

CITY OF BUFFALO URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY
Board Of Directors Meeting
Thursday, September 28, 2023
9:30 a.m., Room 901 City Hall

The Public May Attend By Joining: www.webex.com
<https://cityofbuffalourbanrenewalagency.my.webex.com/cityofbuffalourbanrenewalagency.my/j.php?MTID=m8586d461953385eba250bab34d169296>

Meeting Number

2550 832 4439

Password: amJ3Rj54rMM (26537554 from phones and video systems)

Join By Phone

+1-415-655-0001 US Toll

Access code: 255 083 24439

MEETING DATE: September 28, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Byron Brown, Chairman
Council President Pridgen
Brendan R. Mehaffy, BURA Vice Chairman
Commissioner Delano Dowell
Cavette Chambers, Corporation Counsel
Council Member Golombek
Council Member Nowakowski

MEMBERS EXCUSED: None

SECRETARY: Scott C. Billman

OTHERS PRESENT: Hope Young Watkins, BURA Senior Director, Yvonne McCray, BURA Director of Housing, Tracy Cooley, BURA Director of Finance, Savannah Figueroa, BURA Staff Attorney, Joanne Kearns, Pam Walker-Jarmon, Evelyn Rodriguez, Ronald Dixon, Jessica Starks, Michael Godfrey, Tashene Eubanks

2.0 Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Councilmember Nowakowski made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the July 11, 2023 meeting, seconded by Corporation Counsel Chambers and carried unanimously.

3.0 **NEW BUSINESS**

3.1 **APPROVAL OF HOME FISCAL MONITORING SERVICES BY CFOSOLUTIONSPLUS**

Agency Members approved a request to procure the outside accounting firm of cfoSOLUTIONSPlus to complete the HOME Fiscal Monitoring in order to ensure that BURA remains compliant with the fiscal monitoring of HOME projects as the agency continues to seek qualified accountants to join the BURA staff. BURA provides HOME funding for Affordable Housing Projects that requires annual fiscal monitoring of the project throughout the project's affordability period post project completion.
Motion made by Council Member Nowakowski to approve Item 3.1, seconded by Commissioner Dowell and carried unanimously.

3.2 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS INITIATIVE BUDGET MODIFICATION & TIME EXTENSION #2

Agency Members approved a request to enter into a Budget Modification & Time Extension contract between BURA and, Heart of City Neighborhoods, Inc., Polish Community Center (Lt. Col. Matt Urban Center), Old First Ward Community Association, Inc., and University District Community Development Association. The increase of CDBG funds will allow for the submission of an additional sixty-five (65) Emergency Program applications and four (4) loan applications. The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding amount, previously set at \$497,00, is amended to \$543,300 with the increase of funds in the amount of \$48,300.

Motion made by Council President Pridgen to approve Item 3.2, seconded by Council Member Nowakowski and carried unanimously.

3.3 BUDGET MODIFICATION FOR RIVERROCK CONNECTIONS PLAN

Agency Members approved a request to increase the funding allocation by \$29,418.39 due to cost increases for the planning study done by Fisher Associates for the River Rock Connections Plan.

Motion made by Council Member Golombek to approve Item 3.3, seconded by Mr. Mehaffy and carried unanimously.

3.4 3012 MAIN STREET ACQUISITION

Agency Members approved a request to purchase real property located at 3012 Main Street, Buffalo New York. The contract of sale for 3012 Main will be for a purchase price of \$1,600,000. The terms upon which the Agency will hold and dispose of the property will be memorialized in a memorandum of agreement between the City (Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning) and BURA.

Motion made by Council President Pridgen to approve Item 3.4, seconded by Council Member Nowakowski and carried unanimously.

3.5 REQUEST TO AMEND CDBG-CV EVICTION PREVENTION PROGRAM CONTRACT WITH VIA 211

Agency Members approved a request to amend the current Stand-Up Buffalo Eviction Prevention program contract with VIA 2-1-1. In April 2021, the Stand-Up Buffalo contract was initially executed for \$142,700. In order to pay the outstanding invoices owed to VIA 211 from the CDBG CV portion of the contract, a budget modification is needed adding \$76,258.28 to the contract.

Motion made by Council Member Nowakowski to approve Item 3.5, seconded by Corporation Counsel Chambers and carried unanimously.

4.0 REPORTS (Informational)

4.1 667 MAIN STREET and 664 WASHINGTON

Brandon Baxter, BURA Special Projects Manager provided an update to the Board.

4.2 REAL PROPERTY HOLDING STATUS

Brandon Baxter, BURA Special Projects Manager provided an update to the Board.

5.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

N/A

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Council President Pridgen made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Golombek and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am.

Scott C. Billman

Scott C. Billman, BURA Secretary

Reported by Risë Geller