



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR SESSION
MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024, 6:00 P.M.

The City Council convened in regular session in the Government Center Boardroom. 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
Jenna Kearns	Council Member, Ward 1	Present
Donna Boelen	Council Member, Ward 2	Present
Sheila Montney	Council Member, Ward 3	Absent
John Danenberger	Council Member, Ward 4	Present
Nick Becker	Council Member, Ward 5	Present
Cody Hendricks	Council Member, Ward 6	Present
Mollie Ward	Council Member, Ward 7	Present
Kent Lee	Council Member, Ward 8	Present
Tom Crumpler	Council Member, Ward 9	Present

Recognition/Appointments

The following item was presented:

Item 5.A. Proclamation for AmeriCorps Week 2024, as requested by the Administration Department.

Mayor Mwilambwe presented the Proclamation. Council Member Kearns accepted the Proclamation and recognized multiple AmeriCorps Members present at the meeting. She highlighted AmeriCorps work in Bloomington and encouraged residents to serve.

Item 5.B. Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month 2024, as requested by the Administration Department.

Mayor Mwilambwe presented the Proclamation. Dorothy Davis, Regional Coordinator for the Parents Care and Share Program at Brightpoint, accepted the Proclamation. She provided a brief overview of the Program's focus on poverty.

Item 5.C. Recognition of a Board and Commission Appointment, as requested by the Administration Department.

Leslie Yocum, City Clerk, recognized Izola Tyus for her appointment to the Citizens' Beautification Committee.

Public Comment

Mayor Mwilambwe read a public comment statement of procedure. The following spoke in person: (1) John Morrissey; (2) Scott Stimeling; and (3) Surena Fish. Laila Cheek had emailed 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 Becker, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Item 7.A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the February 12, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Item 7.B. Consideration and Action on Approving Bills and Payroll in the Amount of \$5,421,173.60, as requested by the Finance Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Bills and Payroll be approved.)

Item 7.C. Consideration and Action on Approving Appointments to Boards & Commissions, as requested by the Administration Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Appointments be approved.)

Item 7.D. Consideration and Action to Approve a Three-Year Agreement Between the City of Bloomington and Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI), for Software Licensing and Related Services for the City's Geographic Information System (GIS), in the Amount of \$175,500, as requested by the Information Technology Department and the Public Works Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Agreement be approved.)

Item 7.E. Consideration and Action to Approve an Agreement with Carahsoft Technology Corp. for the Utilization of eCivis Software for Grant Management within the City of Bloomington, as requested by the Administration Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Agreement be approved.)

Item 7.F. Consideration and Action to Approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with the County of McLean for Booking Fees, in the Amount of \$27,720, as requested by the Police Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Intergovernmental Agreement be approved.)

Item 7.G. Consideration and Action on a Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Amendment to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Citizen Participation Plan, as requested by the Economic & Community Development Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Resolution be approved.)

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 009

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

Item 7.H. Consideration and Action on a Resolution Authorizing a Change Order for the Contract Between the City of Bloomington and Williams Architects, Ltd., for the Design of and Engineering Services for O'Neil Park and Pool Improvements, in the Amount Not to Exceed \$50,000, as requested by the Parks & Recreation Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Resolution be approved.)

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 010

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CHANGE ORDER FOR THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON AND WILLIAMS ARCHITECTS, LTD., FOR THE DESIGN OF AND ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR O'NEIL PARK AND POOL IMPROVEMENTS, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000

Item 7.I. Consideration and Action on Approving an Ordinance Authorizing a Construction Agreement with Garneau Construction, Inc., for the Tuckpointing & Sealing Project (Re-Bid #2024-28), in the Amount of \$658,399.50, as requested by the Department of Operations & Engineering Services and the Parks & Recreation Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Ordinance be approved.)

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 009

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT WITH GARNEAU CONSTRUCTION, INC., FOR THE TUCKPOINTING & SEALING PROJECT (RE-BID #2024-28), IN THE AMOUNT OF \$658,399.50

Item 7.J. Consideration and Action on 1) an Ordinance Amending the Budget Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2024, and 2) an Ordinance Authorizing a Construction Agreement with Otto Baum Company, Inc., for the Lincoln Parking Structure Maintenance Repairs - 2024/2025 (Bid #2024-29), in the Amount of \$1,264,855, as requested by the Department of Operations & Engineering Services. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Ordinances be approved.)

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 010

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 2024

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 011

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT WITH OTTO BAUM COMPANY, INC., FOR THE LINCOLN PARKING STRUCTURE MAINTENANCE REPAIRS - 2024/2025 (BID #2024-29), IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,264,855

Item 7.K. Consideration and Action on an Ordinance Waiving the Formal Procurement Requirements and Approving an Agreement with Hutchison Engineering Inc. for Route 9 Watermain and Lead Service Line Design Work, as requested by the Water Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Ordinance be approved.)

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 012

AN ORDINANCE WAIVING THE FORMAL PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS AND APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH HUTCHISON ENGINEERING INC. FOR ROUTE 9 WATERMAIN AND LEAD SERVICE LINE DESIGN WORK

Mayor Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call roll:

AYES: Kearns, Boelen, Danenberger, Becker, Hendricks, Ward, Lee, Crumpler

Motion carried.

Regular Agenda

The following item was presented:

Item 9.A. Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2025 Proposed Budget, as requested by the Finance Department.

City Manager, Tim Gleason, introduced the Item and asked Scott Rathbun, Finance Director, to address Council.

