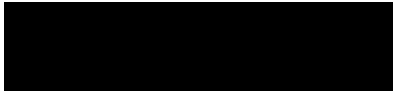




Executive Department
400 South Vine Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801

January 27, 2021



Response - FOIA Request 2021-F-024

Dear Requester,

This message is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated January 11, 2021. The City of Urbana received your request on January 11, 2021, and designated it as FOIA request number 2021-F-024.

You requested:

1. Any and all documents related to the City of Urbana's relationship with Ross McNeil, who has recently been helping the City fill FOIA requests, including:
 - 1.1. Any and all documents related to the original acquisition of Mr McNeil's services and which show his status and pay rate as an employee or contractor.
 - 1.2. Any and all documents which show how Mr McNeil came to be involved with Urbana's FOIA process in 2020.
 - 1.3. Any and all documents which may show Mr McNeil's timesheets and billing/invoices/paystubs (the past 3 years should suffice).

We have reviewed all relevant records and are attaching the following responsive records:

- A .zip file labelled "2021-F-024_documents.zip" containing the following:
- "2021-F-024, email and attachments.pdf"
 - "2021-F-024, invoices.pdf"
 - "2021-F-024, timesheets.pdf"

Portions of the records you have requested are exempt from disclosure because of one or more of the FOIA exemptions listed below. Therefore, we have redacted these portions from the records being released to you.

5 ILCS 140/7(1)(b) exempts private information. Private information means unique identifiers, including a person's social security number, driver's license number, employee identification number, biometric identifiers, personal financial information, passwords or other access codes, medical records, home or personal telephone numbers, and personal email addresses. Private information also includes home address and personal license plates, except as otherwise provided by law or when compiled without possibility of attribution to any person. 5 ILCS 140/2(c-5).

5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c) exempts "personal information" contained within public records, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information. "Unwarranted invasion of personal privacy" means the disclosure of information that is highly personal or objectionable to a reasonable person and in which the subject's right to privacy outweighs any legitimate public interest in obtaining the information. The disclosure of information that bears on the public duties of public employees and officials shall not be considered an invasion of personal privacy.

Some records that could be deemed responsive to your request are exempt from disclosure because of one or more of the FOIA exemptions listed below. Therefore, we have withheld these documents from the records being released to you. These documents consist of drafts and communications regarding the final documents that have been provided.

5 ILCS 140/7(1)(f) exempts preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda and other Records in which opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are formulated, except that a specific record or relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body.

If you believe any records you are seeking have been wrongfully withheld or redacted, you are entitled to a review of this decision by the Public Access Counselor of the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. To file a "request for review," you may write to the Public Access Bureau at 500 S. Second Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, or you may phone 877-299-FOIA (877-299-3642). Any person denied access to inspect or copy any public record also may file suit for injunctive or declaratory relief, in accordance with 5 ILCS 140/11.

Sincerely,
Ross McNeil
Executive Department