



**MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 20, 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 both in-person in City Hall's Council Chambers and virtually via Zoom conferencing at 6:00 p.m., Monday, April 20, 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	Present	
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	

Public Comment

Mayor Renner opened the meeting for public comment. Leslie Yocum, City Clerk, explained the electronic nature of public comment due to temporary changes under the Open Meeting Act due to COVID-19. The following individuals preregistered to speak live via call-in: (1) RJ McCracken; (2) Reverend Dr. Bridget Black; (3) Zachary Gittrich; and (4) Louis Goseland. Mrs. Yocum then read a list of individuals who had registered to speak live but had not called in: (1) Karla Bailey-Smith; (2) Cynthia Carter; and (3) Grace Golick. She moved on to read a list of individuals who had emailed public comment: (1) Meri Helbig; (2) Kate Brunk; (3) Eddie Breitweiser; (4) Matt Toczko; (5) Julie Prandi; (6) Dave Kobus; (7) Reverend Dr. Bridget Black; (8) Sonny Garcia; and (9) Cecelia Long.

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 Crabill made a motion, seconded by Council Member Carrillo, that the Consent Agenda, including all items listed below, be approved.

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.

Item 4.A. Consideration and action to approve Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes from February 17, 2020, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Item 4.B. Consideration and action to approve Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes from March 16, 2020, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Presentation, Discussion, and Direction on Future Agenda Topics

The following item was presented:

Item 5.A. Presentation and discussion of the Arthur J. Gallagher Proposal of Insurance, in the amount of \$960,935 for service from May 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021, as requested by the Human Resources Department.

City Manager Tim Gleason introduced Mike Nugent, Risk Management Consultant, to Council. Mr. Nugent addressed Council and presented the 2020 Insurance Renewal Report. He explained events and trends that affected the insurance market and provided a comparison of the current insurance package to eight options for insurance renewal packages. Mr. Nugent concluded the presentation with his suggestion on the best selection.

Council Member Bray asked for additional detail on the proposed changes as it related to workman's compensation fees. Mr. Nugent responded accordingly.

Council Member Crabill asked how coverage limits were determined and whether reduced limits could be considered. Mr. Nugent responded and listed the multiple factors and variables that were considered when making coverage limit suggestions. Council Member Crabill and Mr. Nugent discussed worker's compensation, retentions, business interruption insurance, and property coverage. Mr. Crabill asked if the City's coverage would apply to any Covid-19 impacts. While Mr. Nugent questioned whether coverage would apply, he did say that he has directed the City's third-party administrator to make a business interruption claim with the City's property insurer due to FEMA requirements.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.B. FY2021 Budget Overview and the Potential Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic, as requested by the Finance Department.

City Manager Gleason explained that the City was required to adopt a budget for the upcoming fiscal year before May 1st. He provided a brief overview of the discussions and concerns that were considered while preparing the new budget. HE then asked Scott Rathbun, Finance Director, to address Council.

Mr. Rathbun stated that the presentation's focus would be on the General Fund for the proposed FY 2020-2021 Budget and the potential COVID-19 affects. He discussed budget projections for the General Fund and noted a projected \$2.7 million-dollar recessionary effect on the FY 2020-2021 budget related to COVID-19. He went on to discuss the state the local economy and provided additional details on considerations to be taken given the shelter-in-place orders and any potential ongoing recessionary affects. He provided various hypothetical scenarios and short-term money saving options the City could consider in order to become more prepared for the outcomes of COVID-19.

Council Member Mwilambwe asked how the use of fund balance was viewed by bond rating agencies in light of COVID-19. Mr. Rathbun responded that the City's bonding continued to remain consistent and he believed there would be no cause for concern with proper documentation and reasoning behind the use of fund balance. Council Member Mwilambwe asked how long the reimbursement process with FEMA would likely take. Mr. Rathbun stated that typically it would take a year to receive reimbursement. Mr. Gleason agreed and noted he was in constant contact with FEMA. Mayor Renner noted that 93-94% of municipalities had already utilized financial reserves.

Council Member Mathy thanked the Finance Department for their preparedness for COVID-19 related effects on the budget and noted his gratitude that the City continued to increase the fund balance by addressing expenses during COVID-19.

Council Member Black confirmed with Mr. Rathbun figures as they related to the effects on the general fund with planned, unplanned, and COVID-19 related expenses. He noted the City's reserves were still above what was required.

Council Member Bray thanked Mr. Rathbun and his staff for keeping Council and the public informed. She cautioned that the effects of COVID-19 could be worse than projected.

Council Member Crabill echoed appreciation to City staff and asked Mr. Rathbun to confirm the mandated percentage required to be held in fund balance. Mr. Rathbun responded that the recommended policy is 15% of the general fund.

Mayor Renner echoed appreciation to City staff and the Finance Department.

Council Initiatives

The following item was presented:

Item 5.C.1. Discussion regarding funding the City of Bloomington Township to administer direct aid to Bloomington residents, as requested by the City Council.

Council Member Crabill introduced his Council Initiative and discussed the benefits of providing aid to residents. He stated that he would like to bring a plan forward on the April 27, 2020 City Council Meeting.

Council Member Black called point of order to question if Council was to vote on or simply discuss the Initiative. Mayor Renner stated if Council agreed, staff would place the item on the April 27, 2020 City Council Meeting Agenda. Mr. Gleason confirmed.

Mayor Renner stated support to assist the City's most vulnerable and emphasized the need for a structured program. He then asked each Council Member to provide feedback.

Council Member Mathy stated his interest in the Initiative, but believed a detailed program structure was required. He was not in support of Initiative at that time, but expressed interest in a future discussion.

Council Member Boelen agreed with Council Member Mathy and stated she was not in support of the Initiative. She reminded Council they had a fiduciary responsibility to the community and reminded Council there were many organizations in the community that could provide aid to the community.

Council Member Mwilambwe agreed and did not support the Initiative as presented.

Council Member Emig stated her of the Initiative and her belief that Council needed to balance responsibilities with data driven needs of the community.

Council Member Painter did not support the Initiative as she believed it would cause widespread panic. She, too, reminded Council of the many organizations in the community that were able assist citizens.

Council Member Carrillo stated her support of the Initiative as she believed the needs of the community were not being met.

Council Member Black stated his support in the Initiative and in having a structured discussion on resources the City could provide.

Council Member Bray was not in support of the Initiative. She noted it was the responsibility of the City to provide basic needs to the public such as water and emergency services.

Mayor Renner thanked Council Member Crabill for bringing the Initiative forward, but that the Initiative had not gotten support of the majority of Council.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Gleason reminded Council and the public of the Special Session Meeting on April 22, 2020 to discuss the budget and went on to discuss a few other items that would be part of the next Regular Session Meeting on April 27, 2020. He also highlighted a variety of COVID-19 resources located on the City's website and noted the success of the recent Curbside Pick-Up Farmer's Market. Mr. Gleason asked the community to be patient as the City reevaluated brush and solid waste pick-up and pointed out that the City was working with a reduced workforce in order to protect workers during the COVID-19.

Executive Session - Cite Section

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment

Council Member Bray made a motion, seconded by Council Member Painter, that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried (viva voce).

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

ATTEST


Tari Renner, Mayor


Amanda Mohan, Deputy City Clerk

