

SPECIAL SESSION CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall Conference Room
109 E. Olive Street, Bloomington, IL 61701
Monday, May 22, 2017; 5:45 PM

1. Call to Order

The Council convened in Special Session in the Council Chambers, City Hall Building at 5:45 p.m., Monday, May 22, 2017. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Renner.

2. Roll Call

Mayor Renner directed Chief Deputy Clerk, Renee Gooderham to call the roll and the following members of Council answered present:

Aldermen Joni Painter, Diana Hauman, Mboka Mwilambwe, Jamie Mathy, Scott Black, Kim Bray, Karen Schmidt, David Sage, Amelia Buragas and Mayor Tari Renner.

Staff present: Steve Rasmussen, Assistant City Manager; Jeffrey Jurgens, Corporation Counsel; Renee Gooderham Chief Deputy Clerk; Nicole Albertson; Human Resource Director; Bob Yehl, Water Director; Brenden Heffner, Police Chief and Betty McCain, ASC.

Staff absent: David Hales, City Manager, Cherry Lawson, City Clerk.

3. Public Comment

Mayor Renner opened the meeting to receive Public Comment. No individuals provided comments during the meeting.

4. Consideration of approving the minutes of the Special City Council Meetings for May 8, 2017.

Mayor Renner asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion by Alderman Schmidt second by Alderman Painter to approve the minutes as presented.

Ayes: Aldermen, Painter, Schmidt, Sage, Mwilambwe, Buragas, Hauman, Mathy, Black and Bray.

Nays: None

Motion carried.

5. Closed Special Session Meeting
 - A. Claims Settlement 2(c) (12) of 5 ILCS 120/2

Mayor Renner requested a motion to go into Closed Session per Section 2(c) (2) of 5 ILCS120.

Motion by Alderman Black second by Alderman Schmidt to enter into Closed Session Meeting per Section 2(c) (5) of 5 ILCS120, and Section 2(c) (1) of 5 ILCS 120/2.

Ayes: Aldermen, Painter, Black, Schmidt, Sage, Buragas, Mwilambwe, Hauman, Mathy and Bray.

Nays: None

Motion carried.

6. Adjourn Closed Session and Return to Open Session

Mayor Renner asked for a motion to adjourn the Closed Session Meeting and Return to Open Session.

Motion by Alderman Bray seconded by Alderman Hauman to adjourn the Closed Session Meeting and Return to Open Session.

Motion Carried (Viva Voce).

7. Discussion and possible direction regarding the John M. Scott Trust. (Review, discuss and provide a consensus on the operational structure of the John M. Scott Health Trust.) (Presentation by Jeff Jurgens, Corporation Counsel 5 minutes and Council discussion 25 minutes.)

Mr. Jurgens stated he had met with the Attorney for the Trust, Tom Hur, and the guardian ad litem and talked about ways to move this process forward in terms of getting a decision by the Council and came up with two conceptual options to try and narrow it down to bring back to the Council to have some more discussion and see if we could get a consensus on what the Council, as Trustee, might eventually want to see move forward.

Mayor Renner stated the purpose of this item being on the agenda is to clarify process that no decisions will be made this evening. Council will continue discussions to determine next steps.

Mr. Jurgens stated if there is a conceptual consensus as to the one of the options, then we would bring back some actual changes to the proposed documents, maybe the IGA, maybe the bylaws and various different things. There are basically two options that we are presenting and this is not to say there cannot be variations of either of these options or other options that are out there. One option is to continue with the current system with an agreement that we would probably

do some clarification on that the township would continue to administer the J.M. Scott Trust. There would be a mixture of direct surfaces and grants and that would be as directed by you as the Trustee and the budgets would be approved. The Commission would remain in existence and would make recommendations, the Township Supervisor would be responsible for the grant monitoring, and we would again revise and update all of the Trust documents. Option 1 is kind of a status quo although with some revisions and perhaps with some course corrections. Option 2 is going to a grants only option. This option would involve dissolving the Township Intergovernmental Agreement. Instead of the township serving as administrator, the City would basically do this in house. We would designate somebody within the City to monitor that. We would keep the Commission as it is, they would make the recommendations as to the grants and the budget, and then you as Trustee would have final say over that. This would require us to update the documents and bring those back to you and a Conflicts of Interest policy. Part of what that Conflicts of Interest policy will address is has been discussed up here, a Commission member who might be affiliated with a certain organization that might receive funds or that type of thing. Under this scenario, though, there would be a City staff person who would be responsible for some of the administration.

Mayor Renner asked for clarification because it seems on the surface that one involves grants and direct services and the other one involves grants and direct services, but a slightly different mix. If the Township is still going to provide some direct services regardless of either option, if we are going to contract regardless of either option, what are the core differences?

