

**URBANA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2020**

APPROVED

President Pro Tem Paul called the City of Urbana Regular Session Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
City staff attending: Director of Administration Kerry Brugger.

PRESIDENT PRO TEM CALLED ROLL: Mr. Fields, present; Mr. Hoffman, present; Mr. Paul, present; Mr. Scott, present; Mr. Thackery, present; Mr. Ebert; present, and Mrs. Collier, present.

MINUTES

Urbana City Council Regular Session Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2020.

Mr. Fields moved to put these minutes on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Scott seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes; nays, none.

Motion passed 7-0.

Urbana City Council Regular Session Meeting Minutes of April 7, 2020.

Mr. Fields moved to put these minutes on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Ebert seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes; nays, none.

Motion passed 7-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from Department of Commerce, Division of Liquor Control.

Mr. Hoffman moved to accept this communication. Mr. Fields seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes; nays, none.

Motion passed 7-0.

2. Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2020.

Mr. Ebert moved to accept this communication. Mr. Hoffman seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes; nays, none.

Motion passed 7-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS – BOARD OF CONTROL

1. 3C Contracting - \$182,947.00 (Capital Improvement Find – Parks (\$91,473.50 and Capital Improvement Police & Fire Tax Levy Fund (\$91,473.50)

Mr. Brugger stated that three years ago, the City initiated a lease option agreement to sell the Armory. Currently, the police department uses the Motor Pool Building at the armory for their use. He added that footers for an old building are too expensive and building a pole barn in the south end of the soccer field is the better option. The plan would be that they get the building enclosed this year and next year, they would add the concrete floor and the interior. This building was in the budget and with 3C Contracting, the price is under the budgeted amount. He also added that this could not wait another year so the police department can get their property out of the Motor Pool Building. Further, he stated this building is a very big building and it would be splint in the middle with a divider wall. Mrs. Collier asked what kind of impact with Urbana University closing, would it have on the City and could the City afford this building. Mr. Brugger advised he wasn't sure what the impact on the City would be, but it would not impact for the spending of these funds. Mr. Hoffman added that it doesn't make sense to buy new footers for an old building. He said this will be a quality building and this needed to happen. Mr. Brugger added that this building will be secured.

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

Motion passed 6-0. (Members present)

President Pro Tem Paul asked if there were any questions on the Purchase Orders and/or the footnotes. No questions.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Marcia Bailey of CEP spoke on the topic of Urbana University closing. She stated this is terrible news and this is just not one thing that has happened, it's a multitude of happenings. Further, she stated that she has been in touch with our State and Federal Representatives and Dr. Washington, who she states, has put his heart and soul into that campus. She stated that there were two boards involved with the university, the Franklin University Board and the Urbana University Board. The Urbana University Board is an advisory only board and the Franklin University Board had to make the decision to close. She said that she didn't want to put the cart before the horse, but maybe the Ohio State University may have some interest, but she will be waiting to hear from Franklin University before any further steps were sought.

Ordinances and Resolutions

First Reading –

Resolution No. 2449-20

A Resolution authorizing the Director of Administration of the City of Urbana to participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation’s (ODOT) Road Salt contracts awarded in 2020, and declaring it an emergency. (Rule Suspension Requested)

Mr. Brugger stated the deadline for this is this coming Friday, and they were looking a bidding on 500 tons of salt for next year. He added that he imagined the price was going to be pretty low this year. He advised that the City is obligated to take 90% and that last year, the City bid on 800 tons. He added that he believed the City was in pretty good shape for salt.

Mr. Thackery moved to Suspend the Three Reading Rule and put this Resolution on the floor for discussion and possible passage, Mr. Ebert seconded.

President Pro Tem Paul called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Hoffman, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mrs. Collier, yes; and Mr. Ebert, yes.

Resolution passed 6-0. (Members present)

Second Reading –

None

Third Reading –

Ordinance No. 4520-20

An Ordinance to authorize and designate a Revitalization District within the City of Urbana pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.81.

Mr. Brugger said that Doug Crabill shared with him today that this was basically an opportunity to free up some D5 licenses and they could have up to 12 D5L licenses within the district. It would be a good chance to expand opportunity around town.

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

President Pro Tem Paul called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Paul, yes; Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mrs. Collier, yes; Mr. Ebert, yes; Mr. Fields, yes; and Mr. Hoffman, yes.

Ordinance passed 7-0.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS/WORK SESSION

Mr. Scott stated that the City may be going to have some rough roads ahead.

Mr. Ebert spoke about the camera that council voted to purchase at the last meeting. He advised that it may be a good idea not to purchase it quite yet with everything that was going on.

Mr. Thackery stated that the money being spent right now, should be a minimal and the City should not purchase things that are not absolutely necessary. He also added that an Economic Team is trying to be formed for Champaign County and the County Commissioners were very receptive to int. They are trying to move on it quickly for the benefit of not only the City but the County.

Mr. Hoffman spoke about the closing of Urbana University. He stated that he felt like Franklin University put in a lot of money into the campus, and with the COVID-19 issue, he felt that Franklin University saw an opportunity to bail and dump on the City of Urbana.

Mr. Brugger spoke about Legacy Place and that the closing of the same was a little behind now. The appraisal and the paperwork need to be completed and they will be requesting a 90-day extension. He added that nothing would be changing in the Agreement with the City though. He continued by speaking about the update with geese control out at the City Park. He stated that the City is in year 2 of the contract and was advised that the contractors had waded out to the island of the pond and found 10 nests and over 150 eggs. He also said that this would be the year that he feels the City will see the impact, by disrupting the geese cycle. Mr. Brugger then spoke about getting inquiries about the City's budget. He advised that all communities are in the same boat and that all are kind of guessing at this point. He advised that the City has frozen any unnecessary spending. Further, he stated there were 3 openings in the police department and 1 opening in the fire department, and the City will just be sitting on that issue until the impact is seen. He advised that May 1st is the beginning date for the nuisance involving tall grass. He also advised Council that there was a bright side to everything that is going on. The same being the BWC announced a rebate that would be coming to the City. He also mentioned there was still a lot of activity going on within the City and that this was a good thing for the City wouldn't have to play catch up. He also advised that he wasn't aware yet if in fact the City Pool would be opening this year.

Mr. Thackery thanked Mr. Brugger for all of his hard work. Mr. Thackery also mentioned there was a lot of good communication coming out of the Champaign County Health District.

Mr. Paul asked Mr. Brugger if there were any discussions with the school district about the East Elementary site. Mr. Brugger advised that if there is an interest of development, they were to go directly to the school district.

Mr. Fields moved to adjourn and Mr. Thackery seconded.
Voice vote on approval: 6 ayes; 1 nay, from Mr. Hoffman.

Motion passes 6-1.

ADJOURN AT 6:45 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

May 5, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.



Council Clerk



Council President *Pro Tem*