

**URBANA CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019**

A blue ink stamp with a checkmark in a box followed by the word "APPROVED" in all caps.

President Hess called the City of Urbana Public Hearing to order for the proposed income tax increase ordinance being considered by Urbana City Council for placement on the May ballot for the approval of Urbana voters. This proposed increase would add an additional six-tenths of one percent (0.6%) tax on income to the current additional four-tenths (0.4%) tax rate, establishing the new additional tax rate at one-percent (1.0%). If passed, the effective income tax rate for the City of Urbana would total two-percent (2.0%).

Mr. Paul began the public hearing by stating the reason for this increase would be to stabilize the funding for the Police and Fire Divisions.

Russ Bartley – 510 E. Church St. stated that he felt the increase wasn't just for to Police and Fire Divisions. He felt that it was really funding for the City's General Fund.

Mr. Paul stated that it would reduce the stress on the General Fund, but the purpose was for Police and Fire only. He continued by asking how to make it anymore clearer to the public.

Mr. Bartley asked how much the City was spending to promote this increase.

Mrs. Boettcher stated that the City has paid nothing toward it.

Mr. Thackery explained that the monies in the City's budget have to be used for specific purposes. He explained that the City's financial accounts do not work like a personal checking or savings account. He explained that all money received by a municipal corporation is allocated categorically. He made this point to respond to the contention that the City had purchased a building. He explained the money for said purchase was completely unrelated to the deficit in the Police and Fire budgets.

Mr. Feinstein stated the income tax in Urbana is actually from two sections. 173.03 governs the underlying rate, and 173.031 governs any additional tax. The .4%, which is on the ballot to be increased to 1.0%, is under 173.031, not 173.03. This section requires that the purpose of that money be stated. It specifies that the money be used only for safety services such as police and fire. And this is why it is listed as for police and fire. He also pointed out that, in times of surplus, there would be no issue. But in times of deficit, the 1.0% goes to police and fire regardless.

Steve Brune – 206 Scioto St. said that some of the community have responded to him with 3 emotions. Some find it rude that the City would come to the voters with the exact same issue without making charges. Some of the community find in insensitive to go out and buy a piece of property when they are trying to pass the tax issue, and some find it disingenuous having stated the money would only be going to the Police and Fire Divisions when it will increase the City's General Fund. He continued by asking why the City doesn't do more to increase the tax base rather than increase the rates. He suggested

beautifying the City, by putting sidewalks and curbs throughout the City. He stated that the City could put some kind of incentives, promote the City and find a way to get workers in the City.

Mr. Thackery mentioned that education to the public and trying to get the message across to the community has been an ongoing task. He added that the City would love to put sidewalks and curbs throughout the City, but they do require money to make this happen.

Steve Alexander – 365 Parkway Blvd. made a statement that the City has not done enough to reduce cost. He stated that insurance is approximately 25% of the budget and he felt that City employees should have to pay more for health insurance.

Mr. Paul stated his appreciation to all who came to the Public Hearing, for he has not heard a lot of feedback from the community on this issue and he claimed the importance of their feedback. He also said that the previous ballot language was confusing.

President Hess said that this Council and Administration is looking toward the future and hopes that the citizens of Urbana will ask questions to the Police Chief and Fire Chief, for it is their right to know how the operations work and how they are funded. He also stated that the situation is very complicated.

Police Chief Matt Lingrell stated that he understands what is being said by the gentlemen that spoke and appreciated where they were coming from. He said that it was an honor and privilege to serve as the Urbana Police Chief. He said that this Administration is the first that has tried to help the Police Division. He stated that in 1991 they were up to 24 officers and they were able to give better service to the community. He further stated that in 2009-2010, the City stumbled and they had to make lay-offs due to the economic crisis. This crisis decreased their officer count to 19 and have not seen more since then. He also stated that he had a two-man criminal investigative unit but had to close the unit to put the two-man unit back on the road to have safer services for the community. He also stated that the division no longer has elderly units as well as no juvenile officer, for he doesn't have the manpower to do it. He also said that pertaining to mental health issues, the officer now must go to Cleveland or Columbus to take a suspect to a facility, which requires two officers for the trip, and this takes 2 officers out of the City limits. He spoke of homeless issues, broken family issues, drug issues, and these issues are not going away. He said that there now is a School Resource Officer with Kerry Brugger and Charles Thiel's help by working together and getting this accomplished. He added that the school pays 37% of the officer's salary and the City pays 32%. He spoke of the West Liberty Salem shooting involving Eli Serna and stated that we owe it to the community to find the money to fund for more officers. He also stated that he would love for his officers to be able to wear body worn cameras, to show the community what is truly going on out there, but he doesn't have the funds to pay someone to take care of the technical side of the cameras. He also said that he does believe in hope and he feels nothing but positive support from this community. He stated that the Police Division needs help to get back to safer levels on the streets.

Fire Chief Dean Ortleib discussed past and present staff. He stated in 1991, there were 7 people per shift and they had 1,827 runs. He stated that in 2018, there are 5 people per shift and they had 2,878 runs. He also added that in the last three years, there has been a 16% increase in runs. He said that with the 5

people on a shift, they have three on the fire truck, 2 on the ambulance and no none on the command truck. The command truck driver has to now be embedded to another vehicle. Further, he stated that they average 8 runs per day, and have about 1 dual run per day. When there is a dual run, this leaves 1 person on station and with there not being any other full time Fire/EMS in the County, they must call for mutual aid if there is the need, to which can take approximately 15-30 minutes for their arrival. He said the department is almost at the point where a run will not be able to be served. Chief Ortleib also stated that the Fire Department is very big on grants and they search for them when they are able to do so. He also stated that he would like to make sure the department is more than a 911 program. He also stated that the population number is staying the same for the City, but the runs for the City have double. He gave an example of today and said that they had 5 runs within 40 minutes. He also explained that he would be more than willing to speak with anyone who may have any questions.

Steve Brune stated that he had nothing negative to say about the Fire Department or Police Department. He also said that yet the population has stayed the same and the costs have gone up, the tax payers are still paying their portion.

Mr. Thackery said that the City was making progress with CEP and other organizations to make improvements within the City to improve the base that was originally discussed.

President Hess declared that Public Hearing closed at 7:00 p.m.

**URBANA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019**

President Hess called the City of Urbana Regular Session Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. City staff attending: Mayor Bill Bean, Director of Administration Kerry Brugger, Director of Finance Chris Boettcher, Director of Law Mark Feinstein, Community Development Director Doug Crabill, Police Chief Matt Lingrell, and Fire Chief Dean Ortleib.

PRESIDENT CALLED ROLL: Mr. Fields, absent; Mr. Hoffman, present; Mr. Paul, present; Mr. Scott, present; Mr. Thackery, present; Mr. Pena, present; and Mr. Piper, present.

President Hess led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES of the Regular Session Meeting Minutes of December 18, 2018, were presented for approval. Mr. Thackery moved for the approval of said minutes and Mr. Scott seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes, nays, none.
Motion passed 6-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Design Review Board Meeting Minutes of 11-26-18.

2. Letter from Burgess & Niple regarding US Route 68 Speed Zone Study.

Mr. Brugger said that there was a speed study conducted on South 68 due to the fact that the City was desiring to lower the speed limit to 35. With the help of ODOT, Chief Lingrell, Sheriff Melvin and City Engineer Tyler Bumbalough, it has been agreed upon that the speed limit will now be 45 MPH in both directions for the south property line of the Urbana Pre K-8 School extending 0.72 miles north to State Route 55.

Mr. Paul moved to accept all communications and Mr. Scott seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes; nays, none.
Motion passed 6-0.

CEP UPDATE – Marcia Bailey

None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS – BOARD OF CONTROL

1. Blanket Purchase Order Amounts

Mrs. Boettcher stated that there was a blanket order for \$57,000.00 for road salt, a blanket order for \$84,000.00 for IT, and a blanket order for \$180,000.00 for airport fuel which will be resold at the airport.

Mr. Paul moved to put this item on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Pena seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes; nays, none.
Motion passed 6-0.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Third Reading –

ORDINANCE NO. 4390-18

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF URBANA, OHIO AND THE CITY OF URBANA FIREFIGHTERS AND THE URBANA FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, I.A.F.F. LOCAL 1823, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Brugger gave details on what was negotiated and agreed upon.

Mr. Thackery moved to put this ordinance on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Paul seconded. President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Hoffman, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mr. Pena, yes; and Mr. Piper, yes.

