CITY OF BLOOMINGTON ILLINOIS

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MARCH 20, 2023

COMPONENTS OF THE COUNCIL AGENDA

RECOGNITION AND PROCLAMATION

This portion of the meeting recognizes individuals, groups, or institutions publically, as well as those receiving a proclamation, or declaring a day or event.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Each regular City Council meeting shall have a public comment period not to exceed 30 minutes. Every speaker is entitled to speak for up to 3 minutes. To be considered for public comment, please complete a public comment card at least 5 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. The Mayor will randomly draw from the cards submitted. Public comment is a time to give comment. It is not a question and answer period and the City Council does not respond to public comments. Speakers who engage in threatening or disorderly behavior will have their time ceased.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member, City Manager or Corporation Counsel so requests; in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in the Regular Agenda, which typically begins with Item No. 8.

The City's Boards and Commissions hold Public Hearings prior to some Council agenda items appearing on the Council's Meeting Agenda. Persons who wish to address the Council should provide new information that is pertinent to the issue before them.

PUBLIC HEARING

Items that require receiving public testimony will be placed on the agenda and noticed as a Public Hearing. Individuals have an opportunity to provide public testimony on those items that impact the community and/or residence.

REGULAR AGENDA

All items that provide the Council an opportunity to receive a presentation, ask questions of City Staff, seek additional information, or deliberate prior to making a decision will be placed on the Regular Agenda.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor - Mboka Mwilambwe

City Council Members

Ward 1 - Grant Walch
Ward 2 - Donna Boelen
Ward 3 - Sheila Montney
Ward 4 - Julie Emig
Ward 5 - Nick Becker
Ward 6 - De Urban
Ward 7 - Mollie Ward
Ward 8 - Jeff Crabill
Ward 9 - Tom Crumpler

City Manager - Tim Gleason
Deputy City Manager - Billy Tyus

CITY LOGO DESIGN RATIONALE

The CHEVRON Represents:
Service, Rank, and Authority
Growth and Diversity
A Friendly and Safe Community
A Positive, Upward Movement and Commitment to Excellence!

MISSION, VISION, AND VALUE STATEMENT

MISSION
To Lead, Serve and Uplift the City of Bloomington

VISION
A Jewel of the Midwest Cities

VALUES
Service-Centered,
Results-Driven,
Inclusive

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

- Financially Sound City Providing Quality Basic Services
- Upgrade City Infrastructure and Facilities Grow the Local Economy
- Strong Neighborhoods
- Great Place - Livable, Sustainable City
- Prosperous Downtown Bloomington

AGENDA

CITY OF Bloomington ILLINOIS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - REGULAR SESSION MEETING AGENDA
GOVERNMENT CENTER CHAMBERS, 4TH FLOOR, ROOM #400
115 E. WASHINGTON STREET, BLOOMINGTON, IL 61701
MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023, 6:00 PM

1. **Call to Order**

2. **Roll Call of Attendance**

3. **Public Comment**

   Individuals wishing to provide emailed public comment must email comments to publiccomment@cityblm.org at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting. Individuals wishing to speak in-person or remotely may register at www.cityblm.org/register at least 5 minutes before the start of the meeting for in-person public comment and at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting for remote public comment.

4. **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.

   A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the January 17, 2023 Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department. *(Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)*

5. **Regular Agenda**

   A. Presentation and Discussion of the Public Safety and Community Relations Board Annual Report, as requested by the Administration Department. *(Recommended Motion: None; presentation only.) (Presentation by Dr. Ashley Farmer, PSCRB Chair; Michael Hurt, Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer; Chad Wamsley, Asst. Chief of Police, 10 minutes; and City Council Discussion, 10 minutes.)*

6. **City Manager's Report**

7. **Executive Session**

8. **Adjournment**

Individuals with disabilities planning to attend the meeting who require reasonable accommodations to observe and/or participate, or who have questions about the accessibility of the meeting, should contact the City's ADA Coordinator at 309-434-2468 mhurt@cityblm.org.

CITY OF Bloomington ILLINOIS

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 4.A.

