

**City of Edwardsville**

**Council Proceedings**

**August 04, 2020**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Edwardsville City Council was held at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, located at 118 Hillsboro Avenue in Edwardsville, Illinois, with Mayor Patton presiding. Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer, Stack and Burns answered present on roll call. Aldermen Krause and Risavy were excused. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Mayor Patton welcomed everyone in attendance and those viewing on Cable Channel 993 and Facebook Live to the meeting.

Mayor Patton opened the public comment portion of the meeting.

City Clerk Bates read two emails that were received for public comment. The first public comment read was from citizen Dr. Carl E. Jason, Sr., PhD, and it encouraged the Mayor and City Council to improve communication with various minority groups in the community to increase hiring and participation of minorities in government which would enhance positive communication and trust with the elected officials prior to hiring a Director of Diversity. The second email from citizen Eryn Coppersmith was in support of removing the Ninian Edwards statue. Both public comments were received into the record and are attached herewith.

**Consent Agenda**

Motion by Stack, seconded by Burns, to approve the Consent Agenda.

City Attorney Berkbigler requested that one (1) Executive Session be added for Real Estate. Claims amount was changed to read \$703,410.52.

Mayor Patton read Consent Agenda items as follows:

- Approval of minutes of Council Meeting on July 21, 2020
- Group Health Insurance Fund Report - \$261,507.51
- Closed Session – Real Estate

Roll Call on Consent Agenda: Five Ayes, with Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer, Stack and Burns voting aye. Motion carried.

**Petitions and Communications**

Memo from Plan Commission regarding the Preliminary Plat for Governors' Parkway Troy Road Subdivision was received for information and file.

Memo from Plan Commission regarding PUD Site Plan & Final Plat for Anderson Goshen Campus Phases 1 & 2 was received for information and file.

**Legislative & Executive**

The Mayor recognized Douglas Rohrer with a plaque to acknowledge his contributions to the Edwardsville-SIUE Community Destination Group over the last six years and as a founding member and Treasurer of the committee. Mr. Rohrer provided comment and thanked City officials for participating in the committee's activities over the years including the welcoming of new SIUE faculty members, the parent orientation held at the Wildey Theatre and the annual breakfast between City leaders and SIUE student leaders.

Motion by Morrison, seconded by Louer, to approve a Resolution Authorizing the Parks & Recreation Department to Apply for Metro East Park & Recreation District Grant Funds for the Ice Rink and Teen Complex.

Roll Call: Five Ayes, with Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer, Stack and Burns voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Morrison, seconded by Stack, to approve a Resolution to Ratify an Extension to the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Laborer's Local Union No. 397 (Public Works Department).

Roll Call: Five Ayes, with Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer, Stack and Burns voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Louer, seconded by Burns, to approve a Resolution to Ratify an Extension to the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Laborer's Local Union No. 397 (Community Service Officers).

Roll Call: Five Ayes, with Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer, Stack and Burns voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Stack, seconded by Burns, to approve a Class A Liquor License for Bagley Farms Meat Market, LLC located at 1059 Century Drive, Edwardsville, IL 62025.

Roll Call: Five Ayes, with Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer, Stack and Burns voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Stack, seconded by Farrar, to approve a Class B Liquor License for 4 Hermanos Mexican Cousine, Inc. located at 4 Club Centre Court, Suite A, Edwardsville, IL 62025.

Roll Call: Five Ayes, with Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer, Stack and Burns voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Stack, seconded by Farrar, to approve a Class F Special Use Liquor License for Global Brew, Inc. for "Oktoberfest" to be held at City Park, 101 S. Buchanan Street, Edwardsville, IL 62025 on September 19, 2020.

Roll Call: Five Ayes, with Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer, Stack and Burns voting aye. Motion carried.

**Legal & Judicial**

None

**City Treasurer**

None

**City Clerk**

None

**Finance Committee**

Minutes of Finance Committee meeting held on July 14, 2020 were received for information and file.

Motion by Louer, seconded by Farrar, to approve Claims - \$703,410.52.

Roll Call: Five Ayes, with Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer, Stack and Burns voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Louer, seconded by Burns, to approve a Sole Source Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Collins & Herman Infrastructure Solutions for Perimeter Fencing at Plummer Family Park.

Roll Call: Four Ayes, with Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer and Burns voting aye. One Nay, with Alderwoman Stack voting nay. Motion failed.

Motion by Louer, seconded by Farrar, to approve a Resolution Determining the Intent of the City of Edwardsville, Illinois to Reimburse Itself for Certain Capital Expenditures.

Roll Call: Five Ayes, with Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer, Stack and Burns voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Louer, seconded by Stack, to approve a Resolution Authorizing a Single Source Purchase of Two (2) Lifepak 15 v4 Monitor / Defibrillators in the amount of \$52,095.34.

Roll Call: Five Ayes, with Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer, Stack and Burns voting aye. Motion carried.

Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. in City Hall and via virtual Zoom meeting.

**Public Safety Committee**

Minutes of Public Safety Committee meeting held on June 11, 2020 were received for information and file.

Public Safety Committee will meet on Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. in City Hall and via virtual Zoom meeting.

**Public Services Committee**

Minutes of Public Services Committee meeting held on July 14, 2020 were received for information and file.

Motion by Burns, seconded by Morrison, to Award the 2020 Pavement Marking to Control Line, Inc. in the amount of \$51,680.07.

Roll Call: Five Ayes, with Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer, Stack and Burns voting aye. Motion carried.

Change Order 1 and Final for the Rotary Park Storm Sewer Improvements in the amount of \$8,308.80 was received for information and file.

Public Services Committee will meet on Tuesday, August 11, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall and via virtual Zoom meeting.

**Administrative & Community Services Committee**

Minutes of Administrative & Community Services Committee meeting held on July 16, 2020 were received for information and file.

Motion by Morrison, seconded by Stack, to approve a Resolution Approving a Transitional Buffer Yard Variance Request for 1990 Troy Road.

Roll Call: Five Ayes, with Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer, Stack and Burns voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Morrison, seconded by Stack, to approve a Resolution Approving a Setback Variance for 1990 Troy Road.

Roll Call: Five Ayes, with Aldermen Morrison, Farrar, Louer, Stack and Burns voting aye. Motion carried.

An Ordinance Partially Vacating a Cross Access Easement for 6185 & 6189 Bennett Drive was filed for second reading.

Approval of a Jurisdictional Transfer Agreement and Ordinance accepting Goshen Road from Pin Oak Township was filed for second reading.

The following items were received for information and file:

- 1) Extension of Bring Your Own Bag (BYOB) Ordinance effective date to January 01, 2021.
- 2) Minutes of the Plan Commission meetings held on April 20, 2020 and May 18, 2020.
- 3) Minutes of the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting held on April 27, 2020.

Administrative & Community Services Committee will meet on Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall and via virtual Zoom meeting.

**Old Business**

None

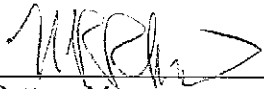
**New Business**

City Attorney Berkbigler brought forward a correction that needed to be made on Item d) on the Finance Committee agenda regarding a Sole Source Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Collins & Herman Infrastructure Solutions for Perimeter Fencing at Plummer Family Park. A Sole Source Resolution requires a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the aldermen holding office to pass. There are seven (7) aldermen in total, so the motion needed five (5) affirmative votes to pass. The motion only received four (4) affirmative votes out of the five (5) aldermen present at the meeting, so the motion did not pass. City Attorney Berkbigler stated that the item can be brought up for consideration again at another meeting. The minutes are correctly noted that the motion for this item failed.


**Closed Session**

At 7:55 p.m., motion by Stack, seconded by Burns, to enter into Closed Session to discuss a Real Estate item. Council reconvened into Open Session at 8:25 p.m.

There being no further action required, Council adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

  
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Hal Patton, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Emily E. Bates, City Clerk

**Bates, Emily**

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**From:** Carl Jason [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 28, 2020 9:24 PM  
**To:** publiccomment  
**Cc:** Carl Jason  
**Subject:** Public Comment

Dear Ms. Bates,

As per our conversation today, please consider my letter (dated July 25, 2020) to you as information that I would like read at the next Council meeting on August 4, 2020 during the citizen's Comment section.

Your cooperation is appreciated.  
Carl E. Jason, Sr., PhD

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This email was Virus checked by The City of Edwardsville. Please contact [Helpdesk@cityofedwardsville.com](mailto:Helpdesk@cityofedwardsville.com) with any questions.

[REDACTED]  
Edwardsville, IL 62025  
July 25, 2020

Ms. Emily Bates, City Clerk  
118 Hillsboro Ave.  
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

Dear Ms. Bates:

I would like to express my concerns on the views made by other citizens concerning the Ninian Edwards statue and the social unrest in Edwardsville as related to the article found in the Intelligencer dated July 19, 2020.