Mr. Rathbun discussed the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 budget which emphasized public safety, roads, dependable infrastructure, clean water, and public well-being. He also highlighted the amounts budgeted for capital projects, community direct services, community support, and quality of life. He reviewed the budget in various ways to break out how the budget would be allocated. He concluded with a description and navigation of the FY 2025 Budget Books.

Mayor Mwilambwe thanked Mr. Rathbun for his dedication to making budgets easier to understand.

Council Member Boelen and Mr. Rathbun discussed how approximately 25-30% of the budget was comprised of property tax revenues.

The following item was presented:

Item 8.B. Presentation of the Bloomington Police Department's 2023 Annual Report, as requested by the Police Department.

Deputy City Manager, Jeff Jurgens, explained that the presentation would show how the City had spent funds allocated to public safety and how it resulted in reduced crime.

Chief of Police, Jamal Simington, discussed hiring efforts and how the Bloomington Police Department (BPD) had worked toward becoming a more diverse workforce including the Department's "30 by 30" Initiative to achieve 30% female officers by 2030. He highlighted various program expansions, infrastructure improvements, and collaborations with multiple boards/commissions. He presented various statistics for each division within BPD. He acknowledged the Patrol Division's 2.2% decrease in traffic crashes compared to 2022, as well as the successful efforts of the Criminal Investigation Division in reducing crime and removing illegally possessed guns and narcotics. Chief talked about a range of training programs completed by each Division to ensure optimal performance and elaborated on how BPD leveraged technology to combat crime and assist staff in their responsibilities. He then celebrated the number of awards BPD and staff had received and expanded on departmental outreach efforts. He concluded his presentation with a comparison of crime statistics between 2022 and 2023, noting the factors contributing to the observed variances.

Council Member Ward expressed appreciation that no single gun homicides occurred in 2023. She then discussed with Chief Simington the downward trend of reported stolen guns since the implementation of the Gun Safe Program. They ended by talking about the programs funded by a \$500,000 grant received in 2023, its positive impact on the community, and plans for 2024 programs using the remaining funds.

Council Member Hendricks made a motion, seconded by Council Member Becker, to extend Council Discussion time by 5 minutes.

Mayor Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call roll:

AYES: Kearns, Boelen, Danenberger, Becker, Hendricks, Ward, Lee, Crumpler

Motion carried.

Council Member Ward requested a more systematic way for Council to review benchmarks achieved by BPD.

Council Member Becker complimented BPD's fabulous job over the year and asked for a comparison of Bloomington to communities of similar size. Chief Simington reported that homicides, shootings, and shots fired were higher in other communities.

Council Member Crumpler acknowledged BPD's efforts of community-based policing.

Item 8.C. Presentation of the Bloomington Fire Department's 2023 Annual Report and an Update on Department Hiring, as requested by the Fire Department.

Deputy City Manager, Billy Tyus, explained how City Administration had supported addressing long-standing issues within the Bloomington Fire Department (BFD) including staffing challenges and the reduction of response times.

Fire Chief, Cory Matheny, presented various call-to-service statistics, discussed improvements to existing infrastructures, as well as the purchase of life-saving equipment. He discussed various levels of training Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) staff complete to ensure high performance. He highlighted public education events staff participated in throughout the year and ended by addressing how call volume continued to increase resulting in hiring challenges.

Deputy City Manager Tyus presented on how BFD collaborated with the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) and Human Resources to revamp recruitment processes and address staffing shortages. He discussed how the revamp significantly increased the number of candidates that qualified to apply, which will ultimately result in diversifying BFD more than it has ever been before.

Council Member Ward and Chief Matheny discussed fees associated with having the BFD on standby at large events.

Mayor Mwilambwe asked for additional details on the type of diversity seen in applicants. Deputy City Manager Tyus explained that the applicant pool had very diverse backgrounds. He explained that in order for an applicant to be considered required testing and an interview must be passed. They then discussed recruitment next steps.

City Manager's Discussion

City Manager Gleason shared a video highlighting upcoming events and noted that the Downtown Streetscape Study would be presented at the upcoming Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mayor's Discussion

Mayor Mwilambwe shared that the City would receive \$2,000,000 for the Hamilton Road Project and \$2,000,000 for the Locust Colton Project from Congressionally directed spending supported by Congressman Darin LaHood (Hamilton Rd.) and Congressman Eric Sorensen (Locust Colton). He also complimented the assistance of the City's lobbying firm.

Council Member's Discussion

Council Member Hendricks discussed the Regional Housing Recovery Plan drafted by the McLean County Regional Planning Commission mentioning it was available for public comment and review until March 14, 2024.

Executive Session

Council Member Boelen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Hendricks, to enter into Executive Session per 2(c)(1) of 5ILCS 120 Personnel to discuss the compensation of City Manager, Tim Gleason.

Mayor Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call roll:

AYES: Kearns, Boelen, Danenberger, Becker, Hendricks, Ward, Lee, Crumpler

Motion carried.

Council left the room and entered Executive Session at 8:09 P.M.

Adjournment

Council returned to the room at 9:17 PM.

Council Member Ward made a motion, seconded by Council Member Hendricks, to return to open session and adjourn the meeting.

Mayor Mwilambwe directed the Clerk to call roll:

AYES: Kearns, Boelen, Danenberger, Becker, Hendricks, Ward, Lee, Crumpler

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 P.M.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

ATTEST



Mboka Mwilambwe, Mayor



Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk

