

**URBANA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023**

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

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

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

Annual Organizational Items

President Pro Tempore: Mr. Thackery made a motion for Mr. Paul to serve as President Pro Tempore for the 2023 Council year. Mrs. Collier seconded. Mr. Paul made a motion for Mr. Thackery to serve as President Pro Tempore. Mr. Scott seconded. Voice vote on candidates: Mr. Paul: aye votes from Ms. Jumper, Ms. Truelove, Mr. Thackery, Mrs. Collier, and Mrs. Bean. Mr. Thackery: aye votes from Mr. Scott and Mr. Paul. Mr. Paul elected President Pro Tempore for 2023 by 5-2 vote.

Council Clerk: Mrs. Collier made a motion for Roger Steffan to continue serving as Council Clerk for the 2023 Council year. Ms. Truelove seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes, nays none.

Department Liaison Assignments: Council chose to remain with all current assignments. Current assignments remain as follows:

- Safety/Police/Fire (Mrs. Collier)
- Economic/Community Development (Mr. Thackery)
- Public Works/Water/Sewer/Engineering (Mr. Scott)
- Zoning/Nuisance/Enforcement (Mrs. Bean)
- Budget/Finance/Administration/Human Resources (Mr. Paul)
- Airport/Cemetery/Parks (Ms. Jumper)
- Law (Ms. Truelove)

Minutes

Mr. Thackery moved to put the minutes of December 20, 2022 on the floor for discussion and possible approval. Mr. Paul seconded.

No comments/corrections were made.

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

Motion passed 7-0

Communications: None

Administrative Reports – Board of Control

1. The Board of Control recommends Council authorize the blanket purchase order list for 2023 (see attached). All blanket purchase order amounts are in the 2023 budget. **VOTE: 3-0.**

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

Mr. Paul asked what Polydone from SNF was. Ms. Boettcher informed him it was a chemical for the wastewater facility. President Hess indicated the list seemed small. Ms. Boettcher stated it was only for blanket orders greater than \$50,000. Mr. Paul asked if there were any significant changes from last year. Ms. Boettcher stated it was pretty much the same as last year.

Voice vote on approval; all ayes, nays none. Passes 7-0.

Citizen Comments: None

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Third Reading:

Ordinance 4388-23: 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. Paul moved to put this ordinance on the floor for discussion and possible passage. Mr. Thackery seconded.

Mr. Paul believed this to be a pretty standard housekeeping issue.

President Hess called for a roll call for passage. Mr. Scott, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; Ms. Truelove, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mrs. Collier, yes; Mrs. Bean, yes; and Ms. Jumper, yes.

Ordinance passed 7-0.

Ordinance 4585-23: An ordinance to amend Chapter 1339 of the Urbana Codified Ordinances, and declaring an emergency. (Three readings required, Public Hearing required)

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

No comments/questions from Council.

President Hess called for a roll call for passage. Mr. Paul, yes; Ms. Truelove, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mrs. Collier, yes; Mrs. Bean, yes; Ms. Jumper, yes; and Mr. Scott, yes.

Ordinance passed 7-0.

Second Reading: None

First Reading:

Ordinance 4586-23: An ordinance to adopt the Planning Commission recommendation denying the application to amend the City of Urbana’s official zoning map by rezoning parcel K48-25-11-02-27-001-04 currently designated BR-1 Business Residential to B-2 General Business. (Three readings required, Public hearing required)

Mr. Scott moved to put this ordinance on the floor for discussion. Mrs. Bean seconded.

Mr. Carter referred Council to the zoning map exhibit. He stated this proposed amendment was not City initiated, but rather made by the property owner. The parcel is about half an acre, south of Kroger. The Planning Commission denied the request.

Mr. Thackery asked what the zone BR-1 allows. Mr. Carter stated there is a lot of overlap with B-2. A lot of the uses in B-2 are not conditional, as they are in BR-1. BR-1 requires the Board of Zoning Appeals to approve these conditional uses. The requested changes was an attempt to better market the property for sale. There is not a specific development in mind.

Mr. Thackery clarified that there could still be shops if it went through the BZA conditional uses. Mr. Carter confirmed.

Mr. Paul asked for clarification on what is there presently. Mr. Carter stated it was grass, right before the last entrance heading out of town at Kroger. Mr. Paul stated this parcel was in the middle of a B-2 section. He didn’t think the application was unreasonable. He asked for the rationale why Planning Commission vetoed the request. Mr. Carter stated there was a lot of conversation regarding the original intent to make a “buffer” zone with the houses across the street.

Mr. Feinstein stated that as this is a planning commission recommendation, it would take a supermajority (five votes) to override.

Mr. Scott also did not understand why this wasn’t just a housekeeping change. Mrs. Bean stated that the citizen comments at the Planning Commission meeting persuaded her, due to its design to be an active buffer.

Mrs. Collier questioned that as B-2 if anyone would be able to build anything they wanted on the property. Mr. Carter stated he would include definitions for the next meeting and that regardless of how it is zoned, there are still set back requirements.

Mr. Paul was curious how many separate parcels are in the Kroger area. Mr. Carter he stated there were at least more than two.

President Hess this ordinance to have had its first reading.

Ordinance 4587-23: An ordinance to adopt the Planning Commission recommendation denying the application to amend the City of Urbana’s official zoning map by rezoning parcels K48-25-00-

01-35-001-00, K48-25-00-01-35-002-00, K48-25-00-01-35-003-00, K48-25-00-01-004-00, and K48-25-00-01-35-005-00 currently designated R-2 Medium Density Residential to M-1 Manufacturing. (Three readings required, Public hearing required)

Mr. Paul moved to put this ordinance on the floor for discussion. Mrs. Bean seconded.

Mr. Carter stated these were five parcels on South Edgewood Avenue. Two of these parcels are currently residential. There are also large garages on two of the other structures. This was also a private request to rezone to M-1. Planning Commission had a question of how contiguous in nature the zoning would be. Also, there was an issue with two current homes would make the zoning non-conforming, as residential use is not allowed in M-1. This also did not have a specific plan in place, only to make it more appealing to a developer.

Ms. Jumper asked if this was where the recent fire was. Mr. Carter indicated no, these were the only parcels on the west side of Edgewood in the City limits. These parcels are very close to Miami Street.

Ms. Collier asked if people actually lived in these residences. Mr. Carter answered affirmatively.

President Hess remembered these parcels being annexed into the City for water purposes. He figured it had probably been about ten years.

President Hess declared this ordinance to have had its first reading.

Department Liaison Reports:

Mr. Paul indicated he would be meeting with Mr. Feinstein on Friday to discuss lateral transfers. He would then be asking for input from the Chiefs.

Miscellaneous Business:

Ms. Jumper inquired who was doing the clean-up at Urbana University. She had noticed trees being down. Mr. Brugger stated that was being completed by the new owner. The City did not have any more information.

Mr. Paul spoke on behalf of another Council member who had a question about the new law about cell phone usage in vehicles. Chief Lingrell stated he couldn't speak to it now, but will do some research.

Mr. Thackery asked where the City stands regarding the DORA. Mr. Brugger stated a meeting was planned for January 10th to update where things stood.

Chief Ortlieb stated the open application process has ended. There will be fifteen applicants testing on January 11th.

Mr. Brugger stated that Christmas tree pickup will continue through January. Trees need to be at the curb and free of stands and decorations. He also stated the street staff did a good job staying

ahead of the recent snow event. Finally, he encouraged Council to thoroughly read the Planning Commission minutes to be prepared for the public hearing.

Mayor Bean hoped everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He hopes that everyone works together to make 2023 even better. There are a lot of things going on and moving forward with Council's help. He also reminded Council about the MLK celebration on January 15th at the Second Jerusalem Baptist Church between 6-7 pm.

President Hess asked about gaps in sidewalks. Mr. Carter referred him to the City Engineer. President Hess also reminded Council about e-mails from the Ethics Commission. Filings are due in March.

Ms. Jumper moved to adjourn. Mr. Paul seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes, nays none. Motion passes 7-0.

ADJOURNED AT 6:39 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING
January 17, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.





Council Clerk



Council President