

 APPROVED

**URBANA CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022**

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

**City Staff attending:** Director of Administration Kerry Brugger, Director of Finance Chris Boettcher, Community Development Manager Doug Crabill, 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.

**Minutes:** None

**Communications:** None

**Administrative Reports – Board of Control:** None

**Citizen Comments:** None

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**Third Reading:** None

**Second Reading:** None

**First Reading:**

**Resolution 2636-22:** A Resolution approving the execution of a community reinvestment area real property tax abatement agreement between the City of Urbana and Orbis Corporation of Wisconsin; approving a tax revenue sharing agreement; and declaring an emergency.

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

Mr. Crabill informed Council that this project has been in the works for the past several years but really came into fruition in the past few months. The real estate transaction was just completed this past Friday with ORBIS now being the property owner. ORBIS is seeking to build a 50,000 square foot addition. This CRA tax abatement agreement for ten years, seventy five percent abatement would cover the proposed addition. ORBIS would continue with the normal tax rate for the already existent property.

Lynn Hediger, the Vice President of Manufacturing and Product Engineering of ORBIS corporation spoke to Council on the details of the expansion project.

Mr. Scott asked if the new project was sitting in the flood plain. Mr. Hediger stated the retention pond is part of the 100-year flood plain. Mr. Crabill added that a flood plain development permit

will be issued. Mr. Scott asked if ORBIS brings in bulk material by rail. Mr. Hediger confirmed, informing Council that ORBIS brings in pellets and recycled materials.

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

Ordinance passes 7-0.

**Resolution 2637-22:** A Resolution in support of a rural industrial park loan application by Phoenix Ag, Ltd., for economic development benefit, and declaring an emergency.

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

Mr. Crabill informed Council that Phoenix Ag has been working on a warehouse project on Norwood Avenue. They have already completed the process through Planning Commission. In order to obtain capital for the project, they are looking into projects beyond traditional bank loans. This rural industrial park loan program requires a resolution of Council to show its support of the project.

Mr. Paul asked what the timeline for the project was after Council's resolution. CEP Director Rich Ebert indicated that this program is the last piece of funding required. Once everything is closed on Phoenix Ag's end in the next few weeks, they can start with the bulldozers once they hear back from the State.

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

Ordinance passes 7-0.

**Department Liaison Reports: None**

**Miscellaneous Business**

Ms. Truelove was curious how the tax figures recently published in the paper fits into our budget. Ms. Boettcher informed her that the local government fund was already taken into account with the tax budget that was recently passed.

Mr. Paul asked Ms. Boettcher what the projected bump in income tax revenue was that the City could expect from this expansion project. Ms. Boettcher stated around \$40,000 depending on the benefits.

Mrs. Bean stated that Washington Avenue looks good, while Mrs. Collier added that Eastview Drive also looks good.

Mr. Brugger thanked ORBIS and the Damewood family for their commitment to the community and also thanked Council for the special meeting and passing the resolution. Mr. Brugger was also pleased with all of the City paving projects and mentioned the City was about halfway through with all of the patches.

President Hess stated that it was amazing that a small town like Urbana had so many privately-owned large businesses.

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

**ADJOURNED AT 6:36 p.m.**

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**  
September 6, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.



  
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Council Clerk

  
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Council President