City of Bloomington Illinois

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2023, 6:00 P.M.

The City Council convened in regular session in the Government Center Chambers. 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
Grant Walch	Council Member, Ward 1	Present
Donna Boelen	Council Member, Ward 2; Mayor Pro Tem	Present
Sheila Montney	Council Member, Ward 3	Present
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	Absent
Tom Crumpler	Council Member, Ward 9	Present

Recognition/Appointments

The following item was presented:

Item 5.A. Recognition of the Bloomington Fire Department for Receiving the 2022 Mission Lifeline: Gold Plus Achievement Award from the American Heart Association, as requested by the Fire Department.

Mayor Pro Tem, Donna Boelen, presented the Proclamation. Dr. Julie Lewis, Emergency Room Doctor, and Medical Director for the Mclean County Area Emergency Medical System explained the award and presented it to the Bloomington Fire Department ("BFD") staff. Fire Chief, Eric West, thanked BFD staff for their hard work and dedication. He explained that BFD had received the award multiple times and would strive to continue to receive it in the future.

Public Hearings

The following item was presented:

Item 6.A. Public Hearing for the FY2024 Proposed Budget, as requested by the Finance Department.

Mayor Pro Tem, Donna Boelen, opened the public hearing at 6:05 P.M.

City Manager, Tim Gleason, explained that the public hearing was required before the budget could be adopted.

Scott Rathbun, Finance Department Director, addressed Council and noted no significant changes to the proposed budget presentation from the last time it was previewed before Council. He explained where the community could locate the budget and the Budget 101 video series and explained next steps to approve the proposed budget.

Gary Lambert, City resident, after being sworn in, addressed Council. He discussed a 7% property tax increase he received and noted the $13M increase in the City's surplus fund. He expressed confusion as to why Council approved a tax levy increase when the City had a surplus fund balance that was increasing. He suggested Council focus on running the City efficiently instead of beautifying the City with monuments.

Scott Stimeling, City resident, after being sworn in, addressed Council. He expressed concern with the continuously growing budget. He believed the roads and sidewalks were in a vastly deteriorated state. He stated the City should have slowly fixed the infrastructure over time instead of raising taxes to complete them now.

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen closed the public hearing at 6:12 P.M.

The following item was presented:

Item 6.B. Public Hearing on the Program Year 2023 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan, as requested by the Economic & Community Development Department.

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen opened the public hearing at 6:13 P.M.

City Manager Gleason introduced the Hearing.

Michael Sinnet, Community Enhancement Division Manager, addressed Council and shared the purpose of the Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG"). He explained the 2023 CDBG Annual Action Plan was created to detail programs the City can execute to comply with the 2020-2024 CDBG Consolidated Plan. He noted it being the City's 49th year administering the CDBG and went on to discuss the Partner Program Application timeline sharing 16 applications had been received. He then detailed the Annual Action Plan's annual goals and funding for Program Year 2024. Mr. Sinnet discussed CDBG revenues and then listed the next steps in the process.

Leslie Yocum, City Clerk, stated that no individuals had registered to testify.

Mrs. Yocum and Mayor Pro Tem Boelen discussed parliamentary procedure.

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen closed the public hearing at 6:20 P.M.

The following item was presented:

Item 6.C. Public Hearing on the Second Amendment to the Annexation Agreement with Hershey Grove, LLC, for Land Commonly Located at the Southeast Corner of the Intersection of Ireland Grove Road and S. Hershey Road, Consisting of 144 Acres More or Less, as requested by the Economic & Community Development Department.

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen opened the public hearing at 6:21 P.M.

City Manager Gleason introduced the Hearing and noted the subject matter of the Hearing would appear as an action Item on the Regular Agenda later in the meeting.

Melissa Hon, Economic & Community Development Department Director, addressed Council and explained the proposed Second Amendment to the Annexation Agreement, highlighting the removal of a requirement to connect portions of the Constitution Trail ("Trail"). She went on to explain the public consensus expressed at the public hearing held by the Planning Commission was residents wanted a complete trail and did not support a mid-block crossing. Ms. Hon noted the Planning Commission voted to deny the request and stated that since the public hearing, a plan was identified to complete portions of the trail meeting concerns of the residents mentioned.

Leslie Yocum, City Clerk, stated that no individuals had registered to testify.

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen closed the public hearing at 6:24 P.M.

Public Comment

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen read a statement of public comment procedure. No emailed public comment was received. The following individuals provided in-person public comment: (1) Marty Seigle; (2) Gary Lambert; (3) Martin Schroder; (4) Scott Stimeling; and (5) 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 Urban made a motion, seconded by Council Member Becker, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Item 8.A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the February 27, 2023, 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 $7,574,355.96, as requested by the Finance Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Bills and Payroll be approved.)

Item 8.C. Consideration and Action on the Purchase of HP Elite Mini Desktops and HP EliteBook Laptops through HP Inc. for a total of $125,897.50, as requested by the Information Technology Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Purchase be approved.)

Item 8.D. Consideration and Action on the Purchase of 3M Scott Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for the Fire Department in the Amount of $903,063.65, as requested by the Fire Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Purchase be approved.)

Item 8.E. Consideration and Action to Approve the Purchase of Two (2) Public Safety Camera Trailers from Wireless CCTV for a total of $78,766.96, as requested by the Police Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Purchase be approved.)

Item 8.F. Consideration and Action to Approve the Purchase of Elation Moving Lights for the Bloomington Center for Performing Arts' ("BCPA") Stage and Productions from JRLX, Inc. in the amount of $69,924.00, as requested by the Arts & Entertainment Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Purchase be approved.)

