



**City of Bloomington
Committee of the Whole
Regular Session Meeting
February 17, 2026**



Components of the City Council Agenda

Recognition and Proclamation

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

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.

Public Comment

Each Committee of the Whole meeting shall have a public comment period not to exceed 30 minutes. Every speaker is allotted up to 3 minutes to speak. Individuals wishing to email public comment or speak remotely must email comments and/or register online at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting. Individuals wishing to speak in-person must register up to 5 minutes before the start of the meeting. Speakers will be selected at random.

Public comment is a time to provide feedback. Committee of the Whole does not respond to public comment. 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 Committee of the Whole 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.

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

Regular Agenda

All items that provide the Committee of the Whole 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

Mayor - Dan Brady

City Council Members

- Ward 1 - Jenna Kearns
- Ward 2 - Micheal Mosley
- Ward 3 - Sheila Montney
- Ward 4 - John Danenberger
- Ward 5 - Michael Straza
- Ward 6 - Cody Hendricks
- Ward 7 - Mollie Ward
- Ward 8 - Kent Lee
- Ward 9 - Abby Scott

City Manager - Jeff Jurgens
Sr. Deputy City Manager - Billy Tyus
Deputy City Manager - Sue McLaughlin

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



**Committee of the Whole - Regular Session Meeting Agenda
Government Center Boardroom, 4th Floor, Room #400
115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, IL 61701
Tuesday, February 17, 2026 - 6:00 PM**

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

3. Remain Standing for a Moment of Silent Prayer and/or Reflection

4. Roll Call

5. 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.

6. Consent Agenda

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are approved with one motion; Items pulled by Committee of the Whole from the Consent Agenda for discussion are listed and voted on separately.

- A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the January 20, 2026, Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department.** (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

7. Regular Agenda

- A. Presentation on a Bloomington-Normal Economic Development Council (BN-EDC) Strategic Plan Update, as requested by the Administration Department.** (Recommended Motion: None; Presentation Only.) (Presentation by Patrick Hoban, Executive Director of the Bloomington-Normal Economic Development Council, 15 minutes; and City Council Discussion, 10 minutes.)
- B. Presentation on a Project Update on The Bridge, as requested by the Administration Department.** (Recommended Motion: None; Presentation Only.) (Presentation by Matt Burgess, Executive Director of Home Sweet Home Ministries, 15 minutes; and City Council Discussion, 10 minutes.)
- C. Presentation on the City's 2025 Accomplishments, as requested by the Administration Department.** (Recommended Motion: None; Presentation Only.) (Presentation by Jeff Jurgens, City Manager, 10 minutes; and City Council Discussion, 5 minutes.)

8. City Manager's Discussion

9. Executive Session

- A. **None planned; although the City Council may go into Executive Session as needed and allowed by law (5 ILCS 120/2).**

10. 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 or mhurt@cityblm.org.



Consent Agenda Item No. 6.A.

For Committee of the Whole: February 17, 2026

Ward Impacted: City Wide

Subject: Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the January 20, 2026, Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.

Strategic Plan:

Goal 1. Financially Sound City Providing Quality Basic Services

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, minutes must be approved 30 days after the meeting or at the second subsequent regular meeting whichever is later. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, minutes are available for public inspection and posted to the City's website within 10 days after approval.

Community Groups/Interested Persons Contacted: N/A

Financial Impact: N/A

Attachments:

1. DRAFT 01-20-2026 COW Minutes



Minutes
Committee of the Whole - Regular Session Meeting
Tuesday, January 20, 2026 - 6:00 PM

The Committee of the Whole convened in regular session in the Government Center Boardroom. Mayor Dan Brady called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance, ending with a moment of silent prayer/reflection.

Roll Call

Present: Council Member Jenna Kearns
Council Member John Danenberger
Council Member Michael Straza
Council Member Cody Hendricks
Council Member Mollie Ward
Council Member Kent Lee
Council Member Abby Scott
Mayor Dan Brady

Absent: Council Member Micheal Mosley
Council Member Sheila Montney

Recognitions

Item 3.A. Proclamation for January 2026 as Human Trafficking Prevention Month, as requested by the Administration Department.

Carol Merna with the Center for Prevention of Abuse, accepted the Proclamation. She shared about the organization and how it impacted the community.

Nancy Bollenger, Executive Director of Allies Against Trafficking, was also present and shared about an upcoming training focusing on drug-endangered families and children and family trafficking to further bring awareness.

Public Comment

Mayor Brady read a public comment statement of procedure. The following provided in person comments: (1) Gary Stevens; (2) Amy Endicott; (3) Sean Larkin; (4) Teresa Fowler; (5) Anya Giordano; (6) Nayoka Griffis; (7) Erica Larkin; (8) Sarah Shields; and (9) Shay Turner. No emailed Public Comment was received.

Consent Agenda

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are approved with one motion; Items pulled by City Council from the Consent Agenda for discussion are listed and voted on separately.

Council Member Scott made a motion, seconded by Council Member Straza, to approve the Item as presented.