FOR COUNCIL: March 20, 2023

WARD IMPACTED: City-Wide Impact

SUBJECT: Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the January 17, 2023 Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: The proposed Minutes be approved.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINK:
Goal 1. Financially Sound City Providing Quality Basic Services

STRATEGIC PLAN SIGNIFICANCE:
Objective 1d. City services delivered in the most cost-effective, efficient manner

BACKGROUND: The minutes of the meetings provided have been reviewed and certified as correct and complete by the City Clerk. In compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Council Proceedings must be approved thirty (30) days after the meeting or at the second subsequent regular meeting whichever is later. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Council Proceedings are available for public inspection and posted to the City's web site within ten (10) days after Council approval.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING IMPACT:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IMPACT: This request meets the following goals and objectives of the Bloomington Comprehensive Plan 2035: N/A

Respectfully submitted for consideration.

Prepared by: Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk

ATTACHMENTS:
CLK 1B DRAFT 01172023 COW Minutes_Regular Session

MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - REGULAR SESSION
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023, 6:00 P.M.

The City Council convened in regular session in the Government Center Chambers at 6:01 p.m., Tuesday, January 17, 2023. Mayor Mboka Mwilambwe 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	Present
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	Present
Tom Crumpler	Council Member, Ward 9	Absent

Public Comment

Mayor Mwilambwe read a statement on public comment procedure. Dana Burns provided emailed public comment. Karla Bailey-Smith and Surena Fish provided in-person public comment and Ravi Duvvuri provided remote public comment.

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 Urban, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Item 4.A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the December 5, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Mayor Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call roll:

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

Motion carried.

Regular Agenda

The following item was presented:

Item 5.A. Presentation on the City's Proposed Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan, as requested by the Administration Department.

Deputy City Manager Billy Tyus introduced the Item and provided a brief overview of the research into current compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA").

Michael Hurt, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, presented the City's proposed ADA Transition Plan ("The Plan") and discussed the purpose was to provide equal access to all for all public programs, services, facilities, and activities. He went on to explain the statutory requirements to create a transition plan. He then described how the ADA Transition Plan addressed concerns. He presented the Access Bloomington page on the City's website which included a list of all facilities with the ADA cite evaluations of each and an ADA Grievance Complaint form. He highlighted a few facilities and the compliance priorities noting that improvements would need to be made over the next few years. Mr. Hurt stated that The Plan was a living document where residents could monitor progress. He noted he was the primary point of contact for all ADA grievances and concerns. He then explained the multiple ways to access The Plan resources.

Council Member Boelen made a few suggestions to improve the written ADA Transition Plan and thanked staff for their work.

Council Member Ward emphasized the importance that the City committed to executing such an ADA Transition Plan. She and Mr. Hurt discussed how community concerns would be addressed that were not part of the original plan. Mr. Hurt provided examples of how the City planned to go above and beyond what was required by statute. Council Member Ward asked the barriers staff faced with The Plan. Mr. Hurt stated manpower for improvements and determining collaboration through intergovernmental agreements in shared buildings.

Council Member Crabill expressed appreciation for The Plan. He confirmed with staff that residents could file a complaint directly with Mr. Hurt if they were unable to complete the ADA Grievance Complaint form online and that there had only been a handful of complaints received. He noted a typo in the grievance review process. He then asked how the ADA assessments were completed in City facilities and if those who completed it were ADA trained. Mr. Hurt explained the assessments were created to be user-friendly and could be completed with a tape measure and a pressure pen. Council Member Crabill disagreed with the process and believed the individuals who completed the assessments should have been ADA trained for a more accurate assessment. He confirmed with Mr. Hurt that no representative Life Center-Independent Living (LifeCIL) or Marcfirst toured facilities to assist. Council Member Crabill then suggested adding photos to the website of the areas that were out of compliance. He expressed concern that City parks were not included in the assessment.

Council Member Emig made a motion, seconded by Council Member Ward, to amend Council discussion time by 5 minutes.

Mayor Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call roll:

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

Motion carried.

Council Member Emig echoed appreciation for updated The Plan and the new grievance process. She asked for additional information if a grievance was filed for ADA access to a private building. Mr. Hurt explained the individual would be directed to the Attorney General's Office as the City did not have jurisdiction over private facilities.

Council Member Emig suggested collaborating with Public Works when they evaluate which sidewalks would be replaced annually. Deputy City Manager Tyus explained when Public Works repaired or replaced streets and sidewalks, they were brought up to ADA standards. Council Member Emig concluded by strongly encouraged staff to promote the ADA program.

