MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 11, 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 met virtually via zoom conferencing at 6:00 p.m., Monday, May 11, 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

City Manager Tim Gleason provided an update on the effects of COVID-19 on City services and programs. He noted the City would be receiving annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding including an additional $329,144 under the CARES Act and that the item accepting those funds would appear on the June 8, 2020 regular City Council meeting. He stated that final numbers regarding financial impacts of COVID-19 would not be available until June or July 2020 once taxes could be collected.

He noted that Bloomington was 1 of 11 counties in the Heart of Illinois region of the Restore Illinois Plan that had petitioned Governor Pritzker to create a sub-region separating the 11 counties from the northern counties. He stated that the City of Peoria had taken the lead on the petition, which had the potential to allow the proposed sub-region to re-open earlier than the northern portion of the region in which we were placed.

Mr. Gleason stated that in conjunction with the Town of Normal, staff had decided to close public pools for the summer in an effort to minimize the spread of COVID-19. He stated that staff would move forward with the renovation of O'Neil pool during the shutdown. He finished by reminding citizens that Public Works bulk and brush crews were now fully staffed.

Recognition/Appointments

A. Recognition of the Appointments and Re-appointments to various Boards and Commissions, as requested by the Administration Department.

Mayor Renner asked Leslie Yocum, City Clerk, to announce the appointments. Mrs. Yocum announced the following individuals and the Board or Commission to which they were appointed: (1) Linda Foster, Blm-Nml Public Transportation System Board; (2) Levi Sturgeon, Board of Fire & Police Commissioners; (3) Eric Hansen, Citizens' Beautification Committee; (4) Cody Hendricks, Citizens' Beautification Committee; (5) Netia Carey, Human Relations Commission; (6) John Danenberger, Planning Commission; (7) Kate Brunk, Property Maintenance Review Board; (8) Noah Tang, Property Maintenance Review Board; and (9) Elicssha Sanders, Transportation Commission. (10) Ellenn Schroeder-Concklin, Board of Fire & Police Commissioners; (11) Delos "Dean" Messinger, Board of Fire & Police Commissioners; (12) Michael Rudicil, Board of Fire & Police Commissioners; (13) Victoria Harris, Board of Zoning Appeals; (14) Tyler Noonan, Board of Zoning Appeals; (15) Michael Rivera, Jr., Board of Zoning Appeals; (16) Michael Straza, Board of Zoning Appeals; (17) Jeffrey Brown, Building Board of Appeals; (18) Mark Holderby, Building Board of Appeals; (19) Jerry Kelleher, Building Board of Appeals; (20) John Meek, Building Board of Appeals; (21) Michael Raikes, Building Board of Appeals; (22) Larry Stevig, Building Board of Appeals; (23) John Weber, Building Board of Appeals; (24) Erica Larkin, Citizens' Beautification Committee; (25) Robin VanDermay, Citizens' Beautification Committee; (26) Meryl Brown, Cultural Commission; (27) Angelique Racki, Cultural Commission; (28) Georgene Chissell, Historic Preservation Commission; (29) Lea Cline, Historic Preservation Commission; (30) Paul Scharnett, Historic Preservation Commission; (31) Barb Adkins, Housing Authority Board; (32) Terrence Koch, Housing Authority Board; (33) Kiranmayi (Kiran) Konam, Human Relations Commission; (34) Gary McGinnis, Human Relations Commission; (35) Rhonda Smith, Human Relations Commission; (36) Brenda Guest, Japan Sister City Committee; (37) Kyle Silver, Japan Sister City Committee; (38) John Argenziano, Library Board of Trustees; (39) Catrina Parker, Library Board of Trustees; (40) Alicia Whitworth, Library Board of Trustees; (41) Thomas Krieger, Planning Commission; (42) Mark Muehleck, Planning Commission; (43) John Capodice, Property Maintenance Review Board; (44) Robert Garcia, Property Maintenance Review Board; (45) Rodney Smithson, Property Maintenance Review Board; (46) Robert Bosquez, Public Safety & Community Relations Board; (47) Janet Lancaster, Public Safety & Community Relations Board; (48) Scott Rathbun, Police Pension Board (49) Jacob Elterich, Technology Commission; (50) Ravi Duvvuri, Technology Commission; and (51) John Corey, Transportation Commission.

Public Comment

Mayor Renner opened the floor for public comment and the following individual called in to speak live: (1) Becky Altic.

Mrs. Yocum stated that the following individual had registered to speak live but had not called in: (1) John Reed. She went on to explain that emailed public comment was accepted up until 15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting, and the following individual had emailed comments which were provided to the City Council Members: (1) Surena Fish.

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 Bray, that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented except Items 8.C., 8.E., and 8.G.

Item 8.A. Consideration and action to approve Bills and Payroll in the amount of $3,922,293.51, as requested by the Finance Department. *(Recommended Motion: The proposed Bills and Payroll be approved.)*

Item 8.B. Consideration and action on the approval of the 2020 Supportive Housing Program/Continuum of Care Grant Agreement (IL0603L5T121902), in the amount of $33,792 with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, as requested by the Community Development Department. *(Recommended Motion: The proposed Agreement be approved.)*

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

Item 8.D. Consideration and action on a Resolution Approving Acceptance of the Illinois Housing Development Authority's Single Family Rehabilitation Grant in the amount of $444,000, and acceptance of the Conditional Commitment Letter, as requested by the Community Development Department. *(Recommended Motion: The proposed Resolution and Conditional Commitment Letter be approved.)*

Item 8.E. was removed from the Consent Agenda by Council Member Crabill.

Item 8.F. Consideration and action on an Ordinance Amending the Budget Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2021, and the approval of the Purchase of one (1) 2020 Ford F-350 Dump Truck from Currie Motors of Frankfort, IL, using the Northwest Municipal Contract and the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative Contract (#184), in the amount of $44,047, as requested by the Public Works Department and the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department. *(Recommended Motion: The proposed Ordinance and Purchase be approved.)*

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

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

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

Motion carried.

Items Pulled from the Consent Agenda

The following item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Council Member Crabill:

Item 8.E. Consideration and action on an Ordinance Amending the Budget Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2021, and on a Resolution Authorizing Waiving the Technical Bidding Requirements and Approving the Contract with Drake Scruggs Equipment Inc., for the Purchase of One (1) 2020 Ford F-350 in the Amount of $50,556 (Bid #2020-51), as requested by the Public Works Department.

Council Member Crabill asked if the current F150 truck was able to do the job of the F350 truck in order to reduce expenses. Kevin Kothe, Public Works Director, responded that the F350 had a utility body that would allow staff at Lake Bloomington to complete jobs quicker and more efficiently, whereas the current F150 truck required staff to make multiple trips to accommodate the loads.

Council Member Crabill made a motion, seconded by Council Member Bray, that the proposed Ordinance, Resolution, and Contract be approved as presented.

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

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

NAYES: Carrillo

Motion carried.

The following item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Council Member Crabill:

Item 8.G. Consideration and action on an Ordinance Amending the Budget Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2021 and to approve a Contract with Egizii Electric Inc. of Springfield, in the amount of $109,740.61, to install the LED lights at the Grossinger Motors Arena, as requested by the Facilities Department and the Grossinger Motors Arena.

Council Member Crabill expressed concern with the Arena being closed for the foreseeable future and asked whether money would be better spent elsewhere. Mr. Gleason stated that with the Arena being empty, the project would be able to be completed quicker and with less interruptions. He then asked Russ Waller, Facilities Director, to address Council.

Mr. Waller stated the lightbulbs had already been purchased. He explained the work to be completed and agreed with Mr. Gleason that the Arena being closed would allow installation to be much more efficient.

Council Member Mathy asked about the savings that would be generated by the upgrade. Mr. Waller stated that approximately $30,000 in annual savings would result.

Council Member Crabill made a motion, seconded by Council Member Black, that the proposed Ordinance and Contract be approved as presented.

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

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

Motion carried.

The following item was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Council Member Carrillo:

Item 8.C. Consideration and action to approve a Local Public Agency Agreement for Federal Participation with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), and a Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Resolution, in the amount of $30,000, for construction of Sidewalk near Sheridan Elementary School, as requested by the Public Works Department.

Council Member Carrillo expressed concerns on the request for additional funds. Mr. Kothe stated there was a need for updated sidewalks near Sheridan school. He explained that when a bid was awarded and grant funding was to be used, the State required the City to have additional funds available in case the project exceeded grant funding. He confirmed that the additional funds would only be used if necessary.

Council Member Crabill asked if the project would replace sidewalks or create new ones. Mr. Kothe stated that most of the project would replace sidewalks to make them American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant and that the creation of sidewalks was minimal.

Council Member Carrillo made a motion, seconded by Council Member Mathy, that the proposed Agreement and Motor Fuel Tax Resolution be approved as presented.

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

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

Motion carried.

Regular Agenda

The following item was presented:

Item 9.A. Consideration and action on an Ordinance Authorizing Boundary Modifications to the Area Known as the Bloomington-Normal Enterprise Zone (The Ferrero Expansion), and the approval of the Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement, as requested by the Economic Development Department.

City Manager Gleason introduced Melissa Hon, Economic Development Director.

Ms. Hon explained that staff continued to work in conjunction with the Economic Development Council (EDC) and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) on the retention and expansion efforts of Ferrero. She reminded Council that Bloomington had been the home of various candy producers since 1892.

Patrick Hoban, CEO of the EDC, stated that Ferrero was a local business who planned to make a significant expansion. He noted the opportunity to increase the area of the current enterprise zone to include the proposed site would better encourage Ferrero to expand in Bloomington.

Council Member Crabill asked for a description of the DCEO and how it worked with the EDC and local communities. Mr. Hoban explained the enterprise zone was a State incentive managed by DCEO. He explained McLean County, Bloomington, Normal, Ford County, and Gibson City submitted a combined application for the zone and had designated the EDC as the administrators. He provided additional detail on the role of the EDC and how funds were distributed within the program. Mr. Hoban also noted that approval of the Ordinance before Council tonight had to be done by all five taxing bodies before submitting to the State for approval.

