

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING

URBANA CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD

DATE: April 14, 2011

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Urbana City Council Chambers
Urbana City Building
400 South Vine Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Costello, Scott Dossett, Diane Gottheil, Grace Mitchell,
James McNeely, Ivy Williams

STAFF PRESENT: Todd Rent, Human Relations Officer

OTHERS PRESENT: Michelle Brooks, Assistant City Attorney
Patrick Connolly, Chief, Urbana Police Department

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Chair Tom Costello. Mr. Costello declared a quorum to be present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

With regards to the draft minutes of the special meeting of April 6, 2011, Ms. Mitchell made a motion to approve said minutes as presented. Mr. McNeely seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Chair Costello called for a voice vote. All voted aye. The motion carried unanimously and the minutes of the April 6, 2011 special meeting were approved as presented.

3. EXPLANATION OF PURPOSE

Mr. Rent explained that the purpose of this meeting was for the Board to discuss and vote upon recommendations borne of the public input session of April 6, 2011.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

A. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS OF CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD: A RECOMMENDATION THAT MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD BE OPEN TO INDIVIDUALS CONVICTED OF FELONIES

B. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS OF CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD: A RECOMMENDATION THAT MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD BE OPEN TO INDIVIDUALS CONVICTED OF FELONIES AND RETIRED/FORMER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

The above two items were discussed concurrently by the Board.

Mr. Dossett made a motion that the ordinance authorizing the Civilian Police Review board be amended to include language opening membership on the board to individuals convicted of felonies and retired/former law enforcement officers. Ms. Gottheil seconded the motion. Discussion among members of the Board and City staff ensued. Following discussion, Chair Costello called for a roll-call vote. Roll was taken and the votes were as follows:

Costello:	no	Mitchell:	no
Dossett:	yes	McNeely:	yes
Gottheil:	yes	Williams:	no

With three Board members in favor and three opposed, Chair Costello noted that upon his appearance before City Council on this matter, he would advise the Council that this was a 3:3 vote.

C. RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: A RECOMMENDATION THAT THE BOARD RECORD AND REPORT BOTH FORMAL (AS DEFINED BY THE ORDINANCE) AND INFORMAL COMPLAINTS

Mr. Dossett made a motion that the ordinance authorizing the Civilian Police Review Board be amended to require that the Board record and report both formal (as defined by the ordinance) and informal complaints. Ms. Gottheil seconded the motion. Discussion among members of the Board and City staff ensued; the discussion centered upon the difficulty in defining an “informal” complaint as well as the difficulty in recording and reporting of the same. Regarding the latter, Chief Connolly provided input to the Board. Questions and comments from the Board were addressed by Chief Connolly and Mr. Rent.

Following discussion, Chair Costello called for a roll-call vote. Roll was taken and the votes were as follows:

Costello:	no	Mitchell:	no
Dossett:	no	McNeely:	no
Gottheil:	no	Williams:	no

The motion failed unanimously.

D. RIGHTS TO ISSUE SUBPOENA: A RECOMMENDATION THAT THE BOARD BE EMPOWERED TO SUBPOENA WITNESSES IN THE PROCESS OF COLLECTING INFORMATION AND RECORDS RELATED TO A CASE OR INVESTIGATION (NOTE: SECTION 19-36(a)(4)(i))

Questions and comments from members of the Board on this recommendation were addressed by Mr. Rent. There was no motion made with regards to this recommendation; Chair Costello declared this recommendation annulled due to lack of a motion.

Further questions and comments from the Board were addressed by Mr. Rent and Ms. Brooks.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. McNeely made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Chair Costello seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:39 p.m.