Mayor Brady directed the Clerk to call roll:

Ayes: Kearns, Danenberger, Straza, Hendricks, Ward, Lee, Scott

Motion Carried.

Item 5.A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the August 18, 2025, Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Item 5.B. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the October 20, 2025, Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Regular Agenda

The following Item was presented:

Item 6.A. Presentation and Discussion on Establishing the 2026 City Council Strategic Priorities and Guiding Principles for the City of Bloomington, as requested by the Administration Department.

City Manager Jeff Jurgens provided a follow-up to the November retreat, presenting a draft framework for 2026 Strategic Priorities to bridge the period as the current Strategic Priorities Plan would end in 2025. He outlined three guiding principles - fiscal discipline, quality of life, and community engagement - and four priority areas: infrastructure, housing, public safety, and economic vitality. He discussed the need to define indicators, integrate the priorities into Council items, and report progress regularly back to Council and the community. He noted that a draft resolution had been prepared for Council's review, refinement, and potential formal adoption at a future meeting.

Council Member Scott asked City Manager Jurgens about next steps. He explained that adopting the Resolution would formally set the Council's strategic priorities, guiding staff to focus proposals and actions around them including tying Council items to them directly.

Council Member Lee asked about collecting community feedback to better understand what "quality of life" meant to residents.

Council Member Kearns appreciated setting priorities as guideposts and wished to have future staff proposals align with them and then clearly spell out how success would be measured.

Council Member Straza appreciated the priorities and how they would reflect ongoing Council and staff discussions. He asked for them to be more defined including how they would be measured, as well as how Council could be more involved as the work moved forward.

Council Member Ward appreciated that the Resolution clearly stated that the priorities would guide policy, budget, and organizational focus, and requested that, during the budgeting process, staff explicitly tie budget discussions and proposals back to the adopted priorities.

Council Member Kearns agreed with tying decisions back to the priorities and emphasized that Council, not just staff, must be held accountable to following and applying the priorities as they made decisions.

City Manager's Discussion

City Manager Jurgens addressed comments shared during Public Comment at the meeting regarding the importance of considering victim care in situations involving the Police. He discussed ongoing collaboration with those that spoke while also affirming his confidence in the Bloomington Police Department and its openness to collaborate and continually improve.

He then reported several updates highlighting the region's continued drought urging water

conservation, noted the success of the MLK (Martin Luther King) Awards Luncheon, the opening and strong use of local emergency shelter resources (The Bridge and Salvation Army), and previewed activities for the Route 66 Centennial. He ended by recognizing Public Works' staff for their cold-weather leaf collection and anticipated collection finishing by the end of the week.

Executive Session

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment

Council Member Hendricks made a motion, seconded by Council Member Scott, to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor Brady directed the Clerk to call roll:

Ayes: Kearns, Danenberger, Straza, Hendricks, Ward, Lee, Scott

Motion carried (viva voce).

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

ATTEST

Dan Brady, Mayor

Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk



Regular Agenda Item No. 7.A.

For Committee of the Whole: February 17, 2026

Ward Impacted: City Wide

Subject: Presentation on a Bloomington-Normal Economic Development Council (BN-EDC) Strategic Plan Update, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

Recommended Motion: None; Presentation Only.

Strategic Plan:

Background: The Executive Director of the Bloomington-Normal Economic Development Council ("BN-EDC") will present an update on the organization's Strategic Plan. The presentation will outline the BN-EDC's annual planning process and provide a summary of key activities, measurable outcomes, and progress made toward established goals, strategies, objectives, and tactics.

Community Groups/Interested Persons Contacted: Bloomington-Normal Economic Development Council

Financial Impact: N/A

Attachments:

None



Regular Agenda Item No. 7.B.

For Committee of the Whole: February 17, 2026

Ward Impacted: City Wide

Subject: Presentation on a Project Update on The Bridge, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

Recommended Motion: None; Presentation Only.

Strategic Plan:

Background: The Executive Director of Home Sweet Home Ministries ("HSHM") will provide an update to the Council regarding The Bridge project, which opened in early January and has now been operational for approximately one month. The presentation will summarize initial operations, partnerships, and any early observations related to the shelter village's impact on the community.

Community Groups/Interested Persons Contacted: Home Sweet Home Ministries

Financial Impact: N/A

Attachments:

None



Regular Agenda Item No. 7.C.

For Committee of the Whole: February 17, 2026

Ward Impacted: City Wide

Subject: Presentation on the City's 2025 Accomplishments, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

Recommended Motion: None; Presentation Only.

Strategic Plan:

Background: City staff will provide a brief summary of key accomplishments across the City of Bloomington, highlighting major investments, service outcomes, and community impact over the past year. The presentation reflects progress aligned with the City's purpose of Making Life Better and showcases measurable results in infrastructure, public safety, economic development, parks, library services, and neighborhood engagement.

Community Groups/Interested Persons Contacted: N/A

Financial Impact: N/A

Attachments:

None