Council Member Crabill noted that several jobs could be created by this opportunity and asked for a cost benefit analysis of the sales tax revenue. Mr. Hoban provided a detailed example.

Mayor Renner confirmed that if the Ordinance was approved, the City would not be providing direct funds, as opposed to a TIF agreement. Mr. Hoban responded affirmatively.

Council Member Emig also expressed interest in a cost benefit analysis. She asked about the potential to partner with the other local municipalities on a public labor agreement and attaching it to similar benefits packages. Mr. Hoban recommended creating an incentive package that included all five taxing bodies for future developments.

Council Member Carrillo asked why a project labor management agreement was not a current option. Mr. Hoban stated that the type of agreement before Council was usually part of an incentive package under property tax abatement. He explained that purpose of the Ordinance was to reshape the enterprise zone and that incentive packages could be revisited at a late date. Council Member Carrillo asked how the EDC determined quality of jobs. Mr. Hoban responded that manufacturing jobs were considered good quality and noted that these jobs were also in support of the Illinois Made Campaign that promotes Illinois crafted goods.

Council Member Boelen pointed out the benefits the amendment could bring to the City.

Council Member Mathy expressed interest in an analysis of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts and an analysis of incentive packages. He suggested a partnership with the Illinois State University (ISU) School of Business be created to allow students real-world experiences. Mr. Hoban stated that a partnership with ISU was being considered.

Council Member Mwilambwe asked if a more efficient process for approval of Enterprise Zones could be designed. Mr. Hoban stated that he planned to present an updated approval process with a combined general incentive package in a few months.

Council Member Mwilambwe made a motion, seconded by Council Member Bray, that the proposed Ordinance and the Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement be approved as presented.

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

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

NAYS: Carrillo

Motion carried.

The following item was presented:

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, including consideration of an Ordinance to Add a New Section 2(Q) Regarding Liquor License Fees and a New Section 2(R) Regarding COVID-19 Grants, as requested by the Legal Department.

City Manager Gleason explained that the proposed amendment to the Emergency Ordinance would prorate liquor license for the amount of time establishments were not operating due to COVID-19. He went on to explain the second proposed amendment would grant him the authority to sign grants related to funding for COVID-19 relief. A request made in an effort to expedite processing. He clarified this would not apply to Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds through the CARES Act.

Council Member Mathy asked for an approximate number of restaurants and taverns the license fee proration would affect. Leslie Yocum, City Clerk, stated that staff could further analyze the number that would be affected, but that the City currently had approximately 176 liquor license holders. She mentioned that 31 of those had registered for curbside pick-up and delivery of alcohol.

Mayor Renner asked if establishments such as grocery stores and convenience stores would be allowed to receive prorated license fees. Mrs. Yocum responded that the proposal before Council would only apply to restaurants, taverns, and clubs and that they must have been closed for a minimum of 30 days in order to qualify for the proration.

Council Member Mathy made a motion, seconded by Council Member Black, that the proposed Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2020-18 to Add a New Section 2(Q) Regarding Liquor License Fees and a New Section 2(R) Regarding COVID-19 Grants be approved as presented.

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

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

Motion carried.

City Manager's Discussion

City Manager Gleason reminded Council and the public to participate in the 2020 Census and highlighted the upcoming Curbside Downtown Bloomington Farmers' Market. He recognized Jeanie Hamilton, Directory of the Bloomington Public Library, who was voted to become the President of the Illinois Library Association, where she would serve a three-year term.

Mayor's Discussion

Mayor Renner recognized International Firefighters Week and thanked all City firefighters and 911 dispatchers. He provided additional details on the request that the Governor create a separate region for the Central Illinois municipalities to allow our area to progress at a different rate than the northern municipalities.

Council Member's Discussion

Council Member Crabill confirmed that CDBG funds were disbursed by the Department of Housing and Urban Authority (HUD) and asked if published guidelines on fund use existed. Mr. Gleason stated the City was a regular recipient of CDBG funds. He stated that the City had not yet received funds, nor had guidelines been published. Mr. Gleason promised more discussion at a future meeting. Council Member Crabill thanked all the Board and Commission members for their service. He noted that the Bloomington Library had a curbside pick-up program and reminded the public to social distance and wear face masks so that Bloomington could re-open quicker.

Council Member Boelen noted her appreciation of a partnership with the surrounding municipalities in requesting the Governor create a sub-region in the Restore Illinois Plan.

Council Member Carrillo reminded the public of her virtual Community Council meeting May 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. She also commended the McLean County COVID-19 Mutual Aid team and briefly described the assistance they provided.

Executive Session - Cite Section

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment

Council Member Carrillo made a motion, seconded by Council Member Mwilambwe, that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried (viva voce).

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON	**ATTEST**
Tari Renner, Mayor	Amanda Mohan, Deputy City Clerk