



APPROVED

**URBANA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025**

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

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

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

Annual Organizational Items

President Pro Tempore: Mr. Thackery made a motion for Mrs. Bean to serve as President Pro Tempore for the 2025 Council year. Mr. Scott seconded. Mrs. Bean accepted the nomination. Having no other nominations, President Paul called for a Roll call on the President Pro Tempore vote: Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Davis, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mrs. Collier, yes; Mrs. Bean, yes; and Ms. Jumper, yes.

Mrs. Bean elected President Pro Tempore for 2025.

Council Clerk: Mr. Thackery made a motion for Roger Steffan to continue serving as Council Clerk for the 2025 Council year. Ms. Jumper seconded. Council Clerk Steffan stated he was happy to continue serving Council.

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

Roger Steffan approved as Council Clerk for 2025.

Department Liaison Discussion:

President Paul asked Council if they would still like Department Liaisons or if there was another way Council would like to handle the issue.

Ms. Jumper stated Mr. Davis would be taking over as the liaison for the Parks Department. Mr. Davis confirmed. Council indicated that there would be no further liaison changes from the previous year.

Roll call on Department Liaison positions: Mr. Thackery, yes; Mrs. Collier, yes; Mrs. Bean, yes; Ms. Jumper, yes; Mr. Scott, yes; and Mr. Davis, yes.

Department Liaisons finalized for 2025.

Minutes

Mrs. Bean moved to put the minutes of December 17, 2024 on the floor for discussion and possible approval. Ms. Jumper seconded.

No comments/questions from Council regarding the minutes.

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

Communications:

1. Email from Gavin Coleman (431 Lafayette Street) sent December 14, 2024 (See Attached)

Mr. Thackery moved to remove the sole communication from the consent agenda.

Mr. Thackery inquired if the City was capable of any response. Mr. Brugger stated that nothing was on the books that the City could enforce. Mr. Feinstein stated the revised code doesn't address this issue, instead reserving it to local municipalities. He stated that while there is a noise ordinance, not a light ordinance. Mrs. Bean asked if parking could be enforced. Mr. Feinstein stated the City does have parking ordinances, and those violations could be enforced.

Administrative Reports – Board of Control:

1. The Board of Control recommends Council authorize the blanket purchase order list for 2025 (see attached). All blanket purchase order amounts are in the 2025 budget. **VOTE: 2-0.**

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

Mr. Thackery stated that he likes that the City is buying fuel and selling for profit. He added also that with IT issues, the City has to spend money to stay ahead.

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

Citizen Comments:

Greg Livingston (428 Lafayette Ave) – Mr. Livingston stated he is the owner of the light show going on since 2020. He informed Council that nursing homes and children's hospitals bring people to watch. He admitted that traffic can get heavy at times.

Mr. Livingston stated the first year he installed the show gave people some place to go during COVID. He stated that he tries to model show hours to follow football game hours. He also added that he monitors the show all the time, including having a way to turn people's radios down.

Mr. Livingston added that he also goes out and tells people to move if they are blocking traffic or driveways. He added that upon installation, he went to every neighbor's house and they all approved the idea. He explained that he no longer has extended hours anymore and is not going to start Halloween until Mid-October.

Mr. Livingston stated that in 2020, one neighbor complained one time. For the next three years, he did not receive any complaints. He added that the support from the community has been overwhelming and he is committed to continuing.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Third Reading:

Ordinance 4388-25: An ordinance authorizing the Indigent Defense Agreement with the Champaign County Commissioners to allow the City and County to receive partial reimbursement from the Ohio Public Defender Commission for the indigent expenses in the Champaign County Municipal Court. (Three readings required)

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

Mr. Feinstein reminded Council that this ordinance was a housekeeping matter. He stated the City has an agreement with the County to provide indigent counsel to defendants facing jail time.

Council did not have any comments/questions.

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

Ordinance passes 6-0.

Second Reading: None

First Reading: None

Department Liaison Reports:

Mrs. Collier stated the Safety Committee would be holding a meeting on February 13th at 5:00 pm.

Miscellaneous Business:

Ms. Jumper sent her kudos to the street crew for their work during the snow storm.

Mr. Thackery stated he wanted to bring up the Council Clerk salary but believed Council may have to adjust the range. Council Clerk Steffan informed Council that he would provide the ordinance to Council from the last time the range was adjusted.

Chief Ortlieb stated that he has been looking at the tragedy in New Orleans through a public safety lens. He added the City had measures in place but removed them because they didn't work. Mr. Thackery stated the community here is very comfortable with both the police and fire divisions.

Mr. Thackery informed Council to get ready for a busy year.

President Paul reminded Council that the ethics paperwork is due May 15th.

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

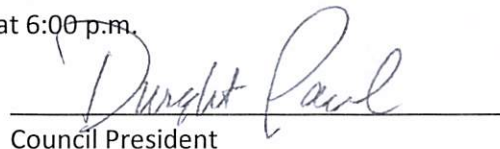
ADJOURNED AT 6:21 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

January 21, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.



Council Clerk



Council President