



**MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2020, 6:00 P.M.**

Roll Call

The Committee of the Whole convened in Regular Session in the City Council Chambers, City Hall Building at 6:00 p.m., Monday, March 16, 2020. The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Tari Renner.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tari Renner	Mayor	Present	
Jamie Mathy	Ward 1	Remote	
Donna Boelen	Ward 2	Present	
Mboka Mwilambwe	Ward 3	Present	
Julie Emig	Ward 4	Present	
Joni Painter	Ward 5	Present	
Jennifer Jazmin Carrillo	Ward 6	Present	
Scott Black	Ward 7	Present	
Jeff Crabill	Ward 8	Remote	
Kim Bray	Ward 9	Remote	

Council Member Boelen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Emig, to allow Council Members Mathy, Crabill, and Bray to attend the meeting remotely.

AYES: Boelen, Mwilambwe, Emig, Painter, Carrillo, and Black

Motion carried.

Recognition/Appointments

A. Recognition of Promotion of Battalion Chief Jeffrey Emmert and Assistant Chief of Training Carl Reeb

This item was postponed at the request of Fire Chief Brian Mohr.

Public Comment

Mayor Renner opened the floor for public comment, but no public comment was received.

Council Member Black made a motion, seconded by Council Member Carrillo, to suspend the rules to allow the City Manager to address the crisis at hand before the rest of business on the agenda.

AYES: Boelen, Mwilambwe, Emig, Painter, Carrillo, Black, Crabill, and Bray.

ABSTAIN: Mathy.

Motion carried.

City Manager's Report

City Manager, Tim Gleason, addressed City Council and the public regarding COVID-19 (Coronavirus). He walked through preparations and measures taken by staff; social distancing; cancellation of City events; and closure of the City's Arena, BCPA, Ice Center, and Zoo. He discussed financial planning steps taken by the City; safety measures and other policies put into place for staff; as well as an Executive Order he planned to formalize on Tuesday, March 17, 2020. He addressed key communications with McLean County, the Town of Normal, the State of Illinois, school districts, and local businesses. He directed individuals to follow the City's website for the most up-to-date information and stated that all City buildings would close to the public on Wednesday, March 18, 2020.

He talked about the Customer Service Hub he was standing up at Grossinger Motors Arena's old box office on the corner of Front and Madison streets. The location would become the main point of access for the community needing to do any City business. Plans were for the Hub to open the same day City buildings close so that no interruptions in customer service would occur. Mr. Gleason pushed all media communications to Communications Manager, Nora Dukowitz, and pointed Council and staff to work directly through her. He then read an email aloud he'd received from Camille Rodrigues, McLean County Administrator.

He moved on by discussing a several personnel matters that he and staff have had to deal with to date, further emphasized the City's preparedness, and then introduced Police Chief, Dan Donath, to address Council and the public.

Chief Donath walked through changes already implemented at the Police Department, as well as planned measures. He provided examples of how changes had been implemented in department procedures and covered extensive measures of sanitation, methods for the public to access the Police Department, as well as a few personnel changes. He emphasized the importance of social distancing during COVID-19.

Mr. Gleason then called Fire Chief Mohr forward. Chief Mohr began by stating that the City is taking COVID-19 very seriously. He discussed changes in practice and provided specific examples. He mentioned being focused on COVID-19 and, cited that reason as having cancelled several planned events and other tasks in order to prioritize staff resources and time. He walked through quarantine procedures including plans for staff, the public, use of a separate vehicle for transporting those infected, and discussed local, state, and federal communications made.

Mr. Gleason then called Corporation Counsel, Jeffrey Jurgens, forward to discuss the various levels of the emergency. Mr. Jurgens talked about the federal and state declarations currently in place, as well as the executive orders put down by Governor Pritzker. He walked through the Governor's Executive Orders in greater detail and discussed the City's options in terms of emergency powers including Emergency Declarations and the City Manager's power to enact Executive Orders.

Mr. Gleason moved on to talk about other areas of opportunities in which he had directed staff to be mindful of and investigate.

Consent Agenda

No items appeared on the consent agenda.

Presentation, Discussion, and Direction on Future Agenda Topics

The following item was presented:

Item 6.A. Presentation and discussion of FY 2021 and FY 2022 resurfacing projects, as requested by the Public Works Department.

City Manager, Tim Gleason, introduced the presentation and stated that, at his request, the presentation would be briefer than originally planned. He then asked Public Works Director, Kevin Kothe, to come forward to address Council and the public.

Mr. Kothe walked through the presentation covering the FY21 proposed asphalt and concrete budget, street selection processes, software used by staff, project considerations, as well as bidding and procurement processes. He emphasized that the City would continue to use the Bloomington Streets website and talked about changes he had implemented which he believed would lead way to opportunities in the future.

Council Member Black encouraged the public to provide feedback on street improvements.

Council Member Mwilambwe asked for clarification on plans with the 50/50 Sidewalk Program. Mr. Kothe responded accordingly.

Council Member Emig pointed out the difference between preservation and resurfacing. She addressed other important factors available through PASER, the software used by Public Works. She emphasized the need for work on Clinton street, alleys in her ward, and brick streets throughout the City.

Council Member Carrillo discussed some research she and Council Member Crabill had completed. She was curious how projects broke down between wards. Mr. Kothe pointed out that wards are not considered in making decisions regarding streets.

Council Member Mwilambwe asked Mr. Kothe to speak about mobilization and how mobilization impacts project decisions. Mr. Kothe stated that mobilization of equipment is extremely costly and stressed that expenses of mobilization must be considered when evaluating projects to ensure efficiency. He also discussed how mobilization often impacts the order projects are completed because cost savings can be generated by completing projects near each other.

Mayor Renner discussed a few street projects.

Council Member Bray thanked Mr. Kothe for providing a fiscally responsible plan.

Council Member Mathy was also appreciative of the new methodology being used in street planning.

City Manager Gleason thanked Mr. Kothe for his presentation and moved on to highlight and welcome new City employees.

Executive Session - Cite Section

No executive session was held.

Adjournment

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

Motion carried (viva voce)

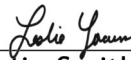
The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON



Tari Renner, Mayor

ATTEST



Leslie Smith-Yocum, City Clerk

