

APPROVED

**URBANA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2019**

President Hess called the City of Urbana Regular Session Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. City staff attending: Mayor Bill Bean, Director of Administration Kerry Brugger, Director of Finance Chris Boettcher, Community Development Director Doug Crabill, Water Superintendent Joe Sampson and Water Reclamation Facility Director Chad Hall.

PRESIDENT CALLED ROLL: Mr. Fields, present; Mr. Hoffman, present; Mr. Paul, present; Mr. Scott, present; Mr. Thackery, present; Mr. Pena, present; and Mr. Piper, present.

President Hess led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES of the Regular Session Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2018, were presented for approval. Mr. Paul moved for the approval of said minutes and Mr. Thackery seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes, nays, none.
Motion passed 7-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

CEP UPDATE – Marcia Bailey

Mrs. Bailey spoke about the Enterprise Zone Application regarding the hotel and advised that the letter was sent to the Urbana School District and the agreement was approved as written. She also stated that High Point has approved the agreement as well and if City Council approves the agreement then it will go onto the County Commissioners for their approval. She also advised that this would be a 54 room hotel with pool, breakfast bar, beer/wine bar, fitness room, guest laundry room and meeting room. She also stated that the final purchase of the property is going through a local bank, and is continuing forward. She stated that all investors are local and there were five opts available for location, and this location was chosen.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS – BOARD OF CONTROL

1. Ricart Ford - \$136,655.00 (Sewer Funds at \$125,000.00 with the remaining \$11,655.00 be paid from the Sewer Fund Reserves)
2. Ricart Ford - \$136,655.00 (Water Fund at \$40,000.00 with the remaining annual payments to be included in subsequent budget years)

Chad Hall said that they were starting to outgrow the current utility trucks. He also said that there would be additional uses for the crane.

Joe Sampson added that the Water Department has to make numerous trips to a site for they can't carry all of the equipment. He added that they just want to be more efficient.

Mrs. Boettcher added that they would finance this truck for 3 years

Mr. Paul moved to put this item on the floor for discussion and possible passage on both. Mr. Scott seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes; nays, none, for both.

Motion passed 7-0.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Russ Bartley – 510 E. Church St. – Mr. Bartley thanked Council for putting the Council Packet online.

Steve Brune – 206 Scioto St. – Mr. Brune stated his opposition of the tax increase. He said that the City needed to raise the base instead of the rates. He spoke of an Accessory Dwelling Unit, to build or add to a property as a rental property for example. He said there would be no new hookups to put one of these units in your backyard. He also spoke about workforce housing incentives as well as promoting innovative thinking to solve these issues by finding young people, women and minorities that think outside of the box.

Brian Wonn – 788 Amherst Dr. read a letter from the Champaign County Ministerial Association and suggested a pause before the taxes are raised to do further study.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Third Reading –

ORDINANCE NO. 4486-19

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 171.013 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO ADD AN ADDITIONAL SIX-TENTHS OF ONE-PERCENT (0.6%) TAX ON INCOME TO THE CURRENT ADDITIONAL FOUR-TENTHS (0.4%) TAX RATE, ESTABLISHING THE NEW ADDITIONAL TAX RATE AT ONE-PERCENT (1.0%) (Sponsored by Councilman Dwight Paul)

Mr. Brugger stated that the City does not want to into a situation as the City was in back in 2009/2010. He said that he understands everyone's position but the community must consider what kind of services are wanted. He stated that Workman's Compensation has decreased and the City is trying to be efficient. He also discussed the subject of repairs and replacement for the current buildings. He spoke about the security project upcoming. He spoke of the purchase of the 5th 3rd building and what the building could be used for. He stated there are a lot of options, but the City wants to use the building that would best serve the community. He also stated that the City are good stewards of the public money, and they were just trying to bring back people to serve the community. He also stated that everyone is trying to be as transparent as possible. He also reminded everyone that it has been almost 28 years since an adjustment has been made.

Mayor Bean said that in 1991 there were 24 police officers, and investigative unit which is now gone. Also an elderly unit and a juvenile unit is also gone. He added that it takes money to have what the City had before and he added that the City is doing the best that it can without the \$2.5 million dollars taken by the State. He stated that the City of Urbana needs this income tax increase.

Mr. Paul said that he sees infrastructure failing across the City and that it takes money to repair it. He further stated that this income tax increase is the mechanism that is felt that is most fair to the citizens. He also said that we will see in May what the voters decide.

Mr. Thackery spoke about expanding the base. He stated that what attracts people to a City is the question on how the community is being serviced. He stated that we had to start someplace and things take time.

Mr. Thackery moved to put this ordinance on the floor for further discussion and possible passage. Mr. Paul seconded.

President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Hoffman, yes; Mr. Paul, Yes; Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mr. Pena, yes; Mr. Piper, yes; and Mr. Fields, yes.
Ordinance passed 7-0.

Second Reading –

ORDINANCE NO. 4426-19

AN ORDINANCE TO REVISE THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES BY ADOPTING CURENT REPLACEMENT PAGES. (Requires three readings)

President Hess declared this ordinance to have had its second reading.

First Reading –

RESOLUTION NO. 2510-19

A RESOLUTUION DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF AN ELECTION ON THE QUESTION OF APPROVING AN AMENDMENT OF SECTION 171.013 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF URBANA, OHIO; PROVIDING FOR AN ADDITIONAL SIX TENTHS OF ONE-PERCENT (0.6%) TAX ON INCOME TO THE CURRENT ADDITIONAL FOUR-TENTHS (0.4%) TAX RATE AND FURTHER ESTABLISH THE NEW ADDITIONAL TAX RATE AT ONE PERCENT (1.0%); AND PROVIDEING THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR SAID ORDINANCE.

