



**MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 10, 2021, 6:00 P.M.**

This meeting was conducted under Governor Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-07 §6, which was reissued and extended by Executive Order 2021-09. The Order, implemented in response to COVID-19, suspended in-person attendance under the Open Meeting Act, 5 ILCS 120.

The City Council convened in regular session virtually via Zoom conferencing with the City Manager, Tim Gleason, and City Clerk, Leslie Yocum, in-person in City Hall's Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m., Monday, May 10, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mboka Mwilambwe.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Mboka Mwilambwe	Mayor	Remote	
Jamie Mathy	Council Member, Ward 1	Remote	
Donna Boelen	Council Member, Ward 2	Remote	
Sheila Montney	Council Member, Ward 3	Remote	
Julie Emig	Council Member, Ward 4	Remote	
Nick Becker	Council Member, Ward 5	Remote	
Jennifer Jazmin Carrillo	Council Member, Ward 6	Remote	
Mollie Ward	Council Member, Ward 7	Remote	
Jeff Crabill	Council Member, Ward 8	Remote	
Tom Crumpler	Council Member, Ward 9	Remote	

COVID-19 Update by City Manager

City Manager Tim Gleason stated that Camille Rodriguez, McLean County Administrator, reported there had been 91 new COVID-19 cases since Friday. He noted that the COVID-19 vaccination located at the City's Grossinger Motors Arena was now available to all residents and provided a list of other local clinics. He then discussed Region, the City's designated region by the State for Covid-19 monitoring, would enter the State's Bridge Phase on Friday May 14, 2021. He discussed what that would mean for the City and reopening.

Recognition/Appointments

A. Proclamation recognizing May 14, 2021 as Childhood Apraxia of Speech Day

Mayor Mwilambwe presented the Proclamation for Childhood Apraxia of Speech Day. Mandy Nicolaides and her son were present virtually to accept the Proclamation.

B. Recognition of Appointments to Various Boards & Commissions

City Clerk, Leslie Yocum, recognized the appointment of Steven Campbell to the Japanese Sister Cities Committee and the re-appointments of: (1) Dawn McBride, Japanese

Sister Cities Committee; (2) Dean Messinger, Police Pension Board; and (3) Kelby Cumpston, Property Maintenance Review Board.

Public Comment

Mayor Mwilambwe read a statement of procedure for public comment and then opened the meeting for public comment. Resident Scott Stimeling spoke live. 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 Boelen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Carrillo, that the Consent Agenda, including all items listed below, be approved as presented.

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

AYES: Mathy, Boelen, Montney, Emig, Becker, Carrillo, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler

Motion carried.

Item 8.A. Consideration and action to approve the Minutes of the April 12, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Item 8.B. Consideration and action to approve Bills and Payroll in the amount of \$4,811,349.59, as requested by the Finance Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Bills and Payroll be approved.)

Item 8.C. Consideration and action to approve an Agreement with Gildner, Inc., for the FY 2022 Sidewalk and Curb Ramp Replacement Program (Bid #2021-28), in the amount of \$1,104,235.34, as requested by the Public Works Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Agreement be approved.)

Item 8.D. Consideration and action to approve a Contract with Ticketmaster for Ticketing at the Grossinger Motors Arena and the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts, as requested by the City Clerk Department and the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Contract be approved.)

Item 8.E. Consideration and action to approve the annual Software Licensing Maintenance Payment with Tyler Technologies, covering various modules of the City's MUNIS Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system, in the amount of \$207,494.21, as requested by the Information Technology Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Payment be approved.)

Item 8.F. Consideration and action on an Ordinance Approving a Zoning Map Amendment from P-2 Public Lands and Institutions District to R-1C Single-Family Residential District for the Property Located at 2813 Breezewood Boulevard (PIN: 21-21-252-001) 0.507 Acres More or Less, as requested by the Economic & Community Development Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Ordinance be approved.)

Item 8.G. Consideration and action on an Ordinance Approving the Final Plat of Replat of Outlot 36 Cedar Ridge Subdivision, as requested by the Public Works Department.