Mr. Jurgens replied that under Option 1 would be Township continuing to provide direct services. The budget that would be proposed would actually contain line items for how much are we going to paying for this employee. How much are we going to fund for this program? Those would actually be part of the budget. The Township would be responsible for administrating those direct services. Instead, under Option 2, the Township would get a grant of money, so they would have to apply like any other entity would and recommend or propose that these services be provided and then instead of contracting for to provide those services, more of a monitoring to make sure those services are being provided. So, they are still providing the service potentially under either model. It is just whether they are providing it because they are receiving money for that service and we are monitoring that or that is just part of the money that is going from the J.M. Scott Trust.

Alderman Schmidt stated that it seems we ran this without this township for decades and is proud that we took a risk and tried to change things up. She is more supportive of Option 2. There are three different recommendations that model Option 2 and wanted to talk a little more about why not create a 501C3.

Mr. Jurgens stated the thought was there might not really be a need to. It saves money in terms of establishing the 501C3 and keeping it up and all those types of things.

Alderman Hauman stated that she was also in favor of the second option.

Mayor Renner asked why the Council would seek to change in the midst of probably the greatest turmoil in healthcare policy since the 1960's.

Alderman Black stated he would hate for us to make a massive change only to find that it is not going to serve our residents in the best way. In speaking about Option 2, he asked Mr. Jurgens to speak a little bit too how we could rig up a revolving grant to Township.

Mr. Jurgens stated that if that is something that the Trustee feels is important to provide and the Supervisor articulates there are these that I, as the Township, can provide and you see those as important, those are just going to be continuing part of the budget.

Alderman Black stated he would prefer to avoid any kind of major disruption and changes until we can get a sense of where the overall healthcare industry is going. If we want to make this change now based on the work that has been done thus far, he would be interested in Option 2.

Alderman Buragas stated she felt that either one of these options is going to be an appropriate way to move forward. If we end up moving forward on Option 2, she would very much like to see that we continue to provide services through the Township moving to more of a grants model.

Alderman Mwilambwe stated he was in favor of Option 2 and that he had talked about a pilot as a possibility because he always wants the ability to be able to revert back to something if it does not work. He agrees that we have a problem that we are trying to solve and does not have any confidence that the healthcare issue is going to be solved in Washington, DC any time soon. He feels we need to move forward.

Alderman Sage stated that he was in favor of Option 2.

Alderman Painter stated she was in favor of Option 2. She stated that she thinks the people who are the experts in the medical field should be the ones calling the shot on this.

Alderman Bray stated she continued to weigh both options, but asked is there any variance in the legal exposure presented between Option 1 and 2.

Mr. Hur stated that there is no significant difference between them from a liability standpoint. If you look at it from a delegation standpoint, you are delegating your duties as Commissioner to the Township Supervisor, so you have to have proper controls and supervision there.

Alderman Hauman asked if it was possible to have Councilman become an ex officio member of the John M. Scott Commission so that when there are questions, we have someone who has a better understanding of how the Commission works.

Ms. Skillrud stated, the important thing to consider is that direct services should be provided in some way in that the unmet needs of the community are able to be reviewed or at least an entry point to the system is there for them to come to.

Mayor Renner asked what problem is the Council trying to solve with this change. He stated he still was not clear about that.

Alderman Schmidt stated that some of the things that this solves are providing more dollars directly to clientele, having greater flexibility to actually address some of the volatility of the healthcare system right now, putting direct decision making into the hands of the Commissioners who come specifically from various seats within our healthcare community and basically streamlining any kind of bureaucratic layers.

Mayor Renner asked whether more money will go to the people under Option 2.

Alderman Schmidt replied that it has been stated and we have heard it from the Bronner Consulting Report, we have heard it from the John M. Scott Commission Report and we have seen it in Mr. Hur's document as well.

Alderman Sage asked if anybody from the Scott Commission would like to make comments.

Ms. Hartwig stated that the major assumption here is that none of us knows what is going to happen with healthcare. One of the things about the Commission is that it has been flexible over time to adjust to changes that have occurred. If healthcare changes and we need to change eligibility, we could make recommendations and change the system.

Mayor Renner stated that we have support for Option 2 and what we conceivably can do is maybe have one that has a year or two time limit on it and one that does not and present both options to the Council moving forward.

Alderman Sage stated that he would rather hear suggestions coming back from the Scott Commission on some time box. We are going to trust the Commission to be able to properly administer the Trust.

8. Adjournment

Motion by Alderman Schmidt seconded by Alderman Hauman to adjourn. Time: 6:42 PM.

Ayes: Aldermen, Painter, Mathy, Schmidt, Black, Mwilambwe, Buragas, Sage, Hauman and Bray.

Nays: None

Motion carried.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

ATTEST

Tari Renner, Mayor

Renee Gooderham,
Chief Deputy Clerk, R.M.C.