My name is Carl E. Jason, Sr. and I was born and reared in Edwardsville. I attended the Lincoln School and was one of the seven Black students to integrate the Edwardsville High School junior class in 1950 and graduated in 1952. I have since retired as a public-school administrator and continue to live in Edwardsville.

Attending school in Edwardsville and corresponding with many of the Edwardsville leaders over the years, gives me a perspective somewhat different from what I have noticed lately. I, too, was a social activist during the late 90's. At that time, we had respected Black officials in position of **governance** (on the city council) who could help guide the council in decisions that may be offensive to the minority population. Citizens like Mr. George Johnson, Mr. Arthur Grice, and Mr. Winston Brown. These gentlemen would have defined the objective, researched the history of Mr. Ninian Edwards, and would have helped to develop guidelines for erecting a permanent statue on public property. They would have suggested that there be dialogue with the minority community to explore sensitivity. The writer in the article suggested voting on the issue in November whether to remove the statue. In my opinion, since the Edwardsville minority population is 10.8 %, I don't think that would be fair and equitable. A better solution, I think, would be to have dialogue among decision makers with the hope of changing hearts and minds. This would also let them know how offensive the statue is to those who oppose it. The group who first decided on the statue probably believed it was a great idea and never thought about any repercussions. This is what happens when there is no representation in **governance** from minority groups. "Out of sight, out of mind" is an expression well known to Black people.

I agree with another writer who indicated that many of us do not know some of the history behind a lot of things, but when we learn, we do not have to publicly display the part of history that may be offensive to various groups. If it is significant history, preserve it in the archives, and cherish the memories. The Vivian Edwards information (not the statue) would be great to be placed in the new Madison County Historical Society building being constructed on North Main Street.

As a suggestion for the Mayor and City Council concerning outreach to our minorities, try increasing communication with various minority groups on a regular basis rather than hiring a Director of Diversity at this time as was implied in the Intelligencer dated July 25,2020. Enough talk about increasing the number of personnel in various positions in Edwardsville. We still have about the same number of minorities in various positions today as we had 30 years ago. As a suggestion, in lieu of or in addition to reactivating the Human Rights Committee, I would suggest that the Mayor select one representative from all of the minority churches to meet as a group with him (for a while) on a regular basis to discuss a set of criteria that the City Council deems appropriate as it relates to increasing the hiring/participation of minorities. For example, guidelines that the Council must follow on hiring practices, the type/kind of positions that might become available in the future, the type of training that would be necessary for various potential positions, a time line for reaching a desired personnel goal, etc. are topics that could be discussed. With some of the grant money that the City receives annually, perhaps the Mayor/Council could "grow its own personnel" by providing training in areas of personnel needs. After this group has been meeting for a while, then the need for a Diversity Officer could be considered. Involving and getting to know as many local minorities as possible will enhance positive communication and trust with the elected officials.

In closing, I would not want the city to misconstrue that because the "social activist/group dynamics" has died down since the group met with the city leadership and at least one historian, it may be that the group is waiting to see what progress has been made from their discussions. Whatever the reason, it has been documented that more progress needs to be made soon in minority personnel and human relation.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Carl E. Jason, SR., PhD.

Carl E. Jason, SR., PhD

Cc: Please share with the Mayor and City Council



**Bates, Emily**

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**From:** eryn coppersmith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 9:43 AM  
**To:** publiccomment  
**Subject:** City council comment

Council,

I do not want to reiterate the harmful actions made by Ninian Edwards, because I know you are aware of them-which is why your refusal to remove the statue and your reluctance to even discuss it are so disappointing. You know that he was a slaveholder in what was supposed to be a free territory, you know he was instrumental in establishing slavery in Illinois, and you know he stole lands from the Indigenous people of this country in addition to the role he played in their slaughter. By upholding the statue, you are effectively upholding the values he held-white supremacy, imperialism, and bigotry-to name a few. And while it is clear members of this community share those same values, these values have no business in our city government and they have no business being displayed and celebrated on public property.

Statues are symbolic-as are their removal. Keeping the statue speaks just as loudly as it's removal would. What message do you want to send to the residents of this town? One of hatred, white nationalism, and intolerance? Or, one of inclusion, sensitivity, and respect? It is up to you to decide.

Eryn Coppersmith

TO BE READ AT THE AUGUST 4 MEETING.

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