



MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021, 6:00 P.M.

This meeting was conducted under Governor Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-07 Section 6, which was reissued and extended by Executive Order 2021-01, and 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 virtually via Zoom conferencing with the City Manager, Tim Gleason, and City Clerk, Leslie Yocum, in-person in City Hall's Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 19, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Tari Renner.

Roll Call

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

COVID-19 Update by City Manager

City Manager Tim Gleason provided an update on the COVID-19 vaccination clinic. He highlighted local vaccination statistics and directed individuals who sought more information to the McLean County Health Department.

Public Comment

Mayor Renner opened the meeting for public comment and the following individuals spoke live: (1) Olivia Butts; (2) Willie Halbert; (3) Carol Koos; (4) Don Carlson; (5) Charlotte Alvarez; (6) Karla Bailey-Smith; (7) Robert Garcia; (8) Jay Enriquez; (9) Juliet Lynd; (10) Louis Goseland; (11) Kevin Lopez; (12) Matt Toczko; (13) Dave Bentlin; and (14) Cara McMorris. The following individuals emailed public comment: (1) Katie Hoy; (2) Meghan Reha; (3) Heather Hinkle; (4) Carley Cotner; (5) Christopher Thompson; (6) Krystle Able; (7) Juliet Lynd; (8) Trevin Gaffney; (9) David Parker; (10) Tate Skinner; (11) Lawrence Maushard; (12) Daniel Maloney; (13) Mickaela Atkins; (14) Susan Namboodiri; (15) Sarah Greenberg; (16) Robert Garcia; (17) Anthony Overton; (18) Car Happ; (19) Kyle Auer; and (20) B. Thomas.

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 Bray, that the Consent Agenda, including all items listed below, be approved as presented.

Mayor Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll, which resulted in the following:

AYES: Mathy, Boelen, Mwilambwe, Emig, Painter, Carrillo, Ward, Crabill, Bray

Motion carried.

Item 5.A. Consideration and action to approve the Minutes of the December 7, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting, 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 6.A. "State of the City Address," presented by Mayor Tari Renner, as requested by the Administration Department.

Mayor Renner expressed his gratitude for Council and City staff. He discussed controversial national news and the effects on the community. He explained that staff had adapted in order to provide services throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. He highlighted that nearly \$1 million dollars had been allocated by Council as direct aid to local residents and businesses, through the proration of liquor licenses, and the suspension of late fees and water shut offs. He stressed the creativity of staff to enhance the Downtown economy and to assist local school districts, students, and their families. He celebrated that the citizens of McLean County were one of the highest 2020 Census responders in Illinois and stressed the importance of the Census. He discussed how the City had made progress on capital projects despite the difficult year experienced and highlighted multiple projects. He reflected on improvements made Downtown and was excited about future plans. Mayor Renner emphasized that Bloomington remains a leader in the State and pointed out that it had recently been recognized as one of the "Happiest Places to Live" pre- and post-pandemic. He wrapped up by reminding the community of numerous projects that he will remain focused on during his last few months in office.

The following item was presented:

Item 6.B. Presentation and discussion of the Solid Waste Program, as requested by the Public Works Department and the Administration Department.

City Manager Gleason introduced the item and welcomed Kevin Kothe, Director of Public Works, to address Council.

Mr. Kothe presented an overview of the Solid Waste Program. He discussed multiple facets of the program including an overview of prices associated to contracts for the disposal of solid waste and other programs such as the Solid Waste Education program, Household Hazardous Waste program, Electronics Recycling program, and the Drop box Recycling program. Mr. Kothe discussed a few changes that had been implemented in February 2018.

Mr. Gleason stressed that any major changes in services should be evaluated to ensure the achievement of intended outcomes, and noted that some changes that had been implemented had not panned out in the way originally anticipated.

