

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS COMMITTEE AGENDA

PUBLIC AID APPEALS COMMITTEE

Brookens Administrative Center Jennifer Putman Meeting Room 1776 E. Washington St., Urbana, Illinois Tuesday, February 6, 2024 – 1:00 p.m.

CHAIR: Steve Summers

MEMBERS: Danielle Chynoweth, Norman Davis, Andy Graham

Agenda Items

- I. <u>Call to Order</u>
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda/Addendum
- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - A. December 12, 2023
- V. Public Participation
- VI. Public Aid Appeal from City of Champaign Township Regarding Appellant #01.12
 - A. Oath, Testimony, & Receipt of Evidence from Appellant
 - B. Oath, Testimony, & Receipt of Evidence from Township
 - C. Closed Session Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4) to Consider Evidence or Testimony Presented in Open Hearing to This Quasi Adjudicative Body
 - D. Announcement of Decision

VII. Other Business

- A. Approval of Closed Session Minutes
 - 1. December 12, 2023
- VIII. Adjournment

(Oath Script: Please raise your right hand. Do you solemnly swear and affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth to the best of your ability?)

Please note that parties to a case heard by the Public Aid Appeals Committee receive only the agenda attachments relevant to their case, in order to protect the privacy rights of any other parties who may have their case heard before the committee.

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CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD PUBLIC AID APPEALS COMMITTEE

County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois

MINUTES – Subject to Approval

DATE: Tuesday, December 12, 2023

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

12 PLACE: Jennifer Putman Meeting Room

Brookens Administrative Center

1776 E. Washington St., Urbana, IL 61802

Committee Members:

Present	Absent
Danielle Chynoweth	
Norman Davis	
Andy Graham	
Steve Summers (Chair)	

Others Present:

Andy Quarnstrom (City of Champaign Township Supervisor) and Megan

Robison (Recording Secretary)

Agenda Items

I. <u>Call to Order</u>

Chair Summers called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

A verbal roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared present.

III. Approval of Agenda/Addendum

MOTION by Mr. Davis to approve the agenda for the meeting; seconded by Mr. Graham. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. February 8, 2022

MOTION by Ms. Chynoweth to approve the open session minutes of February 8, 2022, seconded by Mr. Graham. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

V. Public Participation

None None

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VI. Public Aid Appeal from City of Champaign Township Regarding Appellant #01.12 A. Oath, Testimony, & Receipt of Evidence from Appellant

Chair Summers swore in the appellant. The appellant then presented the facts of his case and reason for filing an appeal. He applied for assistance on January 3, 2023 and did not receive a response within 30 days. On February 10, 2023, he contacted the Township Office, and they did not provide a reason for the lack of response. He then received a letter of denial for assistance, dated February 10, 2023 with the reason of "non-cooperation". He has a legal advocate and medical professionals that are helping him to complete his application for SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance). He was finally able to get a list of required information and was subsequently approved for assistance on March 9, 2023. His appeal is for the inaction from January-March, and he is requesting retroactive assistance for that time period.

Ms. Chynoweth asked some clarifying questions about the assistance received and what specifically he was appealing. The appellant stated he is unhoused and has an ID with the Township's address, but he also has a P.O. Box that he uses for mail. Once he received the denial letter, he worked with his case manager at Rosecrance to re-submit his application. The Township had a list of approximately six items that he needed to submit with his application, the appellant testified that three of those items were impossible to obtain and all three were eventually waived.

B. Oath, Testimony, & Receipt of Evidence from Township

Chair Summers swore in Mr. Quarnstrom. He explained the City of Champaign Township did receive an application on January 3rd from the appellant, but it was incomplete and missing documentation. The township rules state they will not process an incomplete application. Once they received the completed application on March 9th, they processed the application.

Ms. Chynoweth asked what specifically was missing from the original application and if they have a copy to provide the committee. Mr. Quarnstrom explained that he is here in place of the case worker who is out of the office so he did not have that information. She also asked what the office policy is in regard to IDES documentation as that can be a difficult process. Mr. Quarnstrom stated they encourage the applicants to work with IDES but stressed that communication is key to getting assistance. He also expressed that communication with the appellant was difficult and at times hostile.

Committee members noted that the case notes state the application was incomplete but doesn't list what was missing nor does the Committee have proof of an incomplete application.

The appellant took a moment to rebut some of the information provided by the Township. He clarified that his medical documents had been provided but he was not aware that they need to be stamped. He stated the Township did not attempt to work with him after submitting the original application.

The appellant believes the rules state he must receive a denial within 30 days of application. Mr. Quarnstrom believes the rules state they have 30 days to respond to <u>completed</u> applications. There is disagreement on whether the application was complete upon initial submission.

C. Closed Session Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4) to Consider Evidence or Testimony 92 Presented in Open Hearing to this Quasi-Adjudicative Body 93 94 **MOTION** by Mr. Davis to enter into CLOSED session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(4) to consider 95 evidence or testimony presented in open hearing to this quasi-adjudicative body and that the 96 following parties remain present: recording secretary; seconded by Mr. Graham. Upon roll call 97 vote, the MOTION CARRIED unanimously. 98 99 The Public Aid Appeals Committee entered Closed Session at 1:34 p.m. 100 101 The Public Aid Appeals Committee resumed Open Session at 1:56 p.m. 102 103 D. Announcement of Decision 104 105 **MOTION** by Ms. Chynoweth to continue the meeting pending request for all documentation and 106 correspondence from January 3, 2023 to March 9, 2023 and for that to be submitted by January 12, 107 2024, seconded by Mr. Davis. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously. 108 109 VII. **Other Business** 110 111 112 None 113 114 VIII. Adjournment 115

Chair Summers adjourned the meeting at 2:01 p.m.

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