

CITY OF URBANA

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2001 - 7:30 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 400 S. VINE STREET, URBANA, IL

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Ruth Wyman (Chair); James H. Hayes, Jr.; Laura Huth; Carolyn Kearns; Esther Patt; John Taylor; Joseph A. Whelan, Jr.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Tod Satterthwaite; Phyllis Clark; Bruce Walden; Stephen Holz; Eddie Adair; Richard Rotramel; William Gray; Michael Brunk; Robert Grewe

OTHERS PRESENT: Barbara Pritchard; Lester Pritchard; Michael Fuerst; Members of the Media

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Wyman called the meeting of the Committee Of The Whole to order at 7:36 p.m.

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT

Mr. Whelan requested to hear agenda item #11, "Discussion: Utility Tax", before #5, "Ordinance No. 2001-02-009: An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Airport Road/Cunningham Avenue Study)." There was a call for a motion.

Mr. Whelan made a motion to hear agenda item #11 before item #5. The motion died for lack of a second.

There were no additions to the agenda. The agenda stands as presented.

Michael Brunk (City Arborist) presented a staff report and brief presentation and update concerning the City's efforts on the tree-trimming proposal for Illinois Power. Mr. Brunk read into record a date schedule for the Illinois Power tariff proposal. (A copy of this schedule is attached. Update information concerning the Illinois Power Tariff may also be seen on the Illinois Commerce website at www.icc.state.il.us.)

Bruce Walden (Chief Administrative Officer) reported that the TIF Feasibility Study was distributed earlier this evening to the Committee. Staff will present this report at a later date.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

January 22, 2001 - Mr. Whelan made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2001 meeting. Mrs. Kearns seconded. He motion carried by voice vote.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Barbara Pritchard, 601 W. Pennsylvania, representing PACE, addressed the committee in support of Section 8 housing for people with disabilities.

Michael Fuerst, 802 N. Broadway Avenue, addressed the Committee with personal issues and views he had concerning the City of Urbana.

Committee Member Input

Mr. Hayes commended City staff and the Urbana Human Relations Commission on their production of "Through the Years" presented at Lincoln Square last week in acknowledgement of Black History Month.

5. **ORDINANCE NO. 2001-02-009: AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE ANNUAL BUDGET ORDINANCE (AIRPORT ROAD/CUNNINGHAM AVENUE STUDY)**

William Gray (Public Works Director/City Engineer) presented the staff report.

Mr. Whelan made a motion to send this item to Council for approval. Mrs. Kearns seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

Agenda item numbers 6, 7 and 8 were presented together.

6. **RESOLUTION NO. 2001-02-003R: A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE MODERNIZATION OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS AT UNIVERSITY AVENUE (U.S. ROUTE 45) AND RACE STREET;**

7. **RESOLUTION NO. 2001-02-004R: A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (UNIVERSITY AVENUE AND RACE STREET);**
and

8. **RESOLUTION NO. 2001-02-005R: RESOLUTION FOR IMPROVEMENT BY MUNICIPALITY UNDER THE ILLINOIS HIGHWAY CODE (UNIVERSITY AVENUE AND RACE STREET)**

Mr. Gray presented the staff report.

Mr. Taylor made an omnibus motion to send these resolutions to Council with a recommendation for approval. Ms Patt seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

9. **ORDINANCE NO. 2001-02-010*: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO AMEND THE CABLE FRANCHISE (EMERGENCY ALERT SIGNAL OVERRIDES)** [**Note: This item appeared as an ordinance on the agenda, however, it was presented as a resolution. The City Clerk's Office has voided this ordinance and indexed it as "Resolution No. 2001-02-006R: A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter Into an Agreement to Amend the Cable Franchise (Emergency Alert Signal Overrides)".*]

Stephen Holz (Assistant City Attorney) presented the staff report.

Mr. Hayes made a motion to send this item to Council with a recommendation for approval. Mrs. Kearns seconded. The motion carried with a voice vote.

10. **ORDINANCE NO. 2001-02-011: AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO CIVIL SERVICE (POLICE CORP CADET)**

Eddie Adair (Police Chief) presented the staff report.

Mr. Hayes made a motion to send this item to Council for approval. Mrs. Kearns seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

11. **DISCUSSION: UTILITY TAX**

In the absence of Ronald Eldridge (Comptroller), Mayor Satterthwaite presented the staff report.

Following his report, Mayor Satterthwaite introduced representatives of the Urban League of Champaign County: Ms Jean Algee (Director of Housing Programs and Services) and Ms Teresa Morgan (LIHEA Program Coordinator). Ms Algee indicated that the median income level had been raised, and the Urban League has been able to assist everyone who is eligible. To date, no one has been turned away.

Following debate, Mr. Whelan made a motion to uphold projection #1 presented in the Comptroller's report which would suspend the 5% tax on natural gas for the two months of April and May. Ms Patt seconded for the purpose of discussion. Debate ensued.

Ms Patt moved to postpone discussing this issue until budget presentations for FY 2001-2002. Mrs. Kearns seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

Mr. Whelan expressed objections and then left the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

12. **UPDATE ON NUISANCE ORDINANCE**

Mayor Satterthwaite explained that staff was not prepared to present this issue at this time. Due to considerable workload needs required of the Central Waste Services Siting Request and recent public hearing, staff was unable to prepare further language to present to the Committee this evening. Staff intends to present an ordinance for further discussion at the next Committee meeting (February 26, 2001).

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Wyman declared the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Deborah J. Roberts
Recording Secretary

*Copies of staff reports are attached to this record.

**This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

Minutes Approved: _____