Deputy City Manager Tyus confirmed with Mr. Hurt the ADA checklist was specific in the requirements and measurements of assessments which was why any staff member could complete them.

Mayor Mwilambwe commended the City and community for their commitment to ADA accessibility. He hoped The Plan inspired private businesses to make ADA improvements.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.B. Presentation on Proposed Uses for a $500,000 State of Illinois Violence Prevention Grant, as requested by the Administration Department, and the Police Department.

Deputy City Manager Tyus explained the application process for the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's ("DCEO") Violence Prevention Grant. He noted that the $500,000 must be spent by June 30, 2023.

Jamal Simington, Chief of Police, reminded Council of the Bloomington Police Department's ("BPD") strategic plan, listing each pillar of the plan. He then discussed each proposed program, the estimated cost and if it was proactive or reactive to violence. The following programs were presented: (1) Youth Summer Camp, estimated at $30,000 (Proactive), which would collaborate with multiple organizations for a 1 week camp for junior high school students; (2) TIP411 Program, estimated at $12,000 for a 5 - year program (Proactive/Reactive), would allow community members to text anonymous tips to BPD; (3) Reward Money for Crime Tips, estimated at $ 40,000 (Reactive), which would incentivize the sharing of vital information pertinent to violent crimes as Crime Stoppers was not offered in Bloomington; (4) National Integrated Ballistics Information Network ("NIBN") Program, estimated at $162,000 (Reactive), which was a highly valuable and advanced technology for firearm violence; (5) Gun Buy Back Program, estimated at $ 60,000 (Proactive), which had some measured success throughout the country; (6) Gun Safe Purchase Program, estimated at $60,000 (Proactive), which would allow residents to apply to receive gun safes; (7) Purchase of 2 Mobile Overt Public Safety Trailer Cameras, estimated at $80,000 (Proactive), which would aid to deter crime at public gatherings and violent crime hotspots; and (8) Overt Unmanned Aerial Vehicles ("UAV") and Training, estimated at $60,000 (Proactive), a drone which would assist in many crime situations. Chief Simington stressed that BPD would only use the equipment in accordance with the law.

Council Member Boelen asked if the Camp Program would be annual or a one-time event. Chief Simington explained the first year would be a kick off but planned to expand the program in future years. They then discussed funding opportunities for future years. Council Member Boelen supported the program and encouraged it to be sustainable and included in future budget years.

Council Member Montney expressed that increased lighting would be a significant deterrent for crime.

Council Member Ward asked if other departments were asked to submit proposals. Deputy City Manager Tyus explained that, historically, the allocated DCEO funds were granted to police departments. He stated it was discussed with other departments but was determined that BPD's proposals would address issues of violence. Council Member Ward believed that additional stakeholders should have contributed proposals. She agreed with Council Member Montney's lighting proposal. She supported the ideas but wanted to consider using some funds to analyze data to determine the best uses.

City Manager Gleason stated staff believed the DCEO grant could be loosely tied to Council Member Ward's Council Initiative submitted some months earlier on gun violence. He explained the evaluation and determination the funds should be allocated to BPD's programs. He noted his support of the programs, but staff could amend the proposals as Council desired.

Council Member Urban and Chief Simington discussed the current procedure for ballistics evaluation and the lengthy time to receive results. Chief Simington explained the NIBN technology would not just benefit Bloomington, but also surrounding municipalities on expediting their ballistics tests. Council Member Urban agreed with Council Member Boelen that the programs needed to be scaled up and funded in future years. She expressed her support in the proposal.

Council Member Crabill made a motion, seconded by Council Member Ward, to amend Council discussion time by 15 minutes.

Mayor Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call roll:

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

Motion carried.

Mayor Mwilambwe noted Council Member Crumpler had comments which were provided to City Manager Gleason and asked him to read the provided script. City Manager Gleason obliged. Chief Simington responded, listing the various organizations that aided in various violence prevention and reactive measures. He explained BPD's involvement was as requested.

Council Member Becker agreed with Council Member Montney's comment on lighting for prevention. He noted he sat on the Criminal Justice Committee with Chief Simington and explained BPD received very detailed data on crime and prevention. He commented on how BPD worked collaboratively with other municipalities and organizations. He then commented to the time constraint to spend the funds.

