#1. THE REGULAR MEETING of the City Council of the City of Danville was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Mayor Rickey Williams, Jr. at the Robert E. Jones Municipal Building, 17 W. Main Street, Danville, Illinois.

[Due to Coronavirus, COVID-19 the meeting was conducted in a combination of in person and virtual attendance through audio/video access using a virtual meeting platform to maintain social distancing during the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation and Public Act 101-0640. The meeting was streamed live on the City of Danville website’s homepage: www.cityofdanville.org.]

THE ROLL CALL was answered by Mayor Rickey Williams, Jr. [physically present]. Elected Officials Present via Videoconference were Vice Mayor Bob Iverson, Aldermen Brenda Brown, Michael O’Kane, Sherry Pickering, James Poshard, Michael Puhr, Tom Stone, and Darren York. Absent were Aldermen R.J. Davis, Dan Duncheon, Sharon McMahon, Rick Strebing, Aaron Troglia, and Robert Williams. A quorum was present. Alderman Williams joined the virtual meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Staff Members Physically Present: Deputy City Clerk Megan Mudd and Information Technology Assistant Administrator Aaron Weaver.

Staff Members Present via Videoconference: City Comptroller Ashlyn Massey, City Engineer Sam Cole, Grants and Planning Manager Logan Cronk, Human Relations Administrator Sandra Finch, Fire Chief Don McMasters, Police Chief Chris Yates, Public Transportation Director Lisa Beith, and Public Works Director Carl Carpenter.

Various members of the public and media joined the electronic meeting via YouTube live video streaming.

#2. INVOCATION was given by Alderman Brenda Brown, followed by

#3. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Mayor Williams.

#4. THE MINUTES of the regular meeting held, January 19, 2021, having been published and distributed, were presented. Alderman Brown moved for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Stone. On the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered.

#5. THE AGENDA for the evening was presented. Alderman Pickering moved for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Stone. On the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered.

#6. MAYOR’S REPORT

#6-A. Proclamations – None

#6-B. Board/Committee Appointments

Mayor Williams presented Items 1 and 2 for a single vote, and asked for concurrence for two board appointments. Alderman Puhr moved to concur, seconded by Vice Mayor Iverson. Those appointments being:

1) appointment of Scott Dowers to David S. Palmer Arena Board, term to expire 11/30/21; and

2) appointment of John Spezia to David S. Palmer Arena Board, term to expire 11/30/22.

There being no questions, on the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered.
#6-C...Reports of Boards, Agencies, Commissions – None

#6-D...Items of Information
- Mayor Williams stated as a reminder this will be the last time you will be receiving physical copies of City Council or Committee packets, unless you request that we print those for you. Remember we wanted to work towards saving that, that's one of the reasons why we got computers and iPads for everyone. If you still want a printed out copy of an agenda packet then please let Theresa know and we will make sure we get a copy for you.
- I would like to send a huge reminder to everyone please be aware of the emails you are opening with your City e-mail account. Today we had a huge attempted Phishing attack on us, someone was sending emails in my name and two key things to look for that our IT staff reminded me about, one is if it says "External" but it's from me I do not send you all emails from my personal email address, so I will not use my personal email for business. Second, is if you do think I sent you something is to look in the address of the sender. For example, the one today came from Gmail, if it does not say "CityofDanville.org" it is not me nor is anyone on our team. Please take note of that, if you get those things you can certainly call and let IT know or you can just delete and send it away.
- Yesterday was the start of Black History Month so I would like to read to you something from my heart about the month and make sure we acknowledge all of what Black Americans have contributed to America and to the world. Mayor Williams read aloud a letter in honor of the "Magnificent 7" that filed a federal voting rights lawsuit against the City of Danville. Their heroic efforts ultimately changed the municipal form of government to an aldermanic form of government ensuring that each ward was fairly represented.

#7....PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, AUDIENCE COMMENTS
#7-A...Presentation by Odette Hyatt-Watson, CCAP, CEO, East Central IL Community Action Agency
Mrs. Hyatt-Watson thanked the City and staff for their work and stated that she is representing ECICAA, the Governing board, and the employees, and I wanted to use this opportunity to briefly give you an update of the services that we have available to many of the residents, individuals and families, in the City of Danville. We have been looking at our data from the time that I have started and even historical data to get an idea of how we can better serve our families. So what I want to express is that Community Action is here, we're here Monday thru Friday, and in response to the needs within the Community we are going to extend our hours in Vermilion County. We are at the building that's located right there on the corner of North and Vermilion. On Wednesdays we will be here until 6:30pm and we are going to try some Saturday hours between 10:00am and 2:00pm in efforts of extending services to our working families. Our data shows that we have quite a bit of residents in the City of Danville that are working and they are also eligible for our services. We have stepped out and kind of extended our budget as it pertains to energy bill assistance. That is a low income home energy assistance program called "LIHEAP". With LIHEAP income eligible families are able to get help with their power bill. That has been a common knowledge among many of our residents but there is a reason why I felt that at this point I need to start doing some one on one or even group speaking engagements safely and this is a perfect arena where I can talk via Zoom and get the word out thru the City leadership. There is something that I noticed that was quite unusual but its good that we discovered it. We had an elderly person on fixed income last month come in and needed food assistance. So when we approached the gentleman we asked if we could help with utility assistance, he said I'm on a budget payment and I'm handling that really well I just need help with food. So we said sir if you are income eligible we can assist you even if you are on budget payments. It may free up some dollars to help manage whatever last minute bills are whatever surprises you many encounter that took away from your food allowance for that month. We were able to assist him with utility bill assistance and kind of give him a few steps ahead. This was a senior
citizen on fixed income that did not understand because they were managing on a budget bill that they could also get help from Community Action even if we help him out for a couple months that is still additional dollars that he can put away in a savings for when those last minute emergencies come up. So, I wanted to spread the word and let everyone be aware that we are extending our hours to appeal to those who may not be available during the normal hours that we are in operation, which is Monday thru Friday, from 7:30am to 4:30pm. We are going to try it in February and if it does not work we will go back to our normal way and try to find out how best to reach those populations that are in need of assistance. We wanted you to also be aware that although there is a moratorium on evictions, we are still wanting to help individuals that have been affected by COVID. We ran into a family that worked in a factory setting, and when one particular person contracted COVID we learned that the line was shut down to be cleaned, and that it also meant a loss of income for some of those families. We were able to assist that family in some rental assistance and unfortunately we ran out of money in December but we want to announce in February those dollars are now available until they run out again. In the month of December we also issued four scholarships to Vermilion County residents and these were students at DACC or students that were about to enter into DACC. We have 2021 funds now for future scholarships for income eligible students going to DACC or school in Illinois. It’s a wonderful scholarship for $2500.00 through Community Services Block Grant. The deadline for submitting scholarship applications is April 30th. Through the CDBG Cares Program we are able to for a limited amount of time to assist with families that may have issues paying their mortgage. That is available now, and we have to have evidence that COVID affected their ability to pay their mortgage but still we document that information and are able to help families. We are also able to do car repairs for individuals who are working or going to school. We do ask for verification to ensure that the dollars that we are responsible for issuing is used effectively. We just wanted to give everyone an opportunity to hear about the services we have at Community Action, we are so happy to be able to serve and alleviate some of the barriers to employment, or the barriers to attending school. These programs are temporary assistance but it can take families and launch them forward into security and be able to build up on their resources so at the last minutes when those life happenings occur there are some resources available to help them and we wanted the City of Danville to spread the word that we are here to help. Mayor Williams thanked Mrs. Watson and stated he appreciates them coming to talk with us and share that information.

#8.... ZONING PETITIONS – None

#9.... PAYROLL
Mayor Williams presented the Payrolls, having been published, posted, and distributed, for run of January 22, 2021, of $71,204.03 and for run of January 29, 2021, of $540,184.62. Alderman Pickering moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Poshard. There being no questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:
Ayes: Aldermen Williams, Pickering, O’Kane, Iverson, Puhr, York, Brown, Poshard, Stone
Nays: None
Absent: Aldermen Davis, Duncheon, McMahon, Strebing, Troiglia
Motion carried 9 to 0 with 5 absent.

#10... SCHEDULE OF VOUCHERS PAYABLE
Mayor Williams presented the Schedule of Vouchers Payable, having been published, posted, and distributed for run of January 26, 2021, of $98,787.64, for special run of January 29, 2021, of $5,000.00 and for February 2, 2021, of $583,537.33. Alderman Stone moved to dispense with the readings and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Poshard. After all questions were addressed, the roll call vote being:
Ayes: Aldermen Pickering, O’Kane, Iverson, Puhr, York, Brown, Poshard, Stone, Williams
Absent: Aldermen Davis, Duncheon, McMahon, Strebing, Troglia
Motion carried 9 to 0 with 5 absent.