(Recommended Motion: The proposed Ordinance be approved, subject to the petitioner providing the required sureties for public improvements.)

Item 8.H. Consideration and action on the Request from CBOCS West, Inc., d/b/a Cracker Barrel Old Country Store #125, located at 502 Brock Dr., requesting a Class RBS (Restaurant, Beer and Wine Only, and Sunday Sales) Liquor License, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed License be approved.)

Item 8.I. Consideration and action to approve a Lake Bloomington Lot Transfer and Supplemental Agreement for Lots 1 & 2 in Block 9 in Camp Potawatomie, from the Estate of Lyle Spaniol, to the petitioner, Jeffry Watson, as requested by the Public Works Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Lot Transfer and Supplemental Agreement be approved.)

Regular Agenda

The following item was presented:

Item 9.A. Consideration and action to appoint a Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Bloomington, as requested by the City Council.

Mayor Mwilambwe stated that Council Member Mathy was the sole Council Member who expressed interest in the position of Mayor Pro Tem.

Council Member Emig made a motion, seconded by Council Member Becker, that Council Member Mathy be appointed to serve, until a new appointment is made by the City Council, as the Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Bloomington at those times when the Mayor is unable to perform his official duties due to an absence from the City or other incapacity.

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

AYES: Mathy, Boelen, Montney, Emig, Becker, Carrillo, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler

Motion carried.

The following item was presented:

Item 9.B. Presentation regarding the City Services Hub ("The Hub"), as requested by the City Clerk Department.

City Manager Gleason provided a brief overview of The Hub, noting that it was a three-year project in the making. The Hub is a one-stop-shop for residents and businesses that was implemented to address department space needs and serving the community better. He discussed how the City took an opportunity created by COVID-19 to roll the project out earlier than originally expected. He informed Council and the community that there would be a ribbon cutting ceremony with the Chamber of Commerce on Monday, May 17, 2021 and invited all to attend. He explained that The Hub had been operating under a trial basis at the Arena and that it would soon move to the Government Center in the previous Parks and Recreation office. He recognized both Billy Tyus, Deputy City Manager, and Leslie Yocum, City Clerk, for their impressive work developing The Hub amidst the challenges of COVID-19. He briefly discussed the process of how The Hub had evolved throughout COVID-19.

Mr. Tyus explained that staff had actively worked on a move to the Government

Center for years. He elaborated on the services that would be available with a focus on one-stop-shop or white glove customer service. He presented The Hub logo and recognized internal staff who had designed it. Mr. Tyus went on to explain how a temporary Hub had been established at the Arena box offices in order for residents to continue to complete their business in-person throughout Covid, also allowing staff to finetune and prepare for its permanent opening at the Government Center. He recognized Mrs. Yocum's continuous hard work and innovation on the development of The Hub.

Mrs. Yocum expressed appreciation for Administration allowing her to take their idea and run with it. She stated that through opportunities that COVID-19 presented, which she defined as "COVID Momentum," staff were able to move forward with ideas for The Hub. She discussed how previous to the Hub's creation staff would regularly have to direct residents to various different buildings to complete City business. She described the vision of the Hub being a customer centric location where almost all things City business could be handled in one location. She commented to renovations completed on an existing space at the Government Center that was done at a great cost savings over building out a new space. She described video conferencing capabilities that enable virtual conversations should a staff member be needed that was not present in the Hub. She went on to recognize all of the City staff members who would be located at The Hub and their departments.

Mr. Tyus recognized the Information Technology and Facilities Departments along with many other department directors for their participation in making the project a success. He then asked Mrs. Yocum to elaborate on The Hive.

Mrs. Yocum noted that through COVID Momentum, the City realized how work location flexibility was possible in that some staff could work remotely. In light of that, The Hive was created as an alternative workspace where staff can go to work remotely or together in small groups. She explained that in addition to becoming more resident focused and prioritizing customer service, Administration also wanted to do something nice for staff to make their work environments better.

Mr. Tyus noted that alternative workspaces were often implemented by private businesses, such as Google, to create collaborative workspaces generating creativity.

Council Member Carrillo expressed excitement for The Hub. She then expressed her preference that the City use the term 'resident' over 'citizen' or 'customer' to promote inclusiveness.

Council Member Crabill asked if additional signage would be implemented inside the Government Center. Mr. Tyus explained that additional signage would be posted as well as the implementation of electronic signage. Mrs. Yocum commented that the electronic billboard outside of the City Clerk Department in City Hall would be moved to the Government Center. She explained that staff were also working collaboratively with McLean County to integrate electronic billboards ensuring they were compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA").

Council Member Boelen echoed excitement and looked forward to the ribbon cutting.

Council Member Crumpler echoed excitement and asked how staff would promote the new space. Mrs. Yocum explained that billing inserts had been included in the utility bills and mentioned other marketing planned. Mr. Tyus explained that once The Hub was opened for business, staff would ramp up marketing and outreach.

Mayor Mwilambwe encouraged Council and the community to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony.

The following item was presented:

Item 9.C. 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 Amending Ordinance 2020-18 to Modify Section 2(S) Regarding City Utility Penalties, as requested by the Legal Department.

City Manager Gleason mentioned a recent change from the past Council to extend the no-shut-off policy for City utilities. He stated that staff recommended to strike the penalty language in order to clean up the process.

Council Member Emig made a motion, seconded by Council Member Carrillo, that the proposed Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2020-18 to Modify Section 2(S) Regarding City Utility Penalties be approved.

Council Member Crabill asked if penalties or interest would accrue. City Manager Gleason responded that no interest or penalties would accrue. Jeff Jurgens, Corporation Counsel, confirmed.

Council Member Carrillo asked how the City would address those who could not make their payments long term. City Manager Gleason responded that the City would receive American Rescue Plan (“ARP”) grant funding soon and that staff had received additional guidance on distribution. A presentation of the ARP funds would appear on an upcoming Committee of the Whole agenda. He stated that staff continue to encourage residents to take advantage of the resources available, but that a conversation on next steps was needed. Council Member Carrillo reiterated her position on wiping out utility billing debt as it was a City controlled cost that could be cleared to assist residents.

Council Member Boelen supported looking into a repayment schedule.

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

AYES: Mathy, Boelen, Montney, Emig, Becker, Carrillo, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler

Motion carried.

City Manager's Discussion

City Manager Tim Gleason highlighted multiple upcoming events in Downtown Bloomington. He then mentioned a new rental assistance program available through the Illinois Housing Development Authority (“IDHA”) that would launch on May 17, 2021. He announced that the City would perform a lighting audit of the 7,000 light poles within the City with Johnson Controls and provided additional detail. He moved on to discuss that both the Fire and Police Departments would present their annual safety report at the upcoming Committee of the Whole.

Mayor's Discussion

Mayor Mwilambwe congratulated Mayor Pro Tem Jamie Mathy and the newly seated Council Members for completing their first meeting. He thanked staff for the well-organized swearing-in ceremony and encouraged a similar set up be used for future ceremonies. He commented on various events he attended over the past few weeks and highlighted that The Hub had its own website, which was also available to assist the community.

Council Member's Discussion

Council Member Carrillo stated that the source of income protection bill, which was being considered by Illinois legislature, and a Welcoming City Ordinance would return to a future Committee of the Whole meeting. She asked if Police representatives at the upcoming presentation could also discuss interactions with Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE").

Council Member Ward reminded the community that the COVID-19 pandemic continued and encouraged community members to get vaccinated.

Council Member Emig echoed comments on COVID-19 vaccinations and suggested residents discuss any concerns they may have with a trusted medical professional. She encouraged the community to pay attention to the McLean County Board's consideration of re-districting and expressed interest in the upcoming safety presentations. She recognized the Public Works Department for their work on the recent bulk waste pick-up.

Executive Session - Cite Section

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment

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

Motion carried (viva voce).

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON


Mboka Mwilambwe, Mayor

ATTEST


Amanda Mohan, Deputy City Clerk