Council Member Emig noted she had received equal comments on lack of lighting and excessive lighting. She discussed how other municipalities used their funds. She was concerned the proposals leaned toward apprehension instead of prevention. She asked for clarification on if the funds had to be spent and not allocated by the deadline. She suggested alternative preventive programs and data reporting on chosen programs to determine effectiveness. Kenneth Bays, Assistant Chief of Police, confirmed it was a reimbursement grant, meaning an expenditure would be submitted for reimbursement. He explained notice delays to municipalities and misinformation caused BPD to adapt their proposal. He commented to the short turnaround timeline.

Council Member Walch made a motion, seconded by Council Member Crabill, to amend Council discussion time by 10 minutes.

Mayor Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call roll:

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

Motion carried.

Council Member Crabill generally supported the ideas in the proposal but was interested in suggestions made by other Council Members. He expressed his initial concern with the Drone Program but shared the restrictions on how the special equipment could be used. He confirmed with Chief Simington the drone would not have, nor did BPD intend to acquire, the technology for facial recognition or microphones to record conversations.

Council Member Boelen noted other organizations could apply for similar violence prevention programs. She stated removing guns from the streets was BPD's responsibility.

Council Member Walch asked how BPD determined the programs that would have immediate impact on the community. Chief Simington explained staff consulted municipalities throughout the nation to determine best practices. They then discussed how BPD could collaborate and assist neighboring communities to further reduce crime.

Council Member Walch expressed support in the Gun Safe Program and asked how the City would supply the safes. AC Bays explained procurement policies and timelines would regulate the sourcing of the units.

Council Member Montney noted well-intended programs by other municipalities that did not aid their violence reduction. She went on to state that, while residents did not want to be under surveillance, it would assist crime victims.

Council Member Ward and City Manager Gleason discussed the lack of formal guidelines when notified the City would receive the DCEO grant which also delayed the amount of time staff had to develop a proposal by several months.

Council Member Ward asked if there were duplication of funds/efforts by other municipalities. Chief Simington listed programs and equipment that Peoria, Springfield, Decatur, and Normal used for their DCEO grants. Council Member Ward suggested sharing drones with the Town of Normal and suggested sourcing applications from local organizations similar to the COVID Relief funds that were distributed.

AC Bays noted that some of the program ideas came from an internal department committee that proceeded awareness of the DCEO grant.

Mayor Mwilambwe thanked BPD staff for their proposal and noted the potential to allocate future funds.

Deputy City Manager Tyus and Chief Simington discussed the purpose of the presentation was to receive Council feedback so staff may advance in the application process. Deputy City Manager Tyus noted a budget amendment would be needed in the future.

Council Member Ward asked for Council to vote on the proposal. Jeff Jurgens, Corporation Counsel, advised no formal vote should be taken but stating interest would be permissible.

Council Member Ward stated she was not comfortable stating there was a consensus. Deputy City Manager Tyus responded that the proposal would return for a formal vote.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Gleason recognized eight newly hired employees and two internal promotions. He then discussed upcoming events presented by the Parks and Recreation Department.

Executive Session

No Executive Session was had.

Adjournment

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

Motion carried (viva voce).

The Meeting Adjourned at 7:46

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON	**ATTEST**
______________________________	______________________________
Mboka Mwilambwe, Mayor	Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk

REGULAR AGENDA ITEM NO. 5.A.

FOR COUNCIL: March 20, 2023

WARD IMPACTED: City-Wide Impact

SUBJECT: Presentation and Discussion of the Public Safety and Community Relations Board Annual Report, as requested by the Administration Department.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: None; presentation only.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINK:
Goal 4. Strong Neighborhoods

STRATEGIC PLAN SIGNIFICANCE:
Objective 4a. Residents feeling safe in their homes and neighborhoods

BACKGROUND: The Annual Report of the Public Safety and Community Relations Board will be presented to Council.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING IMPACT: N/A

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IMPACT: This request meets the following goals and objectives of the Bloomington Comprehensive Plan 2035: N/A

Respectfully submitted for consideration.

Prepared by: Amy Overton, Executive Assistant