

STATE OF ILLINOIS

CITY OF URBANA

Laurel Lunt Prussing, Mayor

Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk



**URBANA CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 6, 2010**

The City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, December 6, 2010 in the Council Chambers at the Urbana City Building.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT

Charlie Smyth, Alderman Ward 1
Ward 2 - Vacant
Robert E. Lewis, Alderman Ward 3
Brandon Bowersox, Alderman Ward 4
Dennis Roberts, Alderman Ward 5
Heather Stevenson, Alderwoman Ward 6
Diane W. Marlin, Alderwoman Ward 7
Laurel Lunt Prussing, Mayor
Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

Eric Jakobsson, Alderman Ward 2, joined the meeting at 7:15 p.m. after being sworn into office by Mayor Prussing.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE

None

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Mike Monson; Patrick Connolly; Michael Dilley; William Gray; Thomas Carrino; Elizabeth Tyler; Robert Myers; Todd Rent

OTHERS PRESENT

Eric Jakobsson; Tom Costello; Grace Mitchell; Amy Allen; Suhail Barot; Ingbert Floyd; Eric Green; David Hsu; Tim Montague; Brian Deal; Matt Childress; Brian Lilly; Durl Kruse; Stephen Platt; Marcela Raffaelli; Arne Pearlstein; Doug Wolfersberger; Carl Hill; David Monk; Members of the Media

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Prussing called the meeting of the Urbana City Council to order at 7:11 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

November 15, 2010 - Alderwoman Stevenson made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held November 15, 2010. Alderwoman Marlin seconded. There were two corrections called for in the minutes. A correction in section "D" to show Mr. Hill in opposition to wind turbines. Also, in "Council Input", Mr. Smyth asked for a change in language to read "bike lanes will be installed". The motion to approve with corrections carried by voice vote.

C. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mayor Prussing asked that item 1A in "New Business" be moved ahead of "Petitions and Communications". She also announced item #6 which was the closed session would be removed from the agenda.

Alderwoman Stevenson made a motion to approve the revised agenda. Alderman Smyth seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

Mayor Prussing announced her appointment of Eric Jakobsson to fill the vacant Ward 2 seat created by the resignation of David Gehrig. Alderwoman Stevenson made a motion to approve. Alderman Bowersox seconded. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

The oath of office was administered to Mr. Jakobsson by Mayor Prussing and Alderman Jakobsson joined the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

D. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The following people spoke to the Council in favor of the wind turbine project at the University of Illinois: Amy Allen, 505 S. Busey; Suhail Barot, 901 W. Springfield Ave., Apt. 7; Ingbert Floyd, 609 W. Healey St., #11; Eric Green, 208 W. Washington St., Champaign; David Hsu, 1105 W. Main St.; Tim Montague, 108 W. Vermont; Brian Deal, 203 E. Elm, Champaign; Matt Childress, 2203 Aspen Drive; Brian Lilly, 1149 CR 1500 East. Discussion and debate followed.

The following people spoke to the Council regarding their concerns about the wind turbine project and the lack of transparency in public notice and discourse, as well as insufficient studies done on the project: Stephen Platt, 310 Pond Ridge Road; Marcela Raffaelli, 310 Pond Ridge Road; Arne Pearlstein, 209 E. Sherwin Dr.

The following citizens spoke to the Council in opposition to the proposed wind turbine: Doug Wolfersberger, 3212 Chatham; Carl Hill, 1913 Trails Drive.

Carl Hill, 1913 Trails Dr. also spoke of support of the Build Urbana tax rebate.

David Monk, Heartland Pathways, spoke to the Council regarding railbanking and bike trails.

Alderman Roberts announced the City of Urbana in cooperation with the Urbana Sister Cities program went "red" on December 1, 2010 to help raise awareness of World AIDS Day. According to research, between 11 and 17 percent of the Malawi population are living with HIV and AIDS and this has become the leading cause of death in the country. The average life expectancy in Malawi is just 43 years. However in recent

years, increased awareness of the epidemic has led to successful prevention and education programs; the Malawian government and the international community have also implemented treatment plans for those already affected.

Urbana has won a \$15,000 grant to engage the community to learn more about Malawi. Books will be available and read in local schools about Malawi and cooking classes will be held to learn more about the local foods. A mixer is being planned for January.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Resolution No. 2010-12-030R: A Resolution Extending the Build Urbana Tax Rebate Program for One Additional Year (To December 1, 2011 - Build Urbana)**

Thomas Carrino (Economic Development Manager) gave the staff report. Alderman Lewis made a motion to approve. Alderwoman Stevenson seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

F. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

There were none.

G. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

There were none.

H. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Elizabeth Tyler (Community Development Director/City Planner) announced HOME and Community block grant applications are available and citizens can get them from Kelly Hartford. An application workshop was held earlier this date. Completed applications are due by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 7, 2011.

Tom Carrino (Economic Development Manager) stated the economic development report was provided earlier for review and he was available to answer any questions.

William Gray (Public Works Director) announced progress was made on the master bicycle plan with additional bike lanes being installed this year. He said staff did a good job with the recent snow storm and the clearing of streets.

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Mayoral Appointments**

Mayor Prussing announced her recommendation for the vacant Ward 2 position earlier in the agenda and administered the oath of office to Eric Jakobsson after his appointment was approved by Council by a voice vote.

Mayor Prussing announced her recommendation of Peter Folk to be the UPTV Commission Chair. Alderman Roberts made a motion to approve. Alderman Bowersox seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

2. **Civilian Police Review Board Annual Report**

Todd Rent (Human Relations Officer) introduced Tom Costello and Grace Mitchell of the board who gave an overview of the annual report. Discussion followed.

Durl Kruse spoke to the Council regarding his concerns about the reports issued by the City. He also had concerns regarding the City's response to citizen complaints.

3. **Civilian Police Review Board Quarterly Report**

Todd Rent (Human Relations Officer) gave the review of the quarterly report. Discussion followed.

4. **Ordinance No. 2010-12-110: An Ordinance Approving a Major Variance (Increase in the Allowable Area from 50 Square Feet to 90 Square Feet, Height from 16 Feet to 18.5 Feet, and Decrease the Required Front Yard Setback from 15 Feet to 5 Feet in the City's B-3, General Business, Zoning District at 608 North Cunningham Avenue / Case No. ZBA-2010-MAJ-05)**

Robert Myers (Planning Manager) gave the staff report. Alderman Roberts asked that the ordinance be amended to include language which states signs which have poles are not to be wrapped. Discussion followed. There was no objection.

Alderman Lewis made motion to approve as amended. Alderwoman Marlin seconded. The vote was as follows:

Bowersox - aye	Roberts - aye
Jakobsson - aye	Smyth - aye
Lewis - aye	Stevenson - aye
Marlin - aye	

Disposition: Ordinance No. 2010-12-110: An Ordinance Approving a Major Variance (Increase in the Allowable Area from 50 Square Feet to 90 Square Feet, Height from 16 Feet to 18.5 Feet, and Decrease the Required Front Yard Setback from 15 Feet to 5 Feet in the City's B-3, General Business, Zoning District at 608 North Cunningham Avenue / Case No. ZBA-2010-MAJ-05), was approved by a roll call vote (7-aye:0-nay).

5. **Resolution No. 2010-12-031R: Resolution Regarding the Release of Closed Session Minutes (June 1996 through May 2010)**

Phyllis Clark (City Clerk) gave the list of records from closed sessions which were designated for release upon approval. Alderwoman Stevenson made a motion to approve. Alderman Lewis seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

6. **Closed Session: Pending Litigation Issues, Pursuant 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).**

This item was removed from the agenda as approved earlier by a voice vote.

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Prussing declared the meeting adjourned at 10:17 p.m.

Laurel Lunt Prussing
Mayor

Phyllis D. Clark
City Clerk

This meeting was taped.

This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

Minutes Approved: December 20, 2010