

APPROVED

**URBANA CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION MEETING  
TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023**

President Pro Tempore Paul called the City of Urbana Regular Session Meeting to order at 6:00 pm. President Hess absent.

**City Staff attending:** Director of Finance Chris Boettcher, Mayor Bill Bean, Director of Law Mark Feinstein, Police Chief Matt Lingrell, and Fire Chief Dean Ortlieb.

**President Called Roll:** Ms. Jumper, present; Mr. Scott, present; Mr. Paul, present; Ms. Truelove, present; Mr. Thackery, present; Mrs. Collier, present; and Mrs. Bean, present.

**Minutes**

Mr. Thackery moved to put the minutes of May 16, 2023 on the floor for discussion and possible approval. Mr. Scott seconded.

No comments/corrections from Council.

Voice vote on approval of the corrected minutes: all ayes; nays, none.

**Communications:**

1. Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes from May 18, 2023
2. Communication from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control dated June 15, 2023, regarding the transfer liquor permit application for Kavisha & Kush, LLC dba Sunoco Food Mart, 780 Scioto St.
3. Communication from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control dated June 28, 2023, regarding the TREX liquor permit application for ALDI, Inc., Ohio, 741 Scioto St.
4. Safety Committee Topics/Minutes from June 8, 2023

Mrs. Bean moved to place the communications on the floor for acceptance. Ms. Jumper seconded.

Mr. Paul thanked Mr. Crabill for accepting the Tree City award on behalf of the City.

Voice vote on acceptance of communications: All ayes, nays none.

**Administrative Reports – Board of Control:**

1. The Board of Control recommends Council increase purchase order number 30920 to Bricker Graydon in the amount of \$70,000.00 for legal services associated with the South High Street project. The purchase order was approved by Board of Control on April 5, 2023 for the amount of \$20,000.00, and charged to the General Fund – Miscellaneous Non-Departmental. **VOTE: 2-0**

Mr. Thackery moved to put this request on the floor for discussion and possible approval. Mrs. Collier seconded.

Ms. Boettcher informed Council that it had already approved the initial services. It is now a couple of months into the situation and the City needed to increase the purchase order by \$70,000.

Ms. Truelove asked if there was a better explanation. Mr. Feinstein added that the purchase order was a result of trying to resolve the matter short of litigation. Since that didn't happen, more funds were needed.

Mr. Thackery asked if there was any chance of recoupment of the funds. Mr. Feinstein indicated there was not.

Mr. Paul stated he thought the matter had already been litigated. Mr. Feinstein stated the appeal process was still ongoing.

Voice vote on approval; five ayes, nays one (Councilman Scott), Councilwoman Jumper abstains. Passes 5-1.

No comments/questions regarding the footnote.

**Citizen Comments:**

Amy Dickerson (124 W. Broadway St.) – Ms. Dickerson indicated she has been unable to walk on the sidewalk because of debris at the corner of Walnut Street and Main Street. She stated she cannot understand why it looks the way it does. She asked if the property owner had been given a warning and if there was anything that could be done.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**Third Reading:** None

**Second Reading:** None

**First Reading:**

**Resolution 2669-23:** A resolution confirming the appointment of a new member of the salary commission. (One reading required)

Mr. Scott moved to place the resolution on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Thackery seconded.

Mr. Feinstein explained to Council that Brian Baltimore would be replacing Michele Heflin on the Salary Commission. Previously, he was set to fill Councilwoman Truelove's vacancy, but since he resides in the first ward, the seat was the proper fit.

No questions/comments from Council.

Roll call on passage: Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; Ms. Truelove, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mrs. Collier, yes; Mrs. Bean, yes; and Ms. Jumper, yes.

Resolution passes 7-0.

**Department Liaison Reports:**

Mrs. Collier informed Council that there was Safety meeting on July 13<sup>th</sup>. One topic for conversation was the possible application for a federal grant for a Fire ladder truck.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Ms. Jumper thanked Recovery Zone for their efforts with the bike path.

Mr. Scott stated the ALDI grand opening would be on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Thackery stated that was when the ribbon cutting would be held, with the store not opening for another week after that.

Ms. Truelove stated the same problem still persists and wanted to say she's mad. She's disappointed in all of the effort put forward to get rid of the property, and it still stands as is. She's curious how someone can make it look worse.

Mr. Thackery is amazed at how fast ALDI has been constructed. He also wouldn't mind serving on the opening for the Shade Tree Commission.

Chief Ortlieb stated the list for civil service has been extended for another six months. Also, the UFD has been assisting Mercy and Box 13 in giving out fans to the over-60 population of Champaign County. He added that over 12,000 people die in the United States each year from heat-related causes.

Chief Lingrell stated UPD has had a lot of outreach. The Cops and Bobbers program had twenty participants. He learned the fish will not bite if the pond is only stocked the night before. He added there was a good turnout for the torch relay and also thanked the community, for which Safetytown could not happen without its support. He also added that UPD sent two conditional offers to possible candidates.

Mr. Thackery reminded everyone about the Citizen's police academy, for which he has already signed up. Chief Lingrell stated that while there was original excitement for the program, it has now waned.

Mayor Bean stated that Dave Torsell with EMA retired on July 1 as EMA Deputy Director, and Jim Freeman will retire as Director on January 1. The EMA is in the process of starting interviews by the end of the month and is hopeful to have somebody on board by October 1.

Mr. Paul stated that we are seeing industry-wide retirements in that area.

Council Clerk Steffan thanked Council, especially Mr. Paul, for assisting him while he was out on vacation on June 20<sup>th</sup>. He also thanked Chief Lingrell for the goodie bag consisting of a letter, police patch, and candy, that was given to his son for helping with Safetytown.

Ms. Jumper moved to adjourn. Ms. Truelove seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes, nays none. Motion passes 7-0.

**ADJOURNED AT 6:31 p.m.**

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

August 1, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.



  
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Council Clerk

  
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Council President