

**URBANA CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026**



**APPROVED**

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 Spencer Mitchell, Mayor Bill Bean, Director of Finance Matt Wellbaum, Fire Chief Dean Ortlieb, Interim Police Chief Josh Jacobs, Grimes Airport Manager Drake Huffman and City Engineer Tyler Bumbalough

**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.

**Minutes**

Mrs. Bean moved to put the minutes of January 6, 2026 on the floor for discussion and possible approval. Ms. Jumper seconded.

Mr. Scott mentioned a typo of a couple of improper pronouns. Council Clerk Steffan also mentioned the correction of President Paul calling roll.

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

**Communications:** None

**Administrative Reports – Board of Control:**

1. The Board of Control recommends Council authorize the blanket purchase order list for 2026. **SNF Polydyne** is the vendor the City utilizes for polymer for use in water treatment and is paid from the Sewer Fund. **EJ Prescott Inc** is a vendor the City utilizes for various parts and inventory items for the Water Department, is paid from the Water Fund. **Smart Bill** is the vendor the City utilizes for our Utility bill printing and mailing services and is paid from the General Fund. **VOTE: 3-0**

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

Mr. Wellbaum went over the blanket purchase order amounts and how they compared to last year.

Council did not have any questions/comments.

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

BOC #1 passes 7-0.

2. The Board of Control recommends Council authorize a purchase order to Butler, Fairman & Seufert Inc (BF&S Inc) in the amount of \$174,415 for engineering services to include government applications, design, bidding, construction administration, construction observation, construction testing and miscellaneous service for the proposed FAA AIG & AIP project at the Urbana Grimes Airport. The project consists of the design, contract documents, permitting and bid package for a new taxi lane as well as the construction of a new 6-unit T-Hangar building. This expense will be charged to the FAA Grants Fund. **VOTE: 3-0**

Ms. Truelove moved to put this request on the floor for discussion and possible approval. Ms. Jumper seconded.

Mr. Huffman stated there are two separate engineering agreements: one for the taxi lane and one for the t-hangar construction. He added that this covers two different FAA grants. He stated this expense will include putting together the application itself.

Mrs. Collier asked where the new hanger will be. Mr. Huffman answered just south of the current newest hangar

Mr. Thackery asked the estimated cost of project. Mr. Huffman stated the total estimated cost is \$609,000, of which 95% covered by grants.

Roll call on approval: Mr. Davis, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Ms. Truelove, yes; Mrs. Collier, yes; Mrs. Bean, yes; Ms. Jumper, yes; and Mr. Scott, no.

BOC #2 passes 6-1.

#### **Citizen Comments:**

Brad Winner Sr (670 E. Ward St.)

Mr. Winner wanted to know if there is a data center in the pipeline. He stated he has asked that to a couple of elected officials and has gotten vague answers. Mr. Winner added that the issue has created a firestorm in different municipalities. Mr. Winner stated that he is opposed to the lack of time and ability to those who live in the town to voice their opinions if there is something in the pipeline.

He added that if the City doesn't know what's going on, he would highly consider a three-year moratorium on data centers so the City can study the effects on the local towns that have them.

Mr. Winner stated that downtown looks great as well as High street. He added there are a lot of positive things going on.

#### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

##### **Third Reading:**

**Ordinance 4388-26:** 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. Mrs. Bean seconded.

Mr. Feinstein stated that this ordinance allows an agreement to provide attorneys to indigent individuals who violate City code while facing a potential jail time. He added that this is a housekeeping we do every year.

Mrs. Bean asked about jailable offenses. Mr. Feinstein explained that constitutionally only offenses that carry jail potentially are attorneys required to be provided.

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

Ordinance passes 7-0.

**Second Reading:** None

**First Reading:**

**Resolution 2437-26:** A resolution confirming the appointments of Matthew Wellbaum and Audra Bean to the Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC) for calendar years 2026-2028. (One reading required)

Mr. Scott moved to put this resolution on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Ms. Jumper seconded.

Mr. Mitchell stated that the TIRC review committee is established to review each CRA agreement each year. He explained that previously Ms. Bean and Ms. Boettcher served at the Mayor's selections.

Mr. Thackery asked who else was on the committee. Mr. Mitchell responded that there is also Township and Village representation, with representation from any impacted area.

