Council Member Danenberger, to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen directed the Clerk to call roll:

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

Motion carried (viva voce).

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 P.M.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

ATTEST



Mboka Mwilambwe, Mayor



Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk

