

**CITY OF CHILLICOTHE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
June 22, 2020**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Chillicothe, Peoria County, Illinois, met in Regular Session via conference call June 22, 2020 at 7:00 P.M with Mayor Donald Z White presiding and with proper notice having been posted.

**Electronic Attendance:**

In accordance to Governor JB Pritzker's Executive Order members of the Council were allowed to attend by teleconference. Those members attending the meeting via phone shall be declared present.

To comply with these recommendations and requirements, the City is complying with the spirit of the Open Meetings Act by permitting this meeting open to the public by teleconference using Zoom Meeting to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to comply with the recommendations and requirements of Executive Order.

Mayor Donald Z. White called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance, to the Flag of the United States of America, was recited.

Chairman White directed Clerk Hurd to take roll.

**Physically Present:**

**Mayor Donald Z. White  
City Clerk Margaret Hurd  
Alderman Braun, Alderman Barry Bredeman,  
Alderman Danny Colwell, Alderman Dennis Gould,  
Alderman Jeff Jenkins, Alderman Gary Sharp**

**Attending by Phone:**

**Alderman Patricia Connor, Alderman Michael Hughes  
City Engineer Ken Coulter  
Superintendent of Public Works, Shawn Sutherland**

**Also, Physically Present:**

**City Attorney Seghetti, Office Manager Passage  
Police Chief Scott Mettille**

**Absent:**

**City Treasurer, Bredeman  
Economic Development Director Amanda Beadles**

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Chairman White declared a Quorum present.

The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on June 8, 2020 were presented. Motion Alderman Colwell, second Alderman Sharp that the Council dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the June 8, 2020 Regular Council Meeting and approve the Minutes as presented.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** **Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp**

**Nays: None**

Chairman declared motioned carried

Clerk Hurd expressed her thanks to the Council and employees of the City for the thoughtful expressions of sympathy and flowers that were sent to her father's funeral service.

Clerk Hurd presented the following Committee Minutes:

Finance/EDC:	June 17, 2020
Human Resource:	June 15, 2020
Cemetery/Parks:	June 16, 2020
Public Works:	June 17, 2020

Clerk Hurd read a letter of resignation from employee Jake Calvin.

Clerk Hurd read the following email from Chad Allison, Superintendent of IVC School District #321:

*Mayor White and Chillicothe City Council,*

*First, on behalf of the students and staff of the IVC School District, I would like to thank you for hiring one of the two officers needed to return the Chillicothe Police Department to full force. Unfortunately, your work is not done. We certainly appreciate the difficult decisions that our public bodies are facing, but is the perceived financial savings of not having the Chillicothe Police Department at full force the area that you are willing to save a few bucks?*

*As a school district and community, our first priority MUST be the safety of our students and our residents. The IVC School Board is so committed to this responsibility, that they have*

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*committed to hiring two school resource officers to serve our students. This program continues to have significant value to our students and staff of the district. We are very proud of our Chillicothe Police Department and the commitment they continue to display to our community. We need the Police Department to be at full force to perform at the level we have come to expect and deserve.*

*What is the real cost of this officer to the City? Better yet, what is the cost to each of us as taxpayers? I am sure those numbers are very, very minimal in the scope of the City's budget and the total tax bill of a resident. I appreciate the financial challenges before you, but I urge you to look at the real cost of this position. Is saving some money on the pension of a new officer really a savings if our current officers will be required to work overtime to fill the hole of an understaffed department?*

*Does the cost of overworking our current officers truly justify the savings? I urge you to really look at this decision you are making. Is public safety the area you want to cut some corners? At what cost? The recent incident involving the harassment of one of IVC High School students is just another shining example of the professionalism and efficiency that is inherent in the Chillicothe Police Department. They care about our kids and community!*

*Please show them the respect they deserve and hire a second officer to return the Chillicothe Police Department to full force.*

*Sincerely,  
Dr. Chad Allison*

*Chad D. Allison, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
Illinois Valley Central School District No. 321  
1300 W. Sycamore St.  
Chillicothe, IL 61523*

Clerk Hurd read email communications from the following citizens and business owners in support of hiring a police officer.

Brent Cranford, Deputy US Marshal, Ty Fennell, Beau Ledbetter, Rich Underwood, Darlene Kumpf, Pat Auge, Dennis Luckett, Mel Underwood, Bill Dwyer, Rich Lucas, Troy Ginger, Maggie Butterfield (Pearce Community Center), Kevin Peterson (CCFPD), Rick Lingenfelter, Robb Hulsizer, Emory

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Morris, Bob Hentrich, Danielle Grochowsky, Clyde Campbell, Sarah Sights, Greg Owens and Cami Burnett.

*Emails are attached to minutes.*

Clerk Hurd read communications from Andrea Mercier as follows:

*Dear City Council,*

*My name is Andrea Mercier. My husband, son, and myself have lived in Chillicothe for almost 3 years and we have been so blessed by the people of this town. I currently work as the Family Ministry Director at Chillicothe Christian Church and my husband, Michael, at Peoria Christian Middle School and with the US Army Reserves.*

*As members of this community we offer our support and encouragement to pass the George Floyd Resolution Mayor White is presenting tonight. We believe this is one step in the right direction towards reconciliation and healing.*

*Thank you.*

*Grace and Peace,*

*Andrea Mercier  
Family Ministry Director  
Chillicothe Christian Church  
223 N. 4th St.  
Chillicothe IL 61523  
(309)274-4419*

Motion Alderman Braun, second Alderman Colwell to approve the communications as presented by Clerk Hurd be accepted and placed on file.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** **Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp**

**Nays:** **None**

**Chairman declared motioned carried**

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Alderman Sharp read correspondence from Kevin Peterson, President of the Chillicothe Community Fire Protection District in support of hiring a police officer.

Mayor White informed the Council that he was notified by State Representative Ryan Spain that the city will receive grant money for the purpose of sewer infrastructure and encourages the city to start their initial planning.

Mayor White reported that the settlement check had been received from Western Barge for the boat dock incident.

Alderman Hughes informed the Council that he was approached by someone that lives on Stillwater requesting a No Outlet sign be placed on Stillwater Street. Mayor White referred it to public works

Motion Alderman Colwell, second Alderman Sharp to approve the communications as presented by the Mayor and Aldermen be accepted and placed on file.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** **Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp**

**Nays:** **None**

**Chairman declared motioned carried**

Emily Richards appeared before the Council via ZOOM. She read the following statement:

*Good evening. My name is Emily Richards.*

*I want to thank the Mayor for taking the time and effort to write the resolution condemning the actions that led to the death of George Floyd and urge the council to pass the resolution.*

*Passing the resolution will demonstrate that the city is taking a proactive stance against racism by acknowledging wrongs done and committing to serving and protecting everyone without discrimination. By acknowledging that the city and that all of us can do more and do better, through our words and actions, I am hopeful about the future of our community.*

*A vision of Chillicothe working to eradicate discrimination and racism gets easier to imagine as we not just say we can do more, but we take real, transparent, and thoughtful steps to be able to say we are doing better, and we will continue to do so.*

*While passing this resolution would be a momentous step, let us not become complacent or*

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*simply see this as a checkmark, but let it be the first page in a new chapter of our community's history.*

*As I mentioned at the last council meeting, after passing the resolution condemning police brutality and racism, I urge the council to discuss how to form a taskforce or advisory group made up of a diverse cross-section of the community in order to assist and support city employees as they take steps to address and combat prejudice, intolerance, and discrimination, including racism.*

*While speaking with Mayor White and Chief Metille the other week, I learned about efforts Chief Metille is taking to review and update police policies. We are fortunate to have this leadership, and I believe a taskforce would solidify the intended collaboration and accountability.*

*Additionally, if creating a taskforce is beyond the capacity of the council, I can offer my assistance in convening such a group. I'd like to reiterate that Chillicothe is full of compassionate, skillful, and committed citizens who would be eager to work together to make Chillicothe the best it can be for everyone who lives, works, and visits our community. Thank you for your time and consideration.*

Motion Alderman Colwell, second Alderman Gould that the bills as presented be paid and the payrolls and transfers be approved.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp

**Nays:** None

**Chairman declared motioned carried.**

Motion Alderman Bredeman, second Alderman Colwell that the Council approve **Resolution No. 20-06-06**, a resolution condemning the actions that resulted in George Floyd's death.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Jenkins, Sharp

**Nays:** Hughes

**Chairman declared Resolution No. 20-06-06 passed and signed the same.**

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Motion Alderman Colwell, second Alderman Gould that the Council concur with the Mayoral appointment of Gita Talati to the Marketing and Tourism Commission with a term of 2023.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp

**Nays:** None

**Chairman declared motion carried.**

Motion Alderman Jenkins, second Alderman Gould that the Council concur with the Mayoral appointment of Michael Crabtree to the Zoning Board of Appeals Committee to fill the unexpired term of Rich Gillespie with a term of 2022.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp

**Nays:** None

**Chairman declared motion carried.**

Motion Alderman Sharp, second Alderman Braun that the Council authorize Police Chief Mettille to begin the process with the Police & Fire Commission to hire a police officer.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Jenkins, Sharp

**Nays:** Gould, Hughes

**Chairman declared motioned carried.**

Motion Alderman Gould, second Alderman Sharp the Council accept the resignation of Jake Calvin, Public Works Employee, effective July 1, 2020, and thank him for his service.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp

**Nays:** None

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**Chairman declared motioned carried.**

Alderman Gould, second Alderman Colwell that the Council hire Brandon Berchtold, as a part time public works employee, at an hourly wage of \$18.05, subject to pre-employment testing.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:**                               **Braun, Bredeman Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp**

**Nays:**                               **None**

**Chairman declared motioned carried.**

Motion Alderman Gould, second Alderman Sharp that the Council hire Sean Breese, as a part time public works employee, at an hourly wage of \$18.05, subject to pre-employment testing.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:**                               **Braun, Bredeman Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp**

**Nays:**                               **None**

**Chairman declared motioned carried.**

Motion Alderman Jenkins, second Alderman Colwell that the TIF Business Priority One Project Eagle Landing Platform in the amount of \$90,000.00 be approved and brought forward as a project.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:**                               **Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp**

**Nays:**                               **None**

**Chairman declared motioned carried.**

Motion Alderman Gould, second Alderman Braun move that the Council approve the following application for the Sidewalk Program:

Tim Greene           1127 Walnut                               \$1,000.00

Payable from the Road & Bridge Fund.

Alderman Gould reported the remaining balance in the program will be \$ 9,000.00

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:**                               **Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor**



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**Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp**

**Nays: None**

**Chairman declared motioned carried.**

Motion Alderman Gould, second Alderman Sharp that the Council approve an expenditure of \$3,295.00, payable to Coe Equipment, for the purchase of a tank for the public works vector truck. Payable from the Water/Sewer Fund.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes: Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp**

**Nays: None**

**Chairman declared motion carried.**

Motion Alderman Gould, second Alderman Colwell that the Council approve an expenditure of \$824.00, payable to Beau Tire, for the purchase of four tires for Truck 22 in the Public Works Department. Payable from the Water/Sewer Fund.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes: Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp**

**Nays: None**

**Chairman declared motioned carried.**

Motion Alderman Jenkins, second Alderman Gould that the Council hire Jacob Frame for a part time position in the Cemetery & Park, at hourly wage of \$10.00, subject to pre-employment testing.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes: Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp**

**Nays: None**

**Chairman declared motioned carried.**

Motion Alderman Braun, second Alderman Gould that the Council approve **Ordinance No. 20-06-15**, an Ordinance amending Chapter 22 (Businesses) of the city code by the addition of Article IX prohibiting Cannabis Business Establishments until October 1, 2020. Alderman Braun explained that this is an

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extension of the cannabis establishments other than dispensaries as it expired June 2, 2020 and due to COVID the process was not completed.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp

**Nays:** None

**Chairman declared Ordinance No. 20-06-15 passed and signed the same.**

Motion Alderman Braun, second Alderman Colwell that the Council approve **Ordinance No. 20-06-16**, an Ordinance amending section 6-1 (Definitions) and section 6-55 (Liquor License Classifications) of the city code.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp

**Nays:** None

**Chairman declared Ordinance No. 20-06-16 passed and signed the same.**

Motion Alderman Colwell second Alderman Braun that the Council **Ordinance No. 20-06-17**, an Appropriation Ordinance for the City of Chillicothe commencing May 1, 2020 and ending April 30, 2021.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp

**Nays:** None

**Chairman declared Ordinance No. 20-06-17 passed and signed the same.**

Motion Alderman Colwell, second Alderman Gould that the Council approve pro-rating the following license fees, for fiscal year 2020-2021, decreasing the fee by 2 ½ months:  
Liquor License for Class A, C, D, H and All Second Hand Dealers License

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp

**Nays:** None

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**Chairman declared motion carried.**

Motion Alderman Colwell, second Alderman Braun I move that the Council approve **Resolution No. 20-06-07**, a Resolution designating debt obligations and redevelopment project costs to be paid. (Plaza Park Redevelopment Project Area)

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** **Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Jenkins, Sharp**

**Nays:** **None**

**Chairman declared Resolution No. 20-06-07 passed and signed the same.**

Motion Alderman Colwell, second Alderman Sharp that the Council approve bringing forward the \$6,000.00, TIF Business Priority one project –Street Lighting as a project and approve an expenditure of \$5,725.00, payable to Cresnet Electric, for 20 LED light fixtures with bulbs. Payable from the TIF Business Account. Alderman Jenkins questioned who would be doing the work on the light fixtures. He was informed that city employee, Jerry Myers will do the work.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

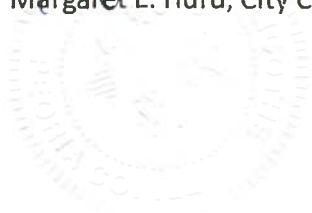
**Ayes:** **Braun, Bredeman, Colwell, Connor  
Gould, Hughes, Sharp**

**Nays:** **Jenkins**

**Chairman declared motion carried.**

Council adjourned at 8:15p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret E. Hurd, City Clerk



cityclerk@mediacombb.net

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**From:** Andrea Mercier <a.mercier@chillicothechristian.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 10:43 AM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting - George Floyd Resolution

I would appreciate if this could be shared at tonight's meeting.

Dear City Council,

My name is Andrea Mercier. My husband, son, and myself have lived in Chillicothe for almost 3 years and we have been so blessed by the people of this town. I currently work as the Family Ministry Director at Chillicothe Christian Church and my husband, Michael, at Peoria Christian Middle School and with the US Army Reserves.

As members of this community we offer our support and encouragement to pass the George Floyd Resolution Mayor White is presenting tonight. We believe this is one step in the right direction towards reconciliation and healing.

Thank you.

--  
Grace and Peace,

Andrea Mercier

Family Ministry Director  
Chillicothe Christian Church  
223 N. 4th St.  
Chillicothe IL 61523  
(309)274-4419  
<http://chillicothechristian.net>  
[a.mercier@chillicothechristian.net](mailto:a.mercier@chillicothechristian.net)

"This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins." 1 John 4:10



cityclerk@mediacombb.net

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**From:** Danielle Grochowsky <Danielle.Grochowsky@stjude.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 18, 2020 4:03 PM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Thank you!

City Clerk,

My name is Danielle Grochowsky and as a resident of Chillicothe first of all I wanted to say thank you to the city leadership for approving the hire of Officer Murphy's replacement last month.

Secondly, the world and times we live in are changing and for the first time in my life I was scared to live in a small town a few weeks ago. Hearing that rioters could be "coming" into small towns was terrifying to hear. The thing that helped me sleep at night was the fact that I knew our police department would do everything they could to keep the residents and businesses of Chillicothe safe from harm. I encourage you to vote to hire another officer so the department can be at full strength again as the current officers are working a lot of overtime due to a staff shortage. This is unacceptable as this can lead to mistakes, exhaustion, health issues and burnout.

Finally, it is nice to hear positive things about police in the news. I applaud the Chillicothe Police Department for their quick action in the matter of the bullying situation that took place last week that has now gained national media attention.

Sincerely,

Danielle Grochowsky

**Danielle Grochowsky**

Office Administrator  
ALSAC – The fundraising and awareness organization for  
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital®  
4722 N. Sheridan Rd. Peoria, IL 61614

[danielle.grochowsky@stjude.org](mailto:danielle.grochowsky@stjude.org)

Office: 309-566-3500  
Direct: 309-566-3503  
Fax: 309-566-3548

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**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** DC Campbell <bigcam\_us@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 19, 2020 10:50 AM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Chilli PD staffing

Our police department is one of the best. However the department is still two people short. This is resulting a lot of over time. As a cost savings to the city and morale insensitive, I strongly recommend filling one vacancy immediately. Thank you for all you do.

Clyde Campbell

Sent from my iPhone

**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** Sarah Sights <ssights@odgltd.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 2:35 PM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Police Department

I, Sarah Sights, work at Owens Design Group in Chillicothe and am the Chamber of Commerce President. I fully support the Chillicothe Police Department having a full staff and the filling the vacant position. The Chillicothe Police Department plays a critical role in bringing in new businesses to the area—they are a selling point for the city and being fully staffed is key for us as a Chamber to promote continued safety. The safety checks the department routinely completes allow business owners to feel more comfortable that the police keep a watchful eye on our businesses when they are not working, thus promoting business owners that live in other communities to open their business in Chillicothe. Other communities cannot offer this same reassurance. When the Chamber and City host events, the police department is in attendance, and we regularly hear that what sets them apart from other cities, is the police department's active engagement with the public. I ask that you fill the position so that they can continue the processes they already have in place and further implement new processes to promote the safety and security within our community.

## **SARAH R. SIGHTS**

**921 N. SECOND STREET  
CHILLICOTHE, IL 61523  
W. 309.274.5800  
C. 815.876.7108**



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cityclerk@mediacombb.net

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**From:** Greg Owens <gowens@owensdesignltd.onmicrosoft.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 2:50 PM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** June 22nd City Council meeting

*City Clerk – Margaret Hurd:*

*Once again, I find it necessary to make certain our police department is fully staffed in order to run efficiently and effectively. With stressful and trying times as they are, being properly staffed can assure the community and the business owners that they are properly protected. I fully support the hiring of a fulltime replacement for Officer Brown and ask that the city council vote as such at the June 22, 2020 meeting.*

*Best regards,*

*Greg Owens*

*Owens Design Group, Ltd.  
921 Second Street • Chillicothe, IL 61523  
O - 309.274.5800 • C - 309-264-0969*

*Residence – 909 Sixth Street*



**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** Cami Burnett <camisdancestudio@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 3:35 PM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Chillicothe Police Department

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Cami Burnett, resident and small business owner in Chillicothe. I fully support the Chillicothe Police Department with having a full staff to keep our community safe!

Thank you for your time,

Cami Burnett

**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** Chad Allison <callison@ivcschools.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 7:57 AM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Cc:** scottmettille@aol.com  
**Subject:** At What Cost?

Mayor White and Chillicothe City Council,

First, on behalf of the students and staff of the IVC School District, I would like to thank you for hiring one of the two officers needed to return the Chillicothe Police Department to full force. Unfortunately, your work is not done. We certainly appreciate the difficult decisions that our public bodies are facing, but is the perceived financial savings of not having the Chillicothe Police Department at full force the area that you are willing to save a few bucks?

As a school district and community, our first priority MUST be the safety of our students and our residents. The IVC School Board is so committed to this responsibility, that they have committed to hiring two school resource officers to serve our students. This program continues to have significant value to our students and staff of the district. We are very proud of our Chillicothe Police Department and the commitment they continue to display to our community. We need the Police Department to be at full force to perform at the level we have come to expect and deserve.

What is the real cost of this officer to the City? Better yet, what is the cost to each of us as taxpayers? I am sure those numbers are very, very minimal in the scope of the City's budget and the total tax bill of a resident. I appreciate the financial challenges before you, but I urge you to look at the real cost of this position. Is saving some money on the pension of a new officer really a savings if our current officers will be required to work overtime to fill the hole of an understaffed department?

Does the cost of overworking our current officers truly justify the savings? I urge you to really look at this decision you are making. Is public safety the area you want to cut some corners? At what cost? The recent incident involving the harassment of one of IVC High School students is just another shining example of the professionalism and efficiency that is inherent in the Chillicothe Police Department. They care about our kids and community!

Please show them the respect they deserve and hire a second officer to return the Chillicothe Police Department to full force.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Chad Allison

--  
Chad D. Allison, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
Illinois Valley Central School District No. 321  
1300 W. Sycamore St.  
Chillicothe, IL 61523



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
**United States Marshals Service**  
*Central District of Illinois*

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*Peoria, IL 61602*

June 22, 2020

Chillicothe City Council  
908 Second Street  
Chillicothe, IL 61523

Council members,

I would like to start off and applaud you, for your recent decision to hire a Police Officer for the City of Chillicothe. This was the right decision, and one you should not regret. I am again writing to you, to show my support and to advise you, the importance of maintaining a full staff for the Police Department.

As I have stated in my previous letters, I am in full support of the police department, and I would encourage that you approve another officer, to make the department compliant with full time staffing. This is not only for the officer's safety, but the citizens safety as well.

During my career with the Chillicothe Police Department, I can state to every council member that on many occasions, I was the only officer on the shift, and the only officer covering the city. This was due to the department not being fully staffed, and this was a major safety issue. Being the only officer on the shift, especially the night shift, I was unable to fully perform my duties, and was unable to give the citizens of Chillicothe my full attention. Although I gave my all and my best, I still felt the anxiety and stress of not having backup, and having to determine, which calls were more important.

In todays world and time, we should not have officers alone on the streets or on duty, and we should give them all necessary tools, to ensure they can do their job. This includes making sure the department is fully staffed, with trained police officers.

I will advocate that you consider the safety of the officers, the safety of the citizens, and realize that having a fully staffed police department, is the correct choice and the correct vote, that needs to be made. I ask that you think of the families of the officers, that worry every day and night, if their loved ones will come home, and give them the assurance that the city leaders take their officers safety serious, and will vote for a fully staffed police department.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Brent Cranford  
Deputy U.S. Marshal

**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** Adam Leiner <adamleiner10@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 19, 2020 3:25 PM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Police Position

> Good Afternoon,

> I live at 423 Prairie Springs Dr. I first want to say thank you for filling the vacant police position during your last meeting. As I stated in my last email, part of what makes Chillicothe such a great community is the amazing officers that keep us safe. Now I am asking you to please vote to replace Officer Brown with a full time police officer at the June 22, 2020 city council meeting. Thank you for your time and consideration.

>

> Adam Leiner

> 287-9245

>

> Sent from my iPhone

**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** Ty Fennell <tyfennell@jtfennell.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 19, 2020 3:27 PM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** 2nd Police Officer

Hi Maggie,

After seeing the overwhelming support for installing the first officer request, I would like to extend my support for the second officer, and making the Chillicothe police department fully staffed. My home address is 418 Prairie Springs Dr in Chillicothe and my business is located at 1104 N. Front St. in Chillicothe. I am asking that the city council vote to add another full time police officer at the June 22, 2020 city council meeting. Thanks for keeping Chillicothe safe.

Respectfully

Ty A. Fennell



*J.T. Fennell Co., Inc.*  
*1104 N. Front St.*  
*Chillicothe, IL 61523*  
*Ph: 309 274 2145*  
*Fx: 309 274 2147*  
<http://jtfennell.com/>

**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** Beau L <beauj57@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 19, 2020 10:21 PM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net

Good evening this is Beau Ledbetter. I would like to show my support for the Chillicothe police department and hire another officer to bring their force back to full staff. Thank you

cityclerk@mediacombb.net

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**From:** Rich Underwood <uwoodra@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 19, 2020 10:23 PM  
**To:** Margaret Hurd  
**Subject:** Hiring

Maggie,  
Let me reiterate my support for hiring to keep our Police Department at full staffing.  
Thanks  
Rich Underwood 1316 N. 4th St.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** Darlene Kumpf <dar\_kumpf@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:08 AM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Support of replacing second police officer that has left the department

Honorable Mayor and Aldermen,

As a concerned citizen and business leader in the community, **I am in support of replacing the second police officer** that has left the department to bring staffing to previous levels.

I know the decisions to be made are critical ones, and providing the "right" level of police staffing is probably the most difficult and important one a city can make but in my opinion, we need to replace the vacant position.

Ensuring the proper amount of police resources available is the goal of staffing a police department. It is necessary to provide protection for the community, efficiency in running the department and for the morale of the officers who continue to serve. With everything going on in this uncertain world, now is not the time to think budgets cuts to the department are the answer.

Thank you for allowing my input.

Darlene Kumpf,

Concerned Citizen, Community Leader and President of Chillicothe Police Pension Fund



**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** Pat Auge <theauges@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:35 AM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Chillicothe Police Department

*City Clerk:*

*My name is Pat Auge I live at 1401 W Sycamore St., Chillicothe . I am asking that the city council vote to replace Officer Brown with a full time police officer at the June 22, 2020 city council meeting.*

*Respectfully Yours,*

*Pat Auge*

cityclerk@mediacombb.net

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**From:** Dennis Luck <dluck1022@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:38 PM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Police officer Vacancy

Mayor White and Council members,

I would first like to thank everyone for filling one of the two vacancies on the police force! I see that there is an agenda item for the 22nd meeting for the other vacancy. I would again like to express my feelings about filling that position to bring our department back to full staff. I urge everyone to vote yes to fill this remaining position. I know that the city has been very fiscally responsible and even during these unprecedented times has positioned itself to come out successful. If cuts are needed I just feel that public safety is not the place to do it. Thanks for listening!!!

Thanks,  
Dennis Lockett

cityclerk@mediacombb.net

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**From:** Dennis Luck <dluck1022@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 20, 2020 10:38 PM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Police officer Vacancy

Mayor White and Council members,

I would first like to thank everyone for filling one of the two vacancies on the police force! I see that there is an agenda item for the 22nd meeting for the other vacancy. I would again like to express my feelings about filling that position to bring our department back to full staff. I urge everyone to vote yes to fill this remaining position. I know that the city has been very fiscally responsible and even during these unprecedented times has positioned itself to come out successful. If cuts are needed I just feel that public safety is not the place to do it. Thanks for listening!!!

Thanks,  
Dennis Luckett

**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** Melody Underwood <uwoodmm@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 21, 2020 11:30 AM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Hiring

Melody Underwood 1316 N 4th St. I'm in complete support of a fully staffed police department!  
Thanks, Mel Underwood

Sent from my iPhone

cityclerk@mediacombb.net

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**From:** Bill Dwyer <wjdwyer44@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 21, 2020 3:29 PM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** To the Chillicothe City Council:

I would like to see the Chillicothe Police Department fully staffed in the near future and remain that way. I feel that is the best way to protect the city and it's citizens.

Sincerely

Bill Dwyer  
1409 W. Harborway Dr.  
Chillicothe

cityclerk@mediacombb.net

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**From:** Rich Lucas <richl@galenaroadgravel.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 6:59 AM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Support

This email serves that Galena Road Gravel is in total support for the hiring of another full time police officer.

Rich Lucas  
Galena Road Gravel

**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** Ginger, Troy {FLNA} <Troy.Ginger@pepsico.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 9:42 AM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Cc:** jenkinsjc65@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Chillicothe Police Officer

City Clerk,

My name is Troy Ginger. I live at 237 White Clover Drive in Chillicothe. I am asking that the city council vote to replace Officer Brown with a full time police officer at the June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 city council meeting. There is one thing our town can't be short on and that is police officers to keep our community safe.

Troy Ginger

cityclerk@mediacombb.net

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**From:** Maggie Butterfield <mbutterfield@pearcecc.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 10:37 AM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Letter to the Council re: Officer Brown

Dear City Council,

Most of you know me as the Executive Director of Pearce Community Center however, what you may not know about me is that I am wife of a Peoria County Sheriff's Patrol Lieutenant and a mother of three children. Tonight, I urge you all to vote in favor of hiring an officer to replace Officer Brown.

I urge you to vote this way not only for the safety of the City of Chillicothe but for the safety of the Officers. Yes it is easy to look on paper and see financial gains from not hiring a replacement however, what you do not see is the physical and mental exhaustion that it takes on the Officers and their families to not operate at full capacity. What you do not see is the weariness in their eyes from pulling too many hours. What you do not see is the missed holidays and family gatherings because they are covering a shift.