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

Resolution passes 7-0.

**Resolution 2646-26:** A resolution authorizing the acceptance of the Victims of Crime Act ("VOCA") Grant as authorized by the Ohio Attorney General, and declaring an emergency. (One reading required)

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

Mr. Feinstein stated that Marsy's law requires victim advocacy assistance in the State of Ohio. He stated that the Law Department has two victim advocates to assist with that. He stated that the Attorney General has provided the City a grant in the same amount as last year. Mr. Feinstein

explained that the grant acceptance requires Council blessing due to the requirement of a 20% matching dollar amount from the City.

Council did not have any comments/questions.

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

Resolution passes 7-0.

**Resolution 2726-26:** A resolution declaring the necessity of constructing sidewalks, curbs, and/or gutters, along at least portions of Bon Air Drive, Camelot Drive, Pine Tree Drive, Cambridge Drive, New Haven Drive, Parkway Boulevard, Players Circle, Bentwood Court, Pro Circle, South Jefferson Street, and declaring an emergency. (One reading required)

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

Mr. Bumbalough stated this resolution is the annual sidewalk, curb and gutter program. He stated that this program proceeds the paving program for the year. He explained that if this resolution passes, the City sends a certified letter out to those who have not responded or whose permit is not quite done yet. Mr. Bumbalough added that those who opted in, would not get the letter.

Mr. Bumbalough handed out the specifications to Council members. He stated the response rate is pretty good. He further explained that the project also includes City work: catch basins to repair or replace; ramp work, and work in front of City property. He stated the timeline to reply is April 24<sup>th</sup>. He explained the timeline with the City going out to bid in February, with potential construction work to be completed in May and June. Afterwards, bills would be sent out to those who opted in.

Ms. Truelove asked Mr. Bumbalough to explain what a necessity was. Mr. Bumbalough responded that a resolution of necessity follows ORC 729, which states that these items must be kept in good repair. He explained that there are two standards: sidewalk and curb disrepair. If there is crumbling or it is cracked too heavily, it would become a necessity is in getting it fixed.

Ms. Truelove asked about places where there were no sidewalks or curbs. How determined. Mr. Bumbalough responded that there would be no changes. The City would not add anything new.

Mr. Scott asked if the City was going to pave the Parkway condos. Mr. Bumbalough stated the City would be repairing the asphalt that is in front of the curb. He added that it was overcut by a foot to get the formboard in.

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

Resolution passes 7-0.

**Department Liaison Reports:**

Mr. Scott stated that we all heard Mr. Winner speak of a potential data center. He urged anyone who is objecting to this, to start attending Planning Commission. He added that as it sits now, there is nothing Council can do unless it comes to Council for an abatement.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Ms. Truelove stated her church sponsored an MLK event on Sunday. She added that she is disappointed when she doesn't see dignitaries from the City. She stated that Mr. Bean explained why he wasn't able to attend.

Ms. Truelove also took a moment to reconfirm that she voted yes to the resolution of necessity.

Ms. Jumper stated she has heard the chatter about a data center. She wanted to clarify that the issue has not come in front of Council to be voted on. She reminded Council that she asked for an amendment to the CRA for wording that was said to be unnecessary.

Ms. Jumper stated she was concerned about the issue for citizens and about a lack of transparency.

Mayor Bean thanked Council for passing the resolution of necessity. He stated the City has been doing this now for nine years. He added that people come in from outside the community and think how nice everything looks because of this program.

Mr. Mitchell stated the City received a letter about an Oak Dale cemetery employee who went above and beyond to help out with the location of grave sites. Mr. Mitchell stated it is a credit to the quality of who Bob Jumper is. He added the City doesn't get a ton of these types of letters.

Chief Ortlieb stated the Fire Division has been onboarding a new probationary firefighter, with the swearing-in to occur on Friday at 1 pm.

President Paul stated that somehow his grocery envelope was dropped in the Kroger parking lot. He thanked Brittany for finding it and ensuring its safe return. He also thanked Judge Harvey for swearing-in the Council members at the last meeting.

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

**ADJOURNED AT 6:35 p.m.**

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**  
January 20, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

  
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Council Clerk

  
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Council President