Mr. Kothe discussed changes to service levels and fees that had been implemented in February 2018. He explained that the enterprise fund was experiencing a \$1.3 million deficit per year difference between revenue and expenses and stressed that staff continued to examine options to balance the budget. He talked about numerous items that staff were examining in order to reduce costs, increase public safety, and become more efficient. He reminded Council that the presentation was only preliminary and that the point of the presentation was to incite additional discussion.

Council Member Crabill asked if the resulted deficit had been because of an unexpected increase of expenses or decrease in revenue. Mr. Kothe responded that staff had provided the best estimates available to them at the time of implementation, but a combination of factors had led to a gap in revenue. Council Member Crabill then asked if the implemented fee changes had resulted in an increase in revenue. Mr. Kothe confirmed that a slight increase was experienced, but noted the increase was not large enough to cover the gap in expenses incurred. Council Member Crabill then expressed support for low-income pricing within the program.

Council Member Mathy asked to see the total financial impact associated with the disposal contracts and asked questions about citizens enrolled in the low-income discounted fee program. Mr. Kothe stated that additional information could be provided on the financial impacts of the disposal contracts and responded to questions on the low-income program.

Council Member Boelen thanked Mr. Kothe for the detailed presentation.

Council Member Mwilambwe asked for additional detail on routing software. Mr. Kothe noted that the program had not been as effective as staff had hoped, and explained that staff continued to work with the software provider to address challenges. Council Member Mwilambwe asked for additional details and Mr. Kothe elaborated. Council Member Mwilambwe then asked about leaf pick up and possible solutions. Mr. Kothe stated that staff planned to present possible solutions. Council Member Mwilambwe then asked for a timeline and Mr. Gleason stated that some solutions had already been implemented. He stated that the next presentation was slated for the February Committee of the Whole meeting and that a tentative decision would need to be made before the spring/summer season.

Council Initiatives

The following item was presented:

Item 6.C.1. Discussion regarding a Council Initiative submitted by Council Member Carrillo for the City's Legal Department to draft an Ordinance to provide direction and instruction to City staff, including the Police Department, on how to interact with residents and other agencies as it relates to immigration issues, as requested by the City Council.

Mayor Renner introduced the item and explained Council's options for next steps.

Council Member Carrillo thanked individuals who had supported the item. She provided a brief history and listed various organizations that had developed the Keep Families Together Campaign. She described that the focus of the Welcoming City ordinance was to separate Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") and local law enforcement to protect local undocumented residents. She explained that the requested ordinance was the

same ordinance submitted by the Keep Families Together Campaign four years ago. She believed that Council needed to have a transparent discussion on the topic and urged Council Members who supported equal rights for immigrant residents to support the item. She then read a quote by Dr. Martin Luther King.

Mayor Renner reminded Council of their options regarding the item.

Council Member Mathy supported the Initiative, but expressed interest in additional discussion on specifics of the ordinance.

Council Member Boelen did not support the Initiative and instead believed parts of the Welcoming City ordinance could be addressed through the Welcoming America ordinance.

Council Member Mwilambwe did not support the Initiative as he believed immigration was extremely complex and should be handled by the federal government.

Council Member Emig supported the Initiative and explained that it was legislation that Council could enact to make a difference within the community.

Council Member Painter did not support the Initiative and expressed that she believed the Police Department had been negatively characterized and that the immigrant population had been lied to in order to induce fear.

Council Member Carrillo supported her Initiative.

Council Member Ward supported the Initiative.

Council Member Crabill supported the Initiative

Council Member Bray did not support the Initiative.

Mayor Renner directed Council Member Carrillo to work with staff to draft the ordinance for further Council discussion.

City Manager's Report

Mr. Gleason updated Council on continued bulk pick-up resulting from recent storms.

Executive Session - Cite Section

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment

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

Motion carried (viva voce).

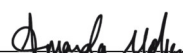
The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON



Tari Renner, Mayor

ATTEST



Amanda Mohan, Deputy City Clerk