Operating understaffed forces Officers to cover shifts working more hours leading to exhaustion. Exhaustion can lead to Officers making poor decisions because they cannot function to the best of their ability. One poor decision could cost them their life or the life of someone else. My question to those of you who are choosing to vote no on hiring a replacement is if something happened to one of our Officers would you regret your decision? Would you be okay with something happening to one of our Officers that is trying to better our community due to exhaustion?

Please remember when casting your vote tonight that this is more than numbers on paper. This is the lives of our Officers and their families.

Thank you,

Maggie Butterfield



**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** Kevin L. Peterson <kpeterson@chillifd.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 10:38 AM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Chillicothe Police Department

City council,

The Chillicothe Community Fire Protection District board of trustees would like you to know we support filling the 2 vacancies on the Chillicothe Police Department. We feel it is important to have a fully staffed department to ensure the safety of the citizens and our membership while they are responding to calls.

Regards,  
Kevin L. Peterson  
CCFPD - President  
[kpeterson@chillifd.com](mailto:kpeterson@chillifd.com)  
309-645-0194

**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** Rick Lingenfelter <rlingenf@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 12:05 PM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** City Council Meeting June 22nd

Hi Margaret,

Please pass this along to the council members.

Thank you all for your careful consideration at the last meeting and your eventual overwhelming support to fill the police position left open by the departure of Officer Murphy.

Tonight you have the opportunity to continue to show your support to our police department. This comes at a time in our country when officers are under the utmost pressure from all directions. Our Chillicothe PD was very grateful for your support two weeks ago. What a relief they felt knowing you have their backs and you lessened their load a little by allowing the police commission to hire Murphy's replacement. I ask that you all vote tonight to now replace Officer Brown. I ask this as a member of the police commission board and someone who lives and works in Chillicothe. We cannot go wrong by having a strong police force, skilled in community policing. A police force that is accustomed for being in the news for all of the good reasons. Just recently our officers dealt bullying a great blow. And a movement was started.

Thanks for your support.

Rick Lingenfelter  
104 S Hollybrook Dr  
Chillicothe IL

**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** chilliwreckerllc <chilliwreckerllc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 1:08 PM  
**To:** Cityclerk@mediacombb.net

Clerk

I would like to reiterate how important it is for Chillicothe Police Department be fully staffed. we had 2 wrecks back to back on Friday afternoon and one of them being a rollover in front of Becks on Rt. 29 which took a while to get everyone to safety and and traffic controlled without a hitch, however all it would have taken is another call of a domestic abuse, a break in, a Drug or Dul driver and it would have put all officers at risk and under more stress along with us tow drivers being left to load vehicles in uncontrolled traffic along with cleaning up the scene. Please keep this in mind and do the right thing and hire more officers. Thank you!

Robb Hulsizer  
Chilli Wrecker Service LLC  
chilliwreckerllc@gmail.com  
(309)274-4264

Sent from my U.S. Cellular® Smartphone

**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** Emory Morris <emorymorris007@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 18, 2020 3:37 PM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Please keep our police force full

*City Clerk:*

*My name is Emory Morris. I live at 1614 N Benedict St in Chillicothe. I am asking that the city council vote to replace Officer Murphy with a full time police officer at the June 8, 2020 city council meeting.*

*Respectfully Yours,*

Emory Morris

**cityclerk@mediacombb.net**

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**From:** Emory Morris <emorymorris007@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 18, 2020 3:24 PM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Police force capacity

To whom it may concern,

My name is Emory Morris I live at 1614 N Benedict St. I ask that you fill our police force to its capacity that it has been budgeted for...from what I understand there are 2 openings and a third temporary spot for maturity leave. This money has been allocated for our officers...in this time especially we as a community **DEPEND** on our police force to enforce the law.

Emory Morris

cityclerk@mediacombb.net

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**From:** Bob Hentrich <bobhentrich@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 18, 2020 3:24 PM  
**To:** cityclerk@mediacombb.net  
**Subject:** Please hire replacement officer

Margaret, I will keep this brief in case you get swamped again - I support the immediate replacement of Officer Brown with another officer.

Thank you,  
Bob Hentrich  
Pastor, Chillicothe Christian Church