#11...PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT
#11-A...Items of Information

- Director Carpenter stated he wanted to remind everyone that they have done everything they can on the streets and you are going to see a tremendous amount of overtime because we spent the majority of Saturday night and Sunday all day working off and on. Anyone that has an issue with an area that we missed just pass along to us and we will get it taken care of.
- We did receive 100% of our allocated salt and we still are eligible to receive 20% more from the contract we signed so we will probably get that and stockpile it so we have it. The salt barn is pretty full at this time.
- We took RFP’s for repairs to the Danville Stadium and they did come in at a very good rate and we are very pleased with that.

[The next Public Works Committee meeting will take place by videoconference on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.]

#12...PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT
#12-A...Vice Chairman Brown presented the City Clerk’s Report of Licenses, moved to dispense with the report and asked for approval, seconded by Vice Mayor Iverson. The report being:

BUSINESS LICENSES:

TOBACCO DEALERS:

Jyoti1, Inc dba Friendly and Fresh Food Express – 121 S Gilbert St

There being no questions, on the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered.

#12-B...Accept and Place on File DPBC Audit for Fiscal Year Ending 10/31/20

Vice Chairman Brown presented the Annual Financial Report for the Danville Public Building Commission FY ending 10/31/20, moved to dispense with the reading asked for approval and placement on file, seconded by Alderman Pickering. There being no questions, on the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered.

Vice Chairman Brown presented Items C thru E for a single vote, moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Stone. Those items being:

#12-C...RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12 authorizing Budget Amendment in Finance, chapter 32.02 pertaining to bonds provides for the City Treasurer to have a $150,000.00 corporate surety bond, the current bond was insufficient to cover this provision, as noted in a recent audit performed by the IL Department of Insurance (IDOI), Loman-Ray insurance group can provide the correct bond for the amount of $605.00, increase to line item 001-011-00-52029; and

#12-D...RESOLUTION NO. 2021-13 authorizing Budget Amendment in Information Systems, due to the novel coronavirus pandemic, there were unexpected and necessary expenses incurred so departments could continue to conduct city business and the department has been operating at maximum capacity due to coronavirus related upgrades and other non-coronavirus related departmental projects and would benefit from part-time auxiliary, a budget amendment is required to increase the salaries and computer service and supplies, increase line item 001-020-00-51001, Salaries, in the amount of $9,400.00, increase line item 001-020-00-51016, FICA, in the amount of $940.00, and increase line item 001-020-00-52009, Computer Service and Supplies, in the amount of $27,427.25; and

#12-E...RESOLUTION NO. 2021-14 authorizing Budget Amendment in Police Department, expenditures associated with the maintenance of vehicles, telephone and equipment for new hires
officers exceed the 2020-21 budgeted amount, increase line item 001-021-00-52015, Maintenance of Vehicles, in the amount of $10,000.00, increase line item 001-021-00-52041, Telephone, in the amount of $7,000.00, and increase line item 001-021-00-53025, Clothing for New Hire, in the amount of $2,000.00. There being no questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:
Ayes: Aldermen Pickering, O’Kane, Iverson, Puhr, York, Brown, Poshard, Stone, Williams
Nays: None
Absent: Aldermen Davis, Duncheon, McMahon, Strebing, Troglia
Motion carried 9 to 0 with 5 absent.

#12-F...Vice Chairman Brown presented RESOLUTION NO. 2021-15 authorizing Application to Illinois Housing Development Authority for Funds for Securing, Maintaining, and Demolishing Abandoned Properties, application under Round 5 of the IHDA Abandoned Properties Program requesting up to $75,000 in funds to the assist with the acquisition, demolition, and greening of abandoned residential properties in the East Main Street target area under the terms and conditions of the application and Grant Program, moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Pickering. There being no questions or discussion, the roll call vote being:
Ayes: Aldermen O’Kane, Iverson, Puhr, York, Brown, Poshard, Stone, Williams, Pickering
Nays: None
Absent: Aldermen Davis, Duncheon, McMahon, Strebing, Troglia
Motion carried 9 to 0 with 5 absent.

#12-G...Vice Chairman Brown presented RESOLUTION NO. 2021-16 approving Purchase of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and Awarding Bid #667. The purchase of 45 Scott SCBA, 45 SCBA Masks, 90 SCBA Bottles, 2 Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) Packs, and supporting equipment will be purchased from Municipal Emergency Services (MES) in the amount of $360,812.39, payment to MES will come from line item 001-022-00-54185, moved to dispense with the reading and asked for approval as presented, seconded by Alderman Stone. After all questions were addressed, and there being no further discussion, the roll call vote being:
Ayes: Aldermen Iverson, Puhr, York, Brown, Poshard, Stone, Williams, Pickering, O’Kane
Nays: None
Absent: Aldermen Davis, Duncheon, McMahon, Strebing, Troglia
Motion carried 9 to 0 with 5 absent.

#12-H...Items of Information
Vice Chairman Brown announced the next Public Services Committee meeting will take place by videoconference on Tuesday, January 23, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

#13...ITEMS OF INFORMATION
#13-A) COVID-19 Update and Discussion on Pandemic
- Mayor Williams stated that any of our police and firefighters that wanted to receive their vaccinations have received their first doses and will receive their second dose soon, so we are happy for that. We are working with the Health Department to try to get our DMT drivers and personnel in soon because they serve over 2000 individuals a day so we are working hard to make that possible, maybe in March. We are still in Phase 1B, so it is those who are 75 and older as well as front line essential workers in various areas. Unfortunately, it has been tough for the Health Department, they were counting on the State to have a system up and running to be able to register the vaccinations and that has not happened so they have had to revert back to their phone calls. They are currently not accepting calls, they will not be accepting calls for those who are eligible until February 16th. We need to give them some time to catch up and
do the vaccination clinics that they have going on, so please do not call them until the 16th, if you are in fact eligible. As you all know, we continue to be in Phase 4 of reopening, so places can be open at 50% of capacity or 50 people, whichever is lower. The Health Department is doing everything they can and working very hard to keep us safe so please be patient and appreciative of their continuous efforts. Also I still want to remind everyone to please make sure you wear your masks in public, continue to social distance, and that you do all that you can to avoid large gatherings. Further discussion ensued.

- Alderman Puhr asked if Mayor could give a brief update on Bresee Tower. Mayor Williams replied the good news is regarding Bresee Tower is with us publicly speaking about the next step being demolition we have had multiple entities reach out to us. Before we could only get one party to provide any kind of estimate or bid and now we have several interested, and I think that will help a lot with the costs, as you all know thankfully we have been able to get demolition bids cheaper recently with the economy being the way it is. We are hoping on this huge one that is going to cost us a lot that we’ll be able to get an even better price as a result of it. I have a conversation scheduled with Mr. Chamley who handled this case for us before in Court to see what he would recommend as the next steps. I think we will probably have to take one or two more legal steps before we are able to move forward, but in the mean time we will start getting together bid proposals so we can move when the time is right. Alderman Puhr asked if we have heard from the County as far as their participation. Mayor Williams replied yes we have and I have heard from the Chairman and the Chairman of their Property Committee and they are absolutely committed to helping us so that we can tear down both Bresee and the Annex at the same time. Further discussion ensued.

#14...CLOSED SESSION
Vice Mayor Iverson moved to go into Closed Session under Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss Specific Employees/Legal Counsel, under Section 2(c)(2) to discuss Salary Schedules & Collective Bargaining Matters, and under Section 2(c)(11) to discuss Litigation (Pending or Probable/Imminent), seconded by Alderman Pickering. The roll call vote being:
Ayes: Aldermen Puhr, York, Brown, Poshard, Stone, Williams, Pickering, O’Kane, Iverson
Nays: None
Absent: Aldermen Davis, Duncheon, McMahon, Strebing, Troglia
Motion carried 9 to 0 with 5 absent.  
TIME: 6:51 p.m.

Mayor Williams announced no action will be taken after closed session.

Alderman Brown moved to return to Open Session, seconded by Alderman Puhr. On the voice vote, all ayes, no nays; the motion so ordered. Mayor Williams called the meeting back to order at 8:00 p.m.

#15...ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 8:08 p.m. following a motion by Alderman Pickering and a second by Alderman Brown.

Megan Mudd, Deputy City Clerk

Approved: 02/16/21
Posted Publicly: 02/17/21