Ordinance passed 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 4391-18

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF URBANA, OHIO AND THE CITY OF URBANA SERVICE DIVISIONS PUBLIC EMPLOYEES OF TEAMSTERS, LOCAL UNION NO. 284, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Brugger gave details on what was negotiated and agreed upon.

Mr. Thackery moved to put this ordinance on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Scott seconded. President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Paul, yes; Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mr. Pena, yes; Mr. Piper, yes; and Mr. Hoffman, yes.

Ordinance passed 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 4392-18

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF URBANA, OHIO, AND THE CITY OF URBANA FIRE CAPTAINS AND THE URBANA FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, I.A.F.F. LOCAL 1823, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Brugger gave details on what was negotiated and agreed upon.

Mr. Thackery moved to put this ordinance on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Paul seconded. President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mr. Pena, yes; Mr. Piper, yes; Mr. Hoffman, yes; and Mr. Paul, yes.

Ordinance passed 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 4395-18

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF URBANA, OHIO AND THE CITY OF URBANA POLICE PATROL OFFICERS AND THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE/OHIO LABOR COUNCIL, INC. AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Brugger gave details on what was negotiated and agreed upon.

Mr. Thackery moved to put this ordinance on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Paul seconded. President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Thackery, yes; Mr. Pena, yes; Mr. Piper, yes; Mr. Hoffman, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; and Mr. Scott, yes.

Ordinance passed 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 4396-18

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF URBANA, OHIO AND THE CITY OF URBANA POLICE SERGEANTS AND THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE/OHIO LABOR COUNCIL, INC. AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Brugger gave details on what was negotiated and agreed upon.

Mr. Thackery moved to put this ordinance on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Paul seconded. President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Pena, yes; Mr. Piper, yes; Mr. Hoffman, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; Mr. Scott, yes; and Mr. Thackery, yes.

Ordinance passed 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 4502-18

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF URBANA'S OFFICIAL ZONING MAP BY REVOKING THE SCIOTO STREET PLAZA PUD (10.032 ACRES) AND REZONING PARCEL ID'S: #K48-25-11-02-28-013-00 & #K48-25-11-02-013-01 FROM PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT TO B-2 GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT.

Mr. Thackery moved to put this ordinance on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Paul seconded. President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Piper, yes; Mr. Hoffman, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; and Mr. Pena, yes.

Ordinance passed 6-0.

Second Reading –

ORDINANCE NO. 4486-19

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 171.013 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO ADD AN ADDITIONAL SIX-TENTHS OF ONE-PERCENT (0.6%) TAX ON INCOME TO THE CURRENT ADDITIONAL FOUR-TENTHS (0.4%) TAX RATE, ESTABLISHING THE NEW ADDITIONAL TAX RATE AT ONE-PERCENT (1.0%) (Sponsored by Councilman Dwight Paul)

Mr. Brugger stated that the City has made every effort to address this issue as clear as possible. He said that the efforts of the City were to do everything possible to not have another 2010, where the City had to cut pays and lay off employees. He stated that the population has not changed but the demands have. He also stated that the City employees are here because the City's citizens are here and that the City is trying to provide the best service that we possibly can. He also added that the BWC costs have reduced \$250,000.00 and that the City has tightened up on everything that the City has touched. Increase is in demand and the City continues to look for grant funding. He also stated that since the local government funding has been eliminated, the City has done everything possible to eliminate costs when and where they can.

Mayor Bean said that since the City lost local government fund and estate tax, the City has lost 2.5 million dollars. He also stated that Urbana is not the only city in this predicament and the City really needs the funds to continue forward.

Mr. Piper stated that he was initially against the tax increase but in speaking with the Fire Chief and the Police Chief he is now definitely for the increase. He also urged the community to speak with the Fire Chief and Police Chief should anyone have any questions they need answered.

Mr. Hoffman said that he sat in a meeting with the Governor when he decided to take the local government funding. He said that the Governor's statement was that the State was taking the local funding and he suggested that to get funding back, put it on the ballot and pass it locally. He also added that the first time the tax increase was put on the ballot, it was very disorganized. He added that the second time around, there was an increase for the tax increase. He also stated that there has been a substantial improvement on getting the information out to the community regarding this issue.

Mr. Thackery thanked Administration for all of their hard work.

Mr. Pena stated there was a need for funding and fire and safety wasn't the same as it was years ago.

President Hess declared this ordinance to have its second reading.

First Reading –

ORDINANCE NO. 4426-19

AN ORDINANCE TO REVISE THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES BY ADOPTING CURENT REPLACEMENT PAGES. (Requires three readings)

Mr. Feinstein stated that the local rules and local law have to mirror the State law and Walter Drane automatically does this for the City.

President Hess declared this ordinance to have its first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 4439-19

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO AN INDIGENT DEFENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE CHAMPAIGN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO ALLOW THE CITY TO RECEIVE PARTIAL REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE OHIO PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION FOR INDIGENT DEFENSE EXPENSE IN CHAMPAIGN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT.

Mr. Hoffman moved to put this ordinance on the floor for discussion. Mr. Pena seconded.

Mr. Feinstein said that the Court has an obligation to appoint an attorney for someone who cannot afford one.

Mr. Thackery moved to put this ordinance on the floor for passage. Mr. Paul seconded.

President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Hoffman, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mr. Pena, yes; and Mr. Piper, yes.
Ordinance passed 6-0.

RESOLUTION 2540-19

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE DIRECTOR OF THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ESTABLISH A SPEED LIMIT FOR A PORTION OF SOUTH U.S. HIGHWAY 68 IN THE CITY OF URBANA.

Mr. Brugger said that the current speed limit is 50 MPH. Following the traffic study after the school was built and with the help of ODOT, City Engineer Tyler Bumbalough, Police Chief Matt Lingrell and Sheriff Matt Melvin, the new speed limit will be 45 MPH and 20 MPH in the school zone during assigned school hours.

Mr. Thackery moved to put this resolution on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Pena seconded. President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Hoffman, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mr. Pena, yes; and Mr. Piper, yes.
Resolution passed 6-0.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS/WORK SESSION

Mr. Paul thanked all who attended the public hearing and Council meeting this evening. He also thanked Administration for all of their hard work with regard to the negotiations.

Mr. Crabill stated that there would be an open house for the South High Street Corridor Study on January 10, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Student Center Sara Landess Room at Urbana University.

Mr. Brugger spoke about the roundabout study upcoming. He stated that in March or April construction begins and should be completed by October 31, 2019. He also said that the 2019 concrete bids are out as well as the sledge project bid. He mentioned that the Central Staff Ordinance is current being reviewed. He also mention the Government Utility Aggregation and stated that the supplier for the electric is Dynegy at 4.88/kWh through 2021. The gas provider is Volunteer at .405/Ccf through 2020.

Mayor Bean spoke of his tour of the building today with guests and thanked Chief Ortleib for taking over at the Fire Division and thanked Officer Casey Evans of the Police Division. He also thanked Mr. Brugger, Mrs. Boettcher, Mrs. Anderson, Chief Ortleib and Chief Lingrell for all of their hard work with the negotiation process. They all did a great job. He added that there was a cost savings with these negotiations.

President Hess stated that there needed to be an appointment for Council Clerk and President Pro Tem. Mr. Paul moved to have Amy Deere to be the Clerk of Council and Mr. Thackery seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes, nays, none.
Motion passed 6-0.

President Hess discussed the salary of the Clerk and added that the salary goes along with the Central Staff. Mr. Hoffman moved to have the salary continue to go along with the Central Staff and Mr. Scott seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes; nays, none.

Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Hoffman moved to appoint Mr. Paul as the President Pro Tem and Mr. Pena seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes; nays, none.

Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Paul advised that he would be out the month of February. So noted.

President Hess also discussed the traffic lights on E. Lawn and Russell Streets. Mr. Brugger deferred topic to next meeting.

President Hess inquired as to old street signs and was advised by Mr. Brugger that they would either be up for auction or on gov.deals.com.

President Hess also discussed the railroad crossings and stated that some of the crossings are getting bad. Mr. Brugger advised that Westco has been notified.


President Hess also discussed the issue of putting the Council Meeting Packet online.

Mr. Hoffman moved to adjourn. Mr. Paul seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes, nays, none. Motion passed 6-0.

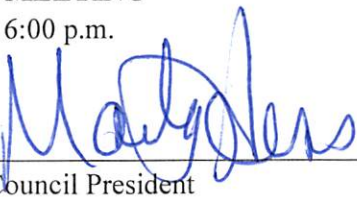
ADJOURN AT 8:26 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

January 15, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.



Council Clerk



Council President