

**URBANA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.**

President Marty Hess called the regular meeting of the Urbana City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. City staff attending: Mayor Bill Bean, Director of Administration Kerry Brugger, Director of Finance Rhonda Ward, and Director of Law Breanne Parcels.

PRESIDENT CALLED ROLL: Tony Pena, present; Doug Hoffman; present, Gene Fields; present, Al Evans; present, Dwight Paul; present, Virginia Smith; present, and Pat Thackery, present.

President Hess led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES of the previous meeting of November 18, 2014, were approved as received. Mr. Paul moved for the approval of the minutes and Mr. Thackery seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried without objection.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Letter from Judge G.S. Weithman regarding personnel.
2. Response letter from Kerry Brugger to Judge G.S. Weithman regarding personnel.

Mr. Thackery moved to put both communications on the floor for discussion and passage with a second from Mr. Paul. Mr. Evans stated that these communications, since dealing with personnel, should probably not be discussed in a regular session meeting. Voice vote on approval: all ayes; nays, none.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS – BOARD OF CONTROL:

1. **B&K Digital - \$2,380.00 / CDW - \$10,848.35 / CMI – \$3,800.00 / OVIS - \$1,500
Totaling \$18,528.35 (Police and Fire Capital Improvements)**

Mr. Fields moved to authorize a purchase orders to B&K in the amount of \$2,380.00, to CDW in the amount of \$10,848.35, CMI in the amount of \$3,800.00 and OVIS in the amount of \$1,500.00, totaling \$18,528.35, for the replacement and configuration of two Police Division servers. Mrs. Smith seconded. Mrs. Ward stated that both of the servers are aged out and need replaced. She further stated that the more comprehensive solution for the City is to replace them through B&K which would be a total fix rather than a partial fix through CMI. She further stated that this issue is not one that can wait. It must be done as soon as possible, for the Police Division's data is all stored on these two servers. Voice vote on approval: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried without objection.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

None. President Hess noted the lack of audience was possibly due to adverse weather. "It's awfully cold, so I don't blame anyone for not coming out," he said.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Third Reading –

ORDINANCE NO. 4433-14

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 105, SECTION 105.01, 105.02, 105.03, 105.04, AND 105.05 OF THE CITY'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES SUBDIVIDING THE CITY OF URBANA, OHIO INTO WARDS OF SUBSTANTIALLY EQUAL POPULATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 731.06 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE.

Mrs. Smith moved to put this Ordinance on the floor for discussion and passage with a second from Mr. Fields. Mr. Brugger spoke again of the division of wards, which had not been updated since 1984, even though the city has grown considerably due to annexation. He stated that they wanted to balance the wards as equally as possible in terms of population. He said that there will be no changes in ward representation and that after this plan is approved by Council, it goes to the Board of Elections and the County Engineer for redrawing of the precinct maps at no cost to the City, to take effect for the 2015 primary election. President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Hoffman, yes; Mr. Fields, yes; Mr. Evans, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; Mrs. Smith, yes; and Mr. Thackery, yes, and Mr. Pena, yes. *Ordinance passes 7-0.*

RESOLUTION 2433-14

A RESOLUTUION TO APPROPRIATE MONEY FOR THE SEVERAL OBJECTS AND PURPOSES WHICH THE CITY OF URBANA, OHIO MUST PROVIDE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2015.

Mr. Paul moved to put this Resolution on the floor for discussion and passage with a second from Mr. Thackery. Mrs. Ward reviewed the necessity of cuts to the appropriations due to the revenues that are down by about 2.8 percent from the 2014 budget, and increased expenses for items such as road salt and health insurance. "Unlike the federal government, our budget balances," Mr. Hoffman said. President Hess called for a roll call for passage: Mr. Fields, yes; Mr. Evans, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; Mrs. Smith, yes; Mr. Thackery, yes; Mr. Pena, yes; and Mr. Hoffman, yes. *Resolution passes 7-0.*

Second Reading –

ORDINANCE NO. 4434-14

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO ALLOW PUBLIC FISHING AT THE CITY-OWNED LAKES NORTH OF THE GRIMES FIELD AIRPORT.

Mr. Brugger spoke again about some of the details of the allowing citizens to fish at the City-owned lakes north of the airport. Mr. Evans voiced concern about individuals parking on the banks if there is no designated parking area, as well as trash. Mr. Brugger stated that the intent is to possibly partner with Simon Kenton Pathfinders to make it a stopping point for citizens who are on the multi-use trail, possibly discouraging some of the unwanted traffic. He added that the area would be monitored, and have a "carry-in, carry-out" policy similar to state parks for trash. Mr. Paul inquired as to the enforcement of regulations, such as alcohol. Mr. Brugger replied that the City would be counting on Champaign County Wildlife Officer Jeff Tipton for enforcement. Mr. Thackery asked about if the fishing licenses could generate revenue for the City. Mr. Brugger explained that the costs of a fishing license goes to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Pena stated that he feared that if the lakes were not monitored well, pertaining to the number of fish allowed, etc., the lakes would be fished out. Mr. Brugger stated that Officer Tipton seemed to be very excited about this opportunity and that he felt that ODNR would decline the agreement if they felt that they couldn't monitor the area to prevent that. Mr. Evans stated that Kiser Lake is as good as it is because of Officer Tipton and that he has a great enforcement reputation. Mr. Brugger added that the City believes that it will be helped by other organizations, to keep this project afloat, and should it fail, the locks will go back on the gates. Mr. Hoffman inquired as to the length of the agreement, Mr. Brugger stated three years. Mayor Bean stated that the City was making this available to our citizens and they need to take care of it to make it work for their own benefit. Mr. Pena asked if we could charge the citizens a fee so that a dumpster could be placed there in addition to fish re-stocking. Mr. Brugger responded that simplicity was the key, which requires starting small to see if it's feasible. Mrs. Smith stated that there were a lot of nice fish in the lakes and made it very clear to citizens they need to care of the area to keep it as pristine as possible. President Hess declared this a second reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 4435-14

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF LAW TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH THE VILLAGE OF ST. PARIS AND THE VILLAGE OF MECHANICSBURG FOR THE PROSECUTION OF CRIMINAL AND TRAFFIC CASES IN MUNICIPAL COURT FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2015.

Ms. Parcels briefly discussed how the Villages would enter into contracts with the City to pay a flat fee once a year for prosecution of criminal and traffic cases through the Municipal Court. She reiterated that such agreements will allow all three municipalities to plan for consistency with their respective budgets, when formerly the villages had paid the Municipal Prosecutor personally at an hourly rate. President Hess declared this a second reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2434-14

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION TO ACCEPT THE TRANSFER OF THE EAST STATE ROUTE 29 ROADSIDE PARK FROM THE STATE OF OHIO ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF URBANA, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY OHIO.

Mr. Brugger stated that this area of land was donated by the Melvin Miller family and that the City has been maintaining it since 1973, but cannot justify capital improvements and repairs for land the City doesn't own. President Hess declared a second reading.

First Reading –

ORDINANCE NO. 4436-14

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE PARK & RECREATION TRUST FUND, DESIGNATING FUNDS DIRECTED TO THE ACCOUNT BE USED ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS OR CAPITAL PURCHASES TO SPECIFIC CITY-OWNED PARKS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS OF THE CITY OF URBANA, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO.

Mr. Brugger stated that on occasion, citizens would like to make donations to the City Park, but they would like to see that their donation go to a specific purpose, and not the general fund and by creating this trust fund, the donations would go directly into the fund and not be available for anything but the park. "It would not be a fund that you could just dip into," he said. Mr. Evans asked if these funds would come from private groups and be subject to council approval for expenditure. "Is there no chance for the board of control to do an end run around council to designate without going to council?" he asked, giving the example of a project with a \$6,000 spending limit. Mrs. Ward stated that it would follow the same guidelines as any other purchase, but the expenditure would have to be initiated by the Parks Superintendent or the Director of Administration. "Once it's deemed appropriated, that's your control mechanism for auditing," she said as no city fund can operate with a negative balance. Mr. Evans said he sees potential for abuse of the fund if the Director of Administration makes the requisition through the Board of Control without Council oversight. "Not you, but past administrations," Mr. Evans said. Mayor Bean stated he felt that this fund is a good idea and if people wanted to donate money to a specific project, this would allow them to do so. Mr. Hoffman stated that he felt it was a good idea to ensure to people what they want to donate actually goes to the place they desire. President Hess declared a first reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2435-14

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CASH ADVANCE FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE MAUSOLEUM TRUST FUND OF THE CITY OF URBANA, OHIO.

Mrs. Ward stated the request is for \$4,000.00 for the annual mausoleum debt service payment. She stated that this fund is reviewed annually and that \$21,000.00 was approved for last year. She further stated that they have a beginning balance of \$9,800 and that it was difficult to know what you were going to do in the last two months due to fluctuations in cemetery revenue, and that they were requesting less for this year than last. President Hess declared this a first reading.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Mrs. Smith wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Thackery stated that citizens should come shopping downtown, for there were a lot of new stores to see and that to visit Santa in the lobby of the Gloria Theater this year on Fridays and Saturdays in December. Mr. Evans encouraged shoppers to also patronize other local businesses. "There's more to this city than downtown," Mr. Evans said.

Mr. Hoffman asked about the status of leaf pick up. Mr. Brugger said that it was put on hold due to the weather. They were going to see how things were after the thaw out and try to make another sweep before the end of the month. The compost facility will close on Nov. 29.

Mrs. Ward stated that there would be a supplemental for appropriations for the next meeting.

Mr. Brugger that should anyone have any questions on Ordinance 4436 -14, or any suggestions on the language or procedure, to please let administration know so they could amend accordingly.

Mayor Bean stated that he will appoint Chris Boettcher as the new Director of Finance as Mrs. Ward has accepted a position with Wittenberg University. He further stated that Mrs. Boettcher has been employed with the City since 1992 and he feels that she will do a terrific job given her experience in the finance office and as the human resources manager.

Mr. Fields motioned to adjourn. Mr. Paul seconded. Voice vote on approval: all ayes; nays, none. Motion carried without objection.

ADJOURN at 7:54 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

December 2, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.



Council Clerk



Council President