Item 8.G. Consideration and Action on a Resolution Adopting the Official 2022 Zoning Map for the City of Bloomington, Which Supersedes and Replaces the Official 2021 Zoning Map Adopted by Council on March 28, 2022, as requested by the Economic & Community Development Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Resolution be approved.)

Item 8.H. Consideration and Action on a Resolution Authorizing Waiving the Technical Bidding Requirements and Approving the Purchase of an Integrated Ballistic Identification System ("IBIS") from Forensic Technology, Inc. in the amount of $153,110, as requested by the Police Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Resolution be approved.)

Item 8.I. Consideration and Action on an Ordinance Approving a Zoning Map Amendment from R-1C (Single-Family Residence) District to B-2 (Local Commercial) District for the Property Located at 704 McGregor Street, as requested by the Economic & Community Development Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Ordinance be approved.)

Item 8.J. Consideration and Action on an Ordinance Approving the Final Plat of Bollmann Subdivision, as requested by the Public Works Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Ordinance be approved.)

Item 8.K. Consideration and Action on an Ordinance Approving a Zoning Map Amendment from R-1C (Single-Family Residence) District to B-2 (Local Commercial) District for the Property Located at 1626 W. Locust Street, as requested by the Economic & Community Development Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Ordinance be approved.)

Item 8.L. Consideration and Action on an Ordinance Approving a Zoning Map Amendment from R-1B (Single-Family Residence) District to R-2 (Mixed Residence) District for the Properties Located at 2702, 2704, 2706, 2708, 2710, 2712, and 2714 Fox Creek Road, as requested by the Economic & Community Development Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Ordinance be approved.)

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen directed the Clerk to call roll:

AYES: Walch, Montney, Emig, Becker, Urban, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler

Motion carried.

Regular Agenda

The following item was presented:

Item 9.A. Consideration and Action on an Ordinance Authorizing the Second Amendment to the Annexation Agreement with Hershey Grove, LLC, for Land Commonly Located at the Southeast Corner of the Intersection of Ireland Grove Road and S. Hershey Road, Consisting of 144 Acres More or Less, as requested by the Economic & Community

Development Department.

City Manager Gleason introduced the Item and noted City staff being available for questions.

Council Member Ward asked for clarification on the Developer's incentives and costs to the City. Ms. Hon stated she was unaware of any incentives.

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen commented to annexation agreement.

Council Member Ward, City Manager Gleason, Kevin Kothe, Public Works Department Director, and Craig Shonkwiler, Asst. Public Works Director and City Engineer, discussed completion of the Constitution Trail near the property.

Council Member Crumpler made a motion, seconded by Council Member Emig, to extend Council discussion time by 10 minutes.

Mayor Pro Tem Donna Boelen directed the Clerk to call roll:

AYES: Walch, Montney, Emig, Becker, Urban, Ward, Crabill, Crumpler

Motion carried.

Council Member Crumpler and Ms. Hon talked about the amendments.

Council Member Emig and Mr. Shonkwiler discussed restrictions for use of the grant, as well as mid-block crossing requirements.

Council Member Emig expressed support for the Item after confirming that the Planning Commission had been notified of the proposed amendments and was also supportive.

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen, Mr. Shonkwiler, and Mr. Kothe walked through requirements of the developer and options to amend the proposed site plan.

Council Member Walch called the question.

Council Member Walch made a motion, seconded by Council Member Becker, to approve the Item as presented.

Council Member Urban noted the project was in Council Member Crabill's ward and suggested the Item be tabled because he was not present.

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen and George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, discussed parliamentary procedure. Mrs. Yocum clarified next steps and restated the current motion.

Council Member Urban expressed her support of the Item as there was a history of a prolonged timeline. She stressed the need to complete projects and eliminate delays.

Council Member Becker stated Council Member Crabill emailed in support of the Item.

Mayor Pro Tem Donna Boelen directed the Clerk to call roll:

AYES: Walch, Montney, Emig, Becker, Urban, Crabill

NAYES: Ward, Crumpler

Motion carried.

Finance Director's Report

Scott Rathbun, Finance Director, addressed Council. He discussed major tax revenues for Fiscal Year 2023 and compared year-to-date figures to variances from prior years. He noted impacts of the COVID-19 stimulus and how staff had adjusted the budget to reflect a reduction in stimulus dollars. He presented General Fund Revenues and Expenditures, as well as Enterprise Funds highlighting significant changes. He ended by reminding the community where to locate his presentations on the City's website.

City Manager's Discussion

City Manager Gleason discussed multiple upcoming events Downtown.

Mayor's Discussion

Mayor Pro Tem Boelen discussed a recent ribbon-cutting event she attended for Neuro Restorative Academy.

Council Member's Discussion

Council Member Crumpler discussed his visit to Vagahn's Wardrobe, a new family-owned business specializing in Indian clothing.

Council Member Ward reminded the community of National Doctor's Day and recognized three religious holiday’s coming.

Council Member Becker pointed out significant necessary infrastructure spending in the proposed budget. He stressed the importance of eliminating redundancies and consolidating where possible to save money. He asked the City Manager to have the Bloomington Election Commission ("BEC") present at an upcoming Committee of the Whole about their contributions to the City. He believed the BEC was a redundancy that could be consolidated.

Council Member Montney expressed interest in additional information on funding public safety pensions.

Executive Session

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment

Council Member Urban made a motion, seconded by Council Member Becker, to adjourn.

Mayor Pro Tem Donna Boelen directed the Clerk to call roll:

AYES: Walch, Montney, Emig, Becker, Urban, Ward, Crumpler

Motion carried (viva voce).

The Meeting Adjourned at 7:29 P.M.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

Mboka Mwilambwe

Mboka Mwilambwe, Mayor

ATTEST

Amanda Stutsman

Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk