

**SUMMARY MINUTES  
PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2016; 7:00 P.M.**

**1. Call to Order**

The Council convened in Regular Session in the Council Chambers, City Hall Building, at 7:00 p.m., Monday, December 12, 2016. The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Tari Renner.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

The Meeting was opened by Pledging Allegiance to the Flag followed by a moment of silent prayer.

**3. Remain Standing for a Moment of Silent Prayer**

**4. Roll Call**

Mayor Renner directed the City Clerk to call the roll and the following members of Council answered present:

Aldermen: Kevin Lower, David Sage, Mboka Mwilambwe, Amelia Buragas, Joni Painter, Karen Schmidt, Scott Black, Diana Hauman, Jim Fruin, and Mayor Tari Renner.

Alderman absent: None.

Staff Present: David Hales; City Manager, George Boyle; Assistant Corporation Counsel, Cherry L. Lawson; City Clerk, Patti-Lynn Silva; Director of Finance, Steve Rasmussen; Assistant City Manager, Brendan Heffner; Police Chief, Brian Mohr; Fire Chief, Jim Karch; Public Works Director, Scott Sprouls; Director of Information Services and other City staff were also present.

**5. Recognition / Appointments**

The following were presented:

- A. Introduction of Lynn Cannon, Executive Director of the U.S. Cellular Coliseum.

**6. Public Comment**

Mayor Renner opened the meeting to receive Public Comment. The following individuals provided comments during the meeting.

Alton Franklin  
Bruce Meeks  
Gary Lambert  
Ky Ajayi  
Abron Leneve  
Scott Stimerling  
Barbara Gaffron  
Patricia Marton

## **6. Consent Agenda**

The following was presented:

Mayor Renner asked Council whether there were any items to be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

**Motion by Alderman Schmidt, seconded by Alderman Painter, that the Consent Agenda Items be approved as presented.**

Mayor Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

**Ayes: Aldermen Lower, Sage, Mwilambwe, Buragas, Painter, Schmidt, Black, Hauman and Fruin.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion carried.**

The following was presented:

Item 7A. Consideration of approving the Minutes of the November 28, 2016 Regular City Council Meeting; Special Council Session Minutes of the November 28, 2016 Special Session Meeting; and Council Retreat Meeting Minutes of the November 4 and 5, 2016 Council Retreat Meetings.

The following was presented:

Item 7B. Consideration of approving Bills, Payroll, Procurement Card Purchases and Electronic Transfers in the amount of \$7,339,313.24.

The following was presented:

Item 7C. Consideration of approving Bloomington Police to trade seven (7) used Heckler & Koch Mp5 rifles weapons for five (5) new Rock River Arms AR15 rifles.

The following was presented:

Item 7D. Consideration of approving:

a.) An Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Local Public Agency (LPA) Agreement for Federal Participation (“Agreement”) for the Construction of Benjamin School Trail, Section 16-00359-00-BT; and

b.) A Resolution Appropriating Funds to Pay the Local Public Agency (LPA) Share of Construction Costs.

RESOLUTION: 2016-43

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON COUNCIL  
TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF BENJAMIN SCHOOL  
TRAIL, SECTION 16-00359-00-BT, CONNECTING THE GROVE ON KICKAPOO  
CREEK SUBDIVISION TO BENJAMIN SCHOOL

The following was presented:

Item 7E. Consideration of an Intergovernmental Agreement with District 87 for the Provision of Salt during 2016/2017 Winter Season at a cost of \$53.97 per ton.

The following was presented:

Item 7F. Consideration of approving the purchase of YSI Incorporated buoys; a state sanctioned Limited Source Provider, for Evergreen Lake and Lake Bloomington to assist in collection of water quality data.

The following was presented:

Item 7G. Consideration of approving a Professional Services Contract with Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc. for Professional Engineering Services related to the Electrical Conversion of the Lake Evergreen Pump Station, (RFQ 2016-04, and Resolution 2016-10).

The following was presented:

Item 7H. Consideration of an Ordinance approving the Amended Preliminary Plan, Business Park at Nord Farms, approximately 36.34 acres, located north of W. Washington Street, south of W. Market Street, west of Carole Drive, and west and east of Mitsubishi Motorway.

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-127

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE AMENDED PRELIMINARY PLAN,  
BUSINESS PARK AT NORD FARMS

The following was presented:

Item 7I. Consideration of an Ordinance approving a Petition KSTT, LLC, for a final plat for Business Park at Nord Farms, 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition, and approving a Sanitary Sewer Easement for Business Park at Nord Farms 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition, both located north of W. Washington Street, south of W. Market Street, west of Carole Drive, and west and east of Mitsubishi Motorway.

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-128

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE FINAL PLAT OF BUSINESS PARK AT NORD  
FARMS SECOND ADDITION

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-129

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT AT BUSINESS PARK  
AT NORD FARMS

The following was presented:

Item 7J. Consideration of the application of Bloom Happy Hour, Inc., d/b/a Happy Hour, located at 716 S. Eldorado Rd., requesting a RAS liquor license which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.

The following was presented:

Item 7K. Consideration of the application of Mickey's Kitchen, Inc., d/b/a Mickey's Kitchen, located at 1709 S. Veterans Pkwy. Suite A, requesting an RBS liquor license which would allow the sale of beer and wine only by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.

The following was presented:

Item 7L. Consideration of the application of LGP Enterprises, LLC, d/b/a Lucca Bar and Grill, located at 116 E. Market St., requesting a RAS liquor license which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.

The following was presented:

**Regular Agenda**

The following was presented:

Item 8A. Consideration of:

- a) An Ordinance approving the 2016 Tax Levy for the Bloomington Public Library.

ORDINANCE 2016 - 130

AN ORDINANCE LEVYING TAXES FOR THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON – LIBRARY,  
MCLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING MAY 1, 2016 AND  
ENDING APRIL 30, 2017 FOR THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

Ms. Hamilton stated the Bloomington Public Library is requesting Council approve the final 2016 Library Property Tax Levy in the same amount approved for the estimated 2016 Property Tax Levy on November 14, 2016 in the amount of \$4,683,111.00.

Alderman Lower asked whether the Library has discussed any other ways to pay for this Tax Levy other than to raise property taxes.

Ms. Hamilton responded there is a line for donations that is accepted within the community as well as a per capita grant that is received from the State.

Alderman Lower asked if the Library has considered a user fee.

Ms. Hamilton stated user fees are not assessed because members using the Library are paying their taxes. This is the standard of operation throughout the State of Illinois.

Alderman Schmidt stated that the Library is a public good that assists many people who could not afford a user fee. She asked Ms. Hamilton to explain what the Property Tax Levy would specifically be used for.

Ms. Hamilton stated this Levy helps with the reduction that has occurred within the State budget received over the past few years. There is discussion of hiring a new position within the Library to help Outreach in the Community. The Fixed-Asset Fund is part of planning for the future expansion to the building. A tech-mobile has been discussed, which would supply the community with technology that may not have otherwise been available to them.

Alderman Black stated there is no doubt of the public good that comes from the Bloomington Library. For the amount of work that is being done within the Library, a three (.03) cent raise to tax payers is well worth it. He suggested the historic area of Bloomington not be forgotten about and that the tech-mobile would reach out to this area as well. Books of different languages within the book mobile would be a great new idea. The City should not be excluding anyone with these outreach opportunities.

Alderman Fruin stated that seniors also need to be considered as most are trying to learn new technology and need assistance in doing so.

**Motion by Alderman Schmidt, seconded by Alderman Hauman that Council approves the Ordinance adopting the 2016 Property Tax Levy for the Bloomington Public Library in the amount of \$4,683,111, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.**

**Mayor Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:**

**Ayes: Aldermen Sage, Buragas, Painter, Schmidt, Black, Hauman and Fruin.**

**Nays: Aldermen Kevin Lower and Mboka Mwilambwe.**

**Motion carried.**

b) An Ordinance approving the 2016 Tax Levy for the City of Bloomington.

ORDINANCE 2016 - 131

AN ORDINANCE LEVYING TAXES FOR THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MCLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING MAY 1, 2016 AND ENDING APRIL 30, 2017 FOR THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

Mr. Hales stated that this Levy for the City of Bloomington is the same as what was previously discussed among Council in the Work Session. Included in the increase total assess value is funding allocated to new growth. The Tax Levy shows that even with the increase of \$20,061,384.00, this actually represents a \$1.00 decrease in the actual tax payment for home owners. There would be approximately \$545,000.00 associated with this Levy that would be used in the upcoming 2018 fiscal year budget to work on reducing the overall emergency response time, primarily in the area of ambulance services. Even though this particular part will not be approved tonight, it will be presented to Council in the upcoming fiscal year, towards the end of February 2017.

Alderman Lower stated he supports the City lowering response times, however, the problem is in funding many other things that are not as high of a priority in terms of need. The City is continuing to hurt the economy.

Alderman Fruin stated Mr. Hales came out to an organization a week back, which many had questions on the Property Tax Levy. Members as well as the public were invited to come and ask questions and receive proper information. The group, as a whole, left with a better understanding and appreciation for the City of Bloomington expenses. A lot of the problem is lack of education. The community needs education on where their money is going.

**Motion by Alderman Mwilambwe, seconded by Alderman Schmidt, that Council approves the Ordinance to adopt the 2016 Property Tax Levy for the City of Bloomington in the amount of \$20,061,384, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.**

**Mayor Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:**

**Ayes: Aldermen Mwilambwe, Sage, Buragas, Painter, Schmidt, Black, Hauman and Fruin.**

**Nays: Alderman Kevin Lower.**

**Motion carried.**

The following was presented:

Item 8B. Consideration of approving two Resolutions for the abatements of property taxes for the 2016 Tax Levy.

- a.) A Resolution abating all or a portion of the taxes levied to pay debt service on certain general obligation bonds of the City of Bloomington, McLean County, Illinois, and

RESOLUTION NO 2016 -44

A RESOLUTION ABATING ALL OR A PORTION OF THE TAXES HERETOFORE LEVIED TO PAY DEBT SERVICE ON A CERTAIN GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MCLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

- b.) A Resolution abating a Tax Levy for rent payable under lease agreement between The Public Building Commission, McLean County and the City of Bloomington for the Old Champion Building and the expansion of the parking garage.

RESOLUTION NO. 2016 - 45

A RESOLUTION ABATING TAX LEVY FOR RENT PAYABLE UNDER LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PUBLIC BUILDING COMMISSION, MCLEAN COUNTY AND THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON FOR THE OLD CHAMPION BUILDING AND THE EXPANSION OF THE PARKING GARAGE

Ms. Silva stated there is a few million dollars out in debt services. If the City wants to keep the Tax Levy flat, the City needs to abate the debt service for the \$2,000,000 so that it can be paid from other City resources. This is done every year and the amount of debt service has not changed.

**Motion by Alderman Schmidt, seconded by Alderman Painter, that the Resolutions for the abatement of a total \$6,515,559.46 of property taxes for the 2016 Tax Levy for debt service and rent payments be adopted, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.**

**Mayor Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:**

**Ayes: Aldermen Lower, Sage, Mwilambwe, Buragas, Painter, Schmidt, Black, and Fruin.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion carried.**

The following was presented:

Item 8C. Consideration of approving a Lease for a Police Sub-Station located at 828 W. Jefferson, Bloomington, IL.

Mr. Hales stated ever since Chief Hefner was hired as Chief of Police for the City of Bloomington, they have had many discussions as to what particular strategies and tactics the Police Department can use to continue to address some of the crime and other issues, especially associated with the West side of Bloomington. They have discussed tactics of other communities, including can Bloomington have more Police Officers live or rent over on West side. The idea of a substation came up as another option that is used in other communities and has been shown to help crime rates.

Mayor Renner stated this is a public outreach tactic to get Police out within the community.

Chief Hefner stated the idea of a substation was his idea. It is different from substations in other cities. Ever since he was appointed Chief of Police, he has had residents on the West side of Bloomington ask him to put up a substation due to crime in that area. It has been asked numerous times that more Police presence be put within the community. Chief Hefner felt if there was another location within the community, where Police could reach out to residents and residents reach out to the Police, in a non-enforcement capacity, it might be a great asset to the community. The facility would not be staffed 24/7, but it can be used by police on each shift; to do reports, eat meals, and have breaks. It can be a drop-in for youth and residents as well as being used for neighborhood meetings. The lease is for a year. It can be re-assessed at that time. The lease would only cost \$12.00 a year; \$1.00 per month.

Ms. White, with Mid-Central Community Action, stated that neighborhood safety and vitality are overall goals. Communities are strengthened when individuals and organizations work together. It was very apparent that neighborhood safety is needed in this West side location. (91) ninety-one % of respondents to the Community Impact Measurement Survey indicated they felt unsafe in their neighborhood.



Ms. Tutt stated this project is not to push enforcement but rather build relationships between the neighborhood residents and law enforcement. Provision 1.1.1, within the lease, states the property be used for limited services intended to serve the immediate neighborhood. The property should be equipped so that officers can complete reports, meet with the public, or conduct other small office business. The property will not have regular hours, can be used for community events, and it will not be a storage for fire-arms.

Alderman Black stated this has been an ongoing idea since he was appointed. The motion tonight lacked a lot of the details that were given through the presentation materials. Residents have been misinformed about the use of this substation. What the City wants to do with this project is very different from what has been portrayed to residents. There has to be education before confrontation. Alderman Black suggests more community feedback and more discussion on this substation before a vote is taken for action.

Alderman Hauman stated she is in favor of this substation long-term. People are not necessarily against the idea, they just need to be given more time to ask questions and understand the concept.

Alderman Mwilambwe stated he doesn't feel a sense of urgency. This item can wait another month for proper discussion and education to be given to residents. He suggested that Mid-Central Community Action do more public outreach.

Alderman Lower stated he will put together an event where officers can come by answer questions that residents may have.

**Motion by Alderman Black, seconded by Alderman Schmidt that the lease for the home located at 828 W. Jefferson, Bloomington, IL to be used as a police sub-station, be delayed until January 23, 2017.**

**Mayor Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:**

**Ayes: Aldermen Lower, Sage, Mwilambwe, Buragas, Painter, Schmidt, Black, Hauman and Fruin.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion carried.**

The following was presented:

Item 8D. Presentation of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts (PRCA) Five-Year Capital Improvement Program.

Mr. Tetzloff stated most of the projects have been prioritized and budgeted by previous Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts (PRCA) directors. The last comprehensive plan was done in 1997. The last update to the plan was done in 2009. There are three pieces of top priority that will need to be looked at in the near future. The first is creating a Comprehensive Master Plan. The second is conducting a feasibility study for O'Neil Park, which includes the pool. The last item is conducting a feasibility study for the Recreation Center.

Within the Five Year Capital Improvement Plan there are multiple projects that have been considered and brought forward, through materials, for Council to consider. The BCPA facility is an older building that needs repairs. The Creativity Center has two proposed projects that are privately funded. Constitution Trail projects are funded through an Intergovernmental Agreement with the County. The golf course improvement projects have already been budgeted for. The Miller Park Zoo exhibit projects are non-expansive. The old exhibits would be taken out and replaced.

These are private-public partnership funded projects. The Zoo infrastructure is in great need of replacing. The parking lot has become a safety concern. The Zoo Concession Stand and Roof Replacement project is considered to be a loan-based project. When park playground projects go underway, most of those businesses have a half price or 1:1 match. For example, if the City buys \$100,000.00 in playground equipment, only \$50,000.00 is paid for. Park facilities such as the Miller Park Pavilion, need to be updated and invested in. There are new park creation projects also within the Capital Improvement Plan. The total cost requested over the five (5) years is \$21,128,150.00. Forty-seven (47) % of this total is for O'Neil Park.

Alderman Sage asked whether the PRCA is firm on the two park projects presented, or if those parks could change. Mr. Tetzloff stated this is the order of prioritization from staff as to where funding is needed the most.

Alderman Sage asked how the PRCA solicits funding for park projects other than City funds. Mr. Tetzloff stated they research and find other grant opportunities from any source.

Alderman Mwilambwe asked what the PRCA thought about naming rights for park amenities. Mr. Tetzloff stated it has been discussed internally, but there have not been many discussions regarding this.

Alderman Schmidt asked what does the term Aquatic Center meant in terms of size and amenities provided. Mr. Tetzloff stated it would be a modern day pool with slides, much bigger in scope then it currently is. There are many options within the parameters of the design that could be chosen.

Alderman Fruin stated that he is pro-parks and hopes these are projects, over the next five (5) years that get passed and accomplished.

Alderman Lower asked if there was an estimated cost per acre in the existing parks. From an expense standpoint he does not think the City, in a down economy, needs to spend money at this point in time. Mr. Tetzloff stated the upkeep and mowing costs are roughly \$800.00 per acre.

### **City Manager's Discussion**

Mr. Hales stated he had no items of discussion.

### **Mayor Discussion**

Mayor Renner stated he had no items of discussion.

### **City Alderman's Discussion**

Alderman Schmidt acknowledged the PRCA for how wonderful Downtown Bloomington looks with all the decorations and being kept clean.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion made by Alderman Black, seconded by Alderman Schmidt, to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m.**

**Motion carried (viva voce).**

**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**

**ATTEST**

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Tari Renner, Mayor

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Cherry L. Lawson, City Clerk