



COMMON COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEMS

Date: 04-07-2021

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: [City of Ithaca Public Meetings YouTube Channel](#)

Item	Voting Item	Presenter(s)	Time Allotted
Call to Order			
1.1 Additions to or Deletions from the Agenda	No	Mayor Svante L. Myrick	10 Mins
1.2 Proclamations/Awards			
1.3 Special Presentations Before Council			
1.4 Reports of Municipal Officials			
2.1 Petitions and Hearings of Persons before Council	No	*Note: See instructions on how to participate on page 2 of the agenda.	60 Mins
2.2 Privilege of the Floor – Mayor and Council	No		
Consent Agenda Items			
3.1 Amendment to Personnel Roster – DPW – Administrative Assistants	Yes	Common Council	5 Mins
3.2 Request to Amend Capital Project #864 – GIAC Gym Renovation			
3.3 Support for the Friends of Stewart Park’s Application to the Preserve New York Grant Program			
3.4 Approval of Outdoor Dining Alcohol Permits			
City Administration Committee Items			
4.1 Report of the City Controller	No	City Controller Thayer	10 Mins
Planning & Economic Development Committee Items			
5.1 CDBG-CV2: GIAC Youth Programming	Yes	CD Planner Mendizabal	5 Mins
5.2 CDBG-CV2: Community Outreach Worker	Yes		5 Mins
Reports from Council and Staff			
6.1 Reports of Special Committees	No	Common Council	15 Mins
6.2 Reports of Common Council Liaisons			
6.3 Report of City Clerk		Staff	
6.4 Report of City Attorney			
Meeting Wrap-Up			
7.1 Approval of Minutes	No	Common Council	5 Mins
7.2 Adjournment	No		

How to Participate in Public Comment Virtually

You are welcome to participate in the public comment portion of the meeting in one of the following ways:

Email Common Council Through the Agenda Link

Written comments can be submitted to Common Council using this form: [Common Council Public Comment Form](#). Comments should be submitted no later than 5:00 pm on the day of the meeting. These comments will not be read into the record but will be included as an attachment to the meeting minutes. Any comments received after 5:00 pm will be saved for the next meeting.

Register to Speak at a Meeting Via Zoom

At 9:00 am on the day of the Common Council meeting, a link will be opened on the [Common Council webpage](#) to register for speaking at the beginning of the Zoom meeting. Up to 40 people can register to speak and the first hour of the meeting will be dedicated to public speaking. Registration will close at 3:00 pm in order to allow time to calculate how long each person will be allowed to speak. If you register, you will be emailed the Zoom link later that day. Use that link to sign in and enter the Zoom meeting. You will be selected to speak in the order that you were registered. You must be present in the meeting when it is your turn to speak or you will forfeit your time. You can use video or telephone to participate.

Get Creative: Send us a Social Media Link

Send us a social media video with your thoughts and ideas. You can send it in using the public comment link found on each agenda and then the URL to your video will also be included in the public record.

Questions about the meeting protocol can be forwarded to City Clerk Julie Conley Holcomb at (607) 274-6570 or jholcomb@cityofithaca.org in advance of the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

CITY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE:

3.1 Amendment to Personnel Roster – DPW – Administrative Assistants

WHEREAS, budget reductions in the Department of Public Works due to the COVID-19 pandemic have resulted in the reduction of financial and administrative staff, specifically the Executive Assistant and Manager of Fiscal Operations positions; and

WHEREAS, due to staff reductions, the Financial Management Assistants located at Streets & Facilities, Water & Sewer, and City Hall have assumed additional financial and administrative responsibilities which are more similar to the duties required of an Administrative Assistant; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the personnel roster of the Department of Public Works be amended as follows:

- Add: Three (3) Administrative Assistants – 40 hours/week (Grade 8)
- Defund: Three (3) Financial Management Assistants – 40 hours/week (Grade 6)
- Delete: One (1) Financial Management Assistant – 20 hours/week (Grade 6)

and be it further

RESOLVED, That the three full-time Financial Management Assistant positions shall remain on the DPW personnel roster in an unfunded capacity until such time as the employees successfully complete the civil service examination process for Administrative Assistant, at which time the positions shall be abolished; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the above changes shall be funded from the same accounts which the Financial Management Assistants are currently budgeted, and the differential in pay shall be funded from the vacant part-time Financial Management Assistant position that is being deleted.

3.2 Request to Amend Capital Project #864 – GIAC Gym Renovation

WHEREAS, a capital project in the amount of \$290,000 was established in 2019 to purchase and renovate the former Immaculate Conception School gymnasium for use by the Greater Ithaca Activities Center for city youth recreation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ithaca, in collaboration with the Greater Ithaca Activities Center Board of Directors (GIAC, Inc.), purchased the gym from Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Services and now hold the deed to the facility; and

WHEREAS, GIAC received formal schematic designs with alternates, and related estimates for the renovation portion of the project totaling \$3.5 million; and

WHEREAS, this past year the difficulties brought on by the Coronavirus, especially around distancing and having space for program participants, highlighted the importance of having this facility available for programming; and

WHEREAS, GIAC has been fundraising and is ready to move this renovation project forward; and

WHEREAS, Common Council is desirous of progressing this reimbursement project; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Common Council hereby amends Capital Project # 864, GIAC Gym Renovation in an amount not to exceed \$3,500,000, for a total project authorization of \$3,790,000, for the purposes of designing and constructing such improvements, and be it further

RESOLVED, That funding for said Capital Project shall be derived from the issuance of Serial Bonds with the understanding that eligible expenses will be reimbursed by GIAC, Inc., based on private donations and grants.

3.3 Support for the Friends of Stewart Park's Application to the Preserve New York Grant Program

WHEREAS, Stewart Park is a regional waterfront destination within the City of Ithaca that offers a wide variety of recreational opportunities to residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the park's dynamic history is represented in its existing buildings, structures, monuments, and landscape features; and

WHEREAS, the Friends of Stewart Park (FSP) is a non-profit organization working in partnership with the City of Ithaca to revitalize the municipally-owned Stewart Park; and

WHEREAS, as part of their revitalization efforts, the FSP promotes the park's significant community history through programming, events, and other projects and activities that engage the public; and

WHEREAS, the FSP wishes to nominate the park for listing on the State and National Registers of Historic Places to further promote its historic value locally, regionally, and nationally; and

WHEREAS, the Preservation League of New York State and New York State Council on the Arts have announced the availability of funds through the 2021 Preserve New York Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the FSP is interested in applying to the Preserve New York Grant Program to engage a consultant to draft a National Register Nomination for Stewart Park; and

WHEREAS, the FSP will serve as the recipient and administrator of any grant award; and

WHEREAS, the FSP will provide the funding match as required by the grant program; and

RESOLVED, That City of Ithaca Common Council hereby offers its support and endorsement for the Friends of Stewart Park's application to the 2021 Preserve New York Grant Program for the completion of a National Register Nomination for Stewart Park.

Department of Public Information & Technology:
3.4 Approval of Outdoor Dining Alcohol Permits

WHEREAS, several downtown restaurants have requested permission to utilize certain areas along the Primary and Secondary Commons and sidewalks in the downtown core for outdoor dining, and

WHEREAS, the Downtown Ithaca Alliance has requested permission for wine, beer, and hard cider tasting and sales as part of their special events for 2021, and

WHEREAS, it is Common Council's responsibility to determine whether or not to allow the serving and consumption of alcohol on City property, and

WHEREAS, Common Council has determined that the use of public property for outdoor dining and special events including the responsible sale and consumption of alcohol, plays an important role in the vibrancy of the downtown business district, and

WHEREAS, Common Council has determined that any use of this or similar public property involving the sale and consumption of alcohol should be covered by a minimum of \$1,000,000 insurance under the Dram Shop Act; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, For the year 2021, Common Council hereby approves the following revocable alcoholic beverage permits for the outdoor sale and consumption of alcohol in accord with the terms and conditions set forth in their applications, including minimum Dram Shop coverage in the amount of \$1,000,000 and the approval of an outdoor dining permit:

Bickering Twins Restaurant
Red's Place
Hilton Garden Inn
Mahogany Grill
Luna Inspired Street Food
Viva Taqueria

Simeon's American Bistro
Kilpatrick's Publick House
Ithaca Ale House
Café Cent Dix
Mia Tapas Bar and Restaurant
Mercato Bar & Kitchen

and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Downtown Ithaca Alliance be authorized to arrange for wine, beer, and hard cider tasting and sale of bottled wine, beer, and hard cider at booths during their special events between the dates of January 1 to December 31, 2021 and shall comply with all applicable state and local laws, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Downtown Ithaca Alliance or the participating winery or cider company shall agree to maintain liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 and Dram Shop Act coverage in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000.00 naming the City of Ithaca as an additional insured and shall provide evidence of such insurance to the City Clerk prior to the event.

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ITEMS:

5.1 CDBG-CV2: GIAC Youth Programming

WHEREAS, the City of Ithaca (City) has received two tranches of supplemental funding allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from *The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, & Economic Security* (CARES Act), which funding is hereafter referred to as CDBG-CV, and

WHEREAS, HUD is providing administrative flexibility and waivers to speed approval and delivery of funds for activities responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and

WHEREAS, the 15% cap on public service activities is waived for CDBG-CV funds, and

WHEREAS, the initial CDBG-CV allocation to the City provided \$321,299 to invest in CDBG-eligible activities of which \$8,820 remains unobligated to address emerging needs, and

WHEREAS, the second CDBG-CV allocation (“third tranche”) to the City provided an additional \$294,269 to invest in CDBG-eligible activities, and

WHEREAS, the City has contracted with the Ithaca Urban Renewal Agency (IURA) to administer, implement and monitor the City’s HUD Entitlement program in compliance with all applicable regulations, and

WHEREAS, in order to expedite delivery of funding to the community, IURA has gathered information from stakeholders and solicited proposals for disaster response/recovery/prevention projects, and

WHEREAS, the Greater Ithaca Activities Center (GIAC) provides programs, services, and classes to children aged preschool through teen and adults including seniors, and

WHEREAS, at least 51% of those GIAC served are Ithaca residents of low-to-moderate income, and

WHEREAS, interruptions in schooling due to the coronavirus pandemic is causing educational losses and disruptions which, according to research by such institutions as Brown and Harvard Universities are likely to have disproportionate impact on African-American and Latinx students, and

WHEREAS, GIAC’s afterschool, teen, camp, and other youth programs have a plan to safely provide educational support, guidance, and necessary social interaction to children of families most affected by the pandemic, and

WHEREAS, the services described above mitigate the impacts of the coronavirus as well as prepare for, prevent, and respond to the spread of the coronavirus by providing timely information to participants and connecting them to health resources, and

WHEREAS, the City can take final action to approve use of CDBG-CV funds following a Public Hearing and a 5-day Public Comment period; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Common Council for the City of Ithaca hereby authorizes an allocation of up to \$175,000 from the CDBG-CV funding source to fund Greater Ithaca Activities Center youth programming that meets a HUD National Objective and helps prepare for, prevent, or respond to the spread of coronavirus, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the 2019 HUD Entitlement Action Plan shall be amended to include this activity that responds to and promotes prevention of COVID-19.

5.2 CDBG-CV2: Community Outreach Worker

WHEREAS, the City of Ithaca (City) has received two tranches of supplemental funding allocation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from *The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, & Economic Security* (CARES Act), which funding is hereafter referred to as CDBG-CV, and

WHEREAS, HUD is providing administrative flexibility and waivers to speed approval and delivery of funds for activities responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and

WHEREAS, the 15% cap on public service activities is waived for CDBG-CV funds, and

WHEREAS, the initial CDBG-CV allocation to the City provided \$321,299 to invest in CDBG-eligible activities of which \$8,820 remains unobligated to address emerging needs, and

WHEREAS, the second CDBG-CV allocation (“third tranche”) to the City provided an additional \$294,269 to invest in CDBG-eligible activities, and

WHEREAS, the City has contracted with the Ithaca Urban Renewal Agency (IURA) to administer, implement and monitor the City’s HUD Entitlement program in compliance with all applicable regulations, and

WHEREAS, in order to expedite delivery of funding to the community, IURA has gathered information from stakeholders and solicited proposals for disaster response/recovery/prevention projects, and

WHEREAS, the position of Community Outreach Worker provides a critical point of contact for homeless residents to receive information, referral, and navigation through needed services, and

WHEREAS, the Community Outreach Worker meets and coordinates regularly with other service providers focused on the assisting residents experiencing homelessness to communicate about observed needs and coordinate service provision, and

WHEREAS, the role, responsibilities, and relationships maintained by the Community Outreach Worker are critical to the response, preparation, and prevention of the spread of the coronavirus among residents of Ithaca who are experiencing homelessness, and

WHEREAS, the Community Outreach Worker works with at least one (homeless persons) and probably more than one HUD-presumed low- and moderate-income clientele populations (persons living with AIDS, battered spouses, and more), thereby meeting a CDBG national objective, and

WHEREAS, the City can take final action to approve use of CDBG-CV funds following a Public Hearing and a 5-day Public Comment period; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Common Council for the City of Ithaca hereby authorizes an allocation of up to \$65,000 from the CDBG-CV funding source to fund to the Community Outreach Worker position to be implemented by Family and Children's Service of Ithaca, which meets a HUD National Objective and helps prepare for, prevent, or respond to the spread of coronavirus, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the 2019 HUD Entitlement Action Plan shall be amended to include this activity that responds to and promotes prevention of COVID-19.



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Tel: (607) 274-6565

Memorandum

To: Common Council
Date: March 12, 2021
From: Anisa Mendizabal, IURA Community Development Planner
Subject: **Proposed Allocation of CDBG-CV2 funding**

The CARES Act included special Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funding awarded to the City in two tranches to address COVID-19 issues.

The first tranche was allocated to fund emergency rental housing assistance, the Downtown Ithaca Daycare Center and six other projects selected through an open competitive selection process.

In September, the City was awarded its second round of CDBG-CV funding. \$294,270 of CDBG-CV2 funds are available to fund local projects that prevent, prepare for, or respond to the coronavirus pandemic. The IURA recommended these funds be considered within the 2021 City budget process for programs that serve low-to moderate-income people, address the impacts of COVID-19, and would otherwise be endangered or not be able to operate due to the financial crises resulting from the pandemic. Remaining funds were recommended to be allocated for projects selected through the annual HUD Entitlement call for funding proposals process.

The 2021 city budget projected non-local revenues of \$240,000 to support youth programming at GIAC (\$175,000) and the Community Outreach Worker (\$65,000). The two resolutions implement the IURA-recommendation to authorize allocation of CDBG-CV2 funds for these City-sponsored programs.