

**URBANA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 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 Director of Finance Chris Boettcher, Director of Law Mark Feinstein, City Engineer Tyler Bumbalough, Fire Chief Dean Ortlieb, and Police Chief Matt Lingrell

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

Council Clerk Roger Steffan made a brief remark regarding Council Microphones. He informed Council that as noise canceling microphones, Council must speak directly into them. Otherwise, the sound will be intentionally left out, making it difficult to be heard by anyone watching the livestream.

Minutes

Mr. Paul moved to put the minutes of September 20, 2022 and September 27, 2022 on the floor for discussion and possible approval. Mr. Thackery seconded.

Mr. Thackery asked if Council had come to any responses regarding the feral cat communication. Council answered as a whole stating the response was left open-ended, leaving it as the status quo.

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

Motion passed 6-0

Communications:

1. Community Paramedicine Final Report

Mrs. Bean moved to put the communications on the floor for discussion and possible acceptance. Mr. Thackery seconded.

Chief Ortlieb stated this was the final review with Mercy Health Urbana. The services for the entire County will be continued through them. One of the takeaways from the report was over a twelve-year period, there was a reduction of over 80% for high-user ambulance services. This report shows that what we are doing in Champaign County is working, but there are still gaps. One such gap is the elderly who should be in assisted living, but won't leave their homes.

Mr. Paul asked who performs these well checks on elderly. Chief Lingrell informed Council that UPD is handling such requests.

Mrs. Bean stated this was an impressive report and it really opened her eyes to what was going on in Urbana.

President Hess asked what happens with the 12% pay not collected. Chief Ortlieb stated that figure was on the hospital side, and he really couldn't speak to that.

Voice vote on approval: all ayes, nays none.

Motion passed 6-0.

Administrative Reports – Board of Control:

1. The Board of Control recommends The Board of Control recommends that City Council authorize the Director of Finance to enter into a three-year contract with Rea & Associates for the preparation of basic financial statements for fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024 for a total cost of \$80,390.00. This expense will be charged to various funds and will be included in the 2023, 2024, and 2025 budgets. See attached. **VOTE: 2-0**

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

Ms. Boettcher stated this was for the annual financial statements. This company has held the costs the same for the last ten years and the contract was currently up. The City was presented with new three-year contract moving forward.

Mr. Scott asked for clarification that the \$80,000 was the total for all three years. Ms. Boettcher confirmed.

Mr. Paul asked for the previous costs. Ms. Boettcher stated the cost had been \$13,000 a year, but hadn't changed in ten years. She added that if Council did not approve, she would search for another firm as the City needs these services. She would like to stay with the same company. She added that the numbers increase mirrors the audit services.

Ms. Truelove asked why this could not be done in house. Ms. Boettcher stated that she was not a CPA and the finance department does not have the staffing.

Mr. Thackery stated it was a pretty big price hike but he understood the numbers were ten years old.

Voice vote on approval; all ayes, nays none.

Citizen Comments: None

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Third Reading: None

Second Reading: None

First Reading:

Ordinance 4579-22: An ordinance to establish a speed limit for a local highway named North Dugan Road in the City of Urbana, Ohio.

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

Mr. Bumbalough informed Council there was recently a speed study conducted on North Dugan Road in anticipation of the new development. The developer paid for this study. He added that the City shares this limit with Urbana Township.

The proposed change to 50 mph considers existing data, such as the existing amount of travel, the road width, and the amount of urbanization. ODOT has to officially accept this. Urbana Township passed similar legislation last night. Finally, UPD and the Champaign County Sheriff's Office both wrote letters supporting the change.

Mr. Scott stated that 50 mph seems reasonable.

Mr. Paul asked what the language of "prima facie speed of 25" meant. Mr. Bumbalough stated that as the city side is currently in the city limits, if it were signed, the city side would theoretically be 25 mph as it had never been changed. The City will place 50 mph signs if the legislation passes. The township will sign their side of the road.

Mrs. Bean asked if the study would have to be redone after the development is completed. Mr. Bumbalough stated it is something the City will have to consider, adding that after the school was built, the City restudied that speed limit.

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

Ordinance passes 6-0.

Resolution 2641-22: A resolution authorizing the City of Urbana, Champaign County, Ohio to enter into an enterprise zone agreement with ALDI, Inc. (Ohio), and declaring an emergency.

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

CEP Director Rich Ebert introduced Patrick Valerius, the real estate property manager as the representative from ALDIs. Mr. Valerius stated he believes ALDIs has found the right fit.

Mr. Ebert stated there have been a number of issues that have arisen since deciding on their location. ALDI has asked for help from the City to help offset those surprise expenses. This is a six-year abatement with descending amounts, averaging 35%. This allows ALDIs to get up and running. The school district approved the agreement already.

Mr. Paul asked what other hoops are needed to get started. Mr. Ebert stated this would go to the Commissioner's office for their approval. The abatement starts the year after the project is completed and only covers additional taxes. After the asbestos abatement, demolition and construction would start in December. The goal would be to be up and running by next July.

President Hess asked what cost this was to the City. Ms. Boettcher indicated the City only gets a very small percent of property tax.

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

Resolution passes 6-0.

Resolution 2642-22: A resolution to participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation's Municipal Bridge Inspection Program.

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

Mr. Bumbalough stated that on Resolution 2638-22, he accidentally left out Section 5, designating Mr. Brugger as the contractual agent. ODOT requires this language. This resolution would supersede the prior legislation.

No comments/questions from Council.

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

Resolution passes 6-0.

Department Liaison Reports:

Mr. Thackery stated he recently met with Mr. Crabill and Ms. Boettcher about the TIF. He stated his questions were answered and he feels pretty good about it. He stated the TIF would raise money for infrastructure and end up paying itself back.

Mr. Paul stated he is still trying to get the Chiefs together to talk about lateral transfers.

Mr. Scott stated he recently met with Mark Muirhead. He saw photos of the new trailer and believes it will be a good addition.

Miscellaneous Business

Mr. Thackery informed Council he recently had a meeting on DORA. He hopes to see legislation soon.

He also stated that he has a general concern about electric bicycles traveling faster on side walks than the speed limit. He stated it was something to keep in mind.

Ms. Truelove thanked Mr. Crabill and Ms. Boettcher for meeting with her recently about the TIF as well.

Mr. Paul asked if it was too early to welcome ALDIs. He stated it has been creating a lot of buzz in the City.

Ms. Jumper stated the car show would be this Friday at 5 pm. She hoped to see everyone there.

The proposed City Council budget for the 2023 fiscal year. Mr. Paul mentioned that OML training is currently \$75 a session. He stated there should be at least a small amount proposed in the training section to cover those expenses. Mr. Paul moved to propose \$200 be allotted to Council's training budget. Mr. Thackery seconded. Voice vote on proposal: All ayes, nays none.

No other section of the proposed budget was altered. Council decided the City can always reappropriate at the end of the year if something arises.

Ms. Boettcher indicated she will be reaching out to department liaisons soon to make sure each Council member is actively engaged with each department's budget.

Mr. Brugger stated the crack sealing project is completed. He also made Council aware the ODOT milling and paving project begins tomorrow on South Main Street.

Chief Ortlieb stated a new firefighter was beginning on Monday. He added that another firefighter is going through the process and should be starting next month.

Chief Lingrell stated to watch out for works and officer directing traffic around the paving sites. He stated UPD is entering the next phase of the hiring process. The deadline to apply is October 21 @ 3:00 pm and can be done either online or at Human Resources. UPD hired three officers during the last cycle, but the Division is still three officers short. Finally, Chief Lingrell stated UPD is doing a new cop card program. The last time it made cop cards was in 2002. He passed out the sets to Council members.

Mr. Paul told Chief Lingrell he has been hearing from the Urbana City Schools staff how valuable School Resource Officer Ervin has been. He asked how officers complete the academy. Chief Lingrell stated the academy is no cost to the City. It is a training program covered by the State of Ohio. Officers look more valuable to UPD if they apply having already been certified, as they would not have to complete the six-month training process.

Ms. Jumper moved to adjourn. Ms. Truelove seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes, nays none. Motion passes 6-0.

ADJOURNED AT 7:00 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING
October 18, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.





Council Clerk



Council President