Mr. Paul moved to put this resolution on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Thackery seconded.

President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Paul, yes; Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mr. Pena, ye; Mr. Piper, yes; Mr. Fields, yes; and Mr. Hoffman, yes.
Resolution passed 7-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2541-19

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE CITY OF URBANA TO SIGN THE GRANT AGREEMENT (CHAM-017) WITH THE STATE OF OHIO, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, FOR THE NATUREWORKS PROGRAM FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS AT MELVIN MILLER PARK.

Mr. Crabill said that the City received \$62,139.00 in grant funding and this resolution was to formally accept the grant. He stated that with this grant funding, 75% of the costs would be covered to repair/replace fencing around ball fields, a 9 hole disc golf course on level ground and the rehabilitation of the tennis court restrooms.

Mr. Fields inquired about shuffleboard. Mr. Brugger responded that if there was an interest, they could discuss it, but it would not tie in to this grant. He also added that this is a prime example how the City looks for funding, for this could not be done with the budget and without this grant, the repairs would not happen.

Mr. Thackery moved to put this resolution on the floor for further discussion and possible passage. Mr. Paul seconded.

President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mr. Pena, yes; Mr. Piper, yes; Mr. Fields, yes; Mr. Hoffman, yes; and Mr. Paul, yes.
Resolution passed 7-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2542-19

A RESOLUTION ENACTED BY THE CITY OF URBANA, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO, TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION UNDER THE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO SOUTH HIGH STREET, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Crabill stated this study through LUC was at no cost to the City. These improvements would be for new curbs and gutters, sidewalks, improving where parking is on one side of the roadway, a dedicated bike lane and possible traffic circles, to slow traffic down. He said that residents wanted to see the street improved. He advised that the Stormwater will get improved as well. Further, he mentioned that the letter of interest is due by February 2, 2019, and the application was due on May 17, 2019. He also stated that the finalized cost estimate would be in by the end of the month. He also stated that 95% of the cost would be grant funded and without the grant funding, the project could not move forward. He also advised that the construction date would be in 2023.

Mr. Thackery moved to put this resolution on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Paul seconded.

President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Thackery, yes; Mr. Pena, yes; Mr. Piper, yes; Mr. Fields, yes; Mr. Hoffman, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; and Mr. Scott, yes.
Resolution passed 7-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2543-19

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE EZ AGREEMENT AND REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION SUBMITTED FROM URBANA HOTEL LLC.

Mr. Thackery moved to put this resolution on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Paul seconded.

President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Pena, yes; Mr. Piper, yes; Mr. Fields, yes; Mr. Hoffman, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; Mr. Scott, yes; and Mr. Thackery, yes.
Resolution passed 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 4385-19

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 141 OF THE URBANA, OHIO CODIFIED ORDINANCES CONCERNING AMBULANCE SERVICE RATES AND CHARGES.

Mrs. Boettcher stated that the billing rates will mirror what medicate and Medicaid will pay.

President Hess declared this ordinance to have its first reading.

RESOLUTION 2247-19

RESOLUTION OF COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF URBANA APPOINTING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE URBANA CHARTER REVIEW BOARD AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 8.03 OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF URBANA, OHIO.

Mr. Paul moved to put this resolution on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Fields seconded.

President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Piper, yes; Mr. Fields, yes; Mr. Hoffman, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; and Mr. Pena, yes.
Resolution passed 7-0.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS/WORK SESSION

Mr. Fields said that the street crew did a great job with all of the snow we received, but inquired as to why no one cleans the sidewalks out at Walmart.

Mr. Hoffman spoke about Senior Housing and stated that this was an example that the City was trying to improve the base. He also asked by Uber/Taxi services within the City and asked if this was allowed. Mr. Crabill said that there would have to be new legislation put in place for this.

Mr. Paul asked about the status of the Roundabout. Mr. Crabill stated that there would be a flyer coming out in the near future to explain the progress of this project. He added that bids on the project are due February 7, 2019, and the City would be bringing a contract to Council soon for approval. He also added that the construction on this project should begin in late April to early May of this year.

Mr. Scott said that the City needed to get serious about utilizing empty space. He said it would be a good idea doing something for the downtown area but would probably need a form of funding stream.

Mr. Thackery stated that the City was increasing the base. He stated the hotel, Senior Housing are great examples of the City increasing the base.

Mr. Hall spoke about the pre-construction bid for the Screw Press Project. He stated that the bid opens on January 25, 2019, and the contractor bid should be in front of Council on the February 5th, 2019, meeting. He stated that they have 9 active bidders for this project. He also mentioned that due to the upcoming snow, should the County be on a Level 3 Emergency, the City has a snow emergency route and all citizens should park in their driveways.

Mr. Brugger spoke of the traffic signals at Gwynne and Russel streets. He stated the traffic light will be removed. He said that the light at Pindar will be replaced with a two way stop sign, the same for Railroad and Gwynne Streets and East Lawn and East Ward.

Mayor Bean invited everyone to the Martin Luther King Celebration at Urbana University, Sara Landis Room.


President Hess reminded Council that the Ethic forms were to be filled out, for they are soon due. He also mentioned the idea of working on the downtown buildings, and getting something going on this idea.

Mr. Fields moved to adjourn. Mr. Paul seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes, nays, none. Motion passed 7-0.

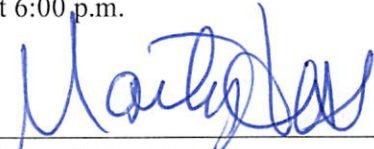
ADJOURN AT 7:55 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

February 5, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.



Council Clerk



Council President