

**URBANA CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEARING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2024**



**APPROVED**

President Paul called the Public Meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

This sole topic discussed was to updating the City of Urbana's official zoning map to designate one recently annexed property at 728 Children's Home Road as R-1, Low Density Residential.

Mr. Brugger stated this was regarding the new property being built. The property has previously accepted utilities and it has been annexed into City. He added that currently in the township, it is zoned as U-1 (open rural space). The zoning in the City would be R-1, contiguous to the properties across the street.

No statements from the public were made at this time.

President Paul called the Public Hearing closed at 6:01 pm.

**URBANA CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2024**

President Paul called the City of Urbana Regular Session Meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

**City Staff attending:** Director of Law Mark Feinstein, Director of Administration Kerry Brugger, Mayor Bill Bean, Police Chief Matt Lingrell, and Fire Chief Dean Ortlieb

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

**Memorial Dedicated to the Unmarked Graves of Oak Dale Cemetery** – Chris Endres, Urbana High School

Mr. Endres stated he is an American History teacher at Urbana High School. He noted that his students did a project regarding unmarked African American graves. Mr. Endres stated the students looked at the segregation and Jim Crow laws during reconstruction and created their own architectural firms to come up with a memorial to honor those in unmarked graves. He added that it turned into a contest between all the contest and voted on a winner, which has been approved by the Oak Dale cemetery board. He stated the cost of the project is \$4,719.81. Mr. Endres added there is a fee for the cement to be poured first and is asking if the fee can be waived.

Mr. Scott asked for dimensions. Mr. Endres responded that it is approximately the size of a small bench.

Mr. Thackery inquired as to the timing on finishing. Mr. Endres stated he would love to have it finished by May.

Mrs. Bean asked if he has gone to any local service clubs. Mr. Endres answered that Vernon Funeral Home went to the local Lions club.

President Paul asked if the \$4,719.81 includes the cement fee. Mr. Endres replied it did, which is \$403.20.

Mr. Scott wanted to know if the high school had a woodworking class. Mr. Endres responded it was more of a welding class.

### **Minutes**

Mr. Thackery moved to put the minutes of September 3, 2024 on the floor for discussion and possible approval. Mrs. Bean seconded.

No comments/questions from Council regarding the minutes.

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

### **Communications:**

1. Letters from Verlis Conrad, 151 Clay Street, postmarked Sept. 9, 2004 (See Attached)

Mrs. Bean moved to remove the communication from the consent agenda.

Mrs. Bean wanted to know where the City stood and if there had been any progress. Mr. Brugger stated this was the first time the City could see the letter that was originally sent to neighbors. He added this was also the first time the City found out the tower was is not operable. Mr. Brugger stated the City learned American Towers is working through a take-down initiative but the City isn't quite sure what that means.

### **Administrative Reports – Board of Control:**

1. The Board of Control recommends Council increase blanket purchase order number 2024-00085 to EJ Prescott in the amount of \$30,000.00 for various parts and inventory items for the Water Department. The blanket purchase order was originally approved in the amount of \$65,000.00 by City Council on January 2, 2024. This expense will be charged to the Water Fund and is in the 2024 budget. **VOTE: 3-0**

Mr. Brugger stated that blanket POs were approved at the beginning of the year. He added that with the amount of water repairs in the City, this PO needed adjusted to finish out the year.

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

Passes 7-0.

### **Citizen Comments:**

Kurtis Bump (730 S. Main St.) – Mr. Bump indicated that he was here last month regarding the actions of the City Director. When he was here last time, he failed to mention the removal of a \$630 nuisance fine on his property taxes. Mr. Bump indicated the City was patrolling down his

alleyway after the meeting. He added that he now notices scrap in the easement way on the property.

James Bump (335 Henry St.) – Mr. Bump stated he feels it is petty that they load the trailer and get cited while there is a towing yard at Court and Russell. He stated they have trucks parked with garbage bags, as well as mattresses and tires. He added he also thought there was ordinance for mosquitos. He stated his frustration that nothing was done there but he feels they are hounded at this property.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**Third Reading:** None

### **Second Reading:**

**Ordinance 4611-24:** An ordinance to update the City of Urbana’s official zoning map to designate one recently annexed property at 728 Children’s Home Road as R-1, Low Density Residential (currently designated as U-1, Rural District). (Three readings required, public hearing required)

Mr. Thackery moved to put this ordinance on the floor for discussion. Ms. Jumper seconded.

Mr. Brugger reiterated that this was new construction being built, and the zoning was matching the surrounding area.

No comments/questions from Council.

President Paul declared this ordinance to have had its second reading

**First Reading:** None

### **Department Liaison Reports:**

Mr. Thackery stated he met with Mr. Crabill discuss projects that will be soon be appearing before Council.

Mrs. Bean indicated that there would not be a September Planning Commission meeting.

Mrs. Collier informed Council that the next Safety meeting would be on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Scott stated he never received a letter about the utilities’ aggregation. He asked if anyone else received them.

Mr. Thackery asked if the City would be redoing concrete in front of the fire department. Mr. Brugger stated they would from the corner all the way down and the plan is to complete it in 2025. Mr. Thackery then inquired into the Court and Russell discussion. Mr. Brugger stated that anybody who receives violation notices have the opportunity to appeal. as clearly stated in the letter. He

added that in the last twelve years, only a small handful have appealed. Mr. Brugger doesn't understand why people who feel wronged don't appeal more often.

Mrs. Collier stated that over last few years there had a lot of complaints from the public about Miller Drive. Mrs. Collier added that she sees where she is cleaning it up.

Ms. Jumper had to reach out to Zoning Compliance Officer Preston Carter and Mr. Brugger regarding a couple of properties. She also appreciates Chief Lingrell for his guys' hard work.

Ms. Truelove asked what the procedure is for going back to inspect after taking pictures. Mr. Brugger informed Council the process is identification, sending notice, and if it is abated, the City is done. Mr. Feinstein stated that from a legal perspective, no property owner is going to get notice to abate and then no further action. At end of the period, there is another evaluation to see if the nuisance is abated, and then further steps are done.

Mr. Thackery stated it sounds like the property owner is running a business. He inquired if this could be a zoning issue. Mr. Feinstein stated the zoning and nuisance codes are different, but there is a lengthy process available for either way.

Chief Lingrell stated that today was a challenging day but hearing Mr. Endres's report on the goodness of Urbana lets him go home feeling a little bit better.

Chief Ortlieb informed Council that there were two structure fires in the last month due to unsupervised open burning. He is asking everyone to put the word out there about any open burning at all due to being in a D-2 Drought.

Chief Ortlieb also added that the public can have their car seats checked on September 28, which is the same day as the parade and chili cookoff.

Mr. Brugger appreciated Mr. Feinstein clarifying the process for nuisances.

Mr. Brugger informed Council that paving for Lafayette, Lincoln, etc. is in process this week. He also added that leaf pickup will start a little earlier this year due to the drought.

Mayor Bean reminded everyone that September 28<sup>th</sup> is the chili cookoff and hoopla parade.

President Paul stated he signed up for the citizen's police academy. He added that is has been really well run and organized and he has been enjoying it.

Ms. Jumper moved to adjourn. Ms. Truelove seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes, nays none.

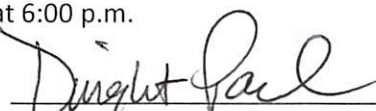
**ADJOURNED AT 6:40 p.m.**

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

October 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.



  
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Council Clerk

  
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Council President