

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

August 11, 2003

7:30 P.M.

Committee Members Present:

Danielle Chynoweth, James Hayes, Laura Huth, Milton Otto, Esther Patt, Joseph Whelan, and Ruth Wyman - 7.

Committee Members Absent:

None.

Staff Members Present:

Eddie Adair, Ella Coleman, Bill Gray, Bob Grewe, Steve Holz, Mike Loschen, Deborah Roberts, Libby Tyler and Bruce Walden

Others Present:

Ian Goldberg, Scott Glassman, and Members of the Media

Meeting Location:

Urbana City Council Chambers

There being a quorum, Chair Whelan called the meeting to order at 7:44 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda and Staff Report

Chief Administrative Officer Bruce Walden stated that staff is working on the development agreement for the east side of Five Points which is the Birch/Tatman project which involved redevelopment of the east side of Five Points. It will be before Council soon.

Ms. Patt stated that there was an article in a newspaper called "The Paper" stating that they had applied for a table at the Sweet Corn Festival and was denied because of an understanding that Urbana Business Alliance has with the News-Gazette that they will be the only newspaper distributed at the Sweet Corn Festival. Since the City of Urbana is a sponsor of the Sweet Corn Festival, it would be inappropriate for any news media to be barred. Ms Patt is also concerned about prohibiting a newspaper from being distributed at a government sponsored event is a violation for the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. Ms. Patt requested that Mr. Walden investigate the situation to find a solution.

Ms. Wyman and Ms. Chynoweth stated their agreement with Ms. Patt's comment.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mr. Hayes moved to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2003 meeting of the Committee of the Whole. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wyman and carried by a voice vote.

Public Input

Ian Goldberg, 708 E. Goodwin and Scott Glassman, 115 W. Main, addressed the Committee requesting a change in the liquor ordinance to coincide with the change that the City of Champaign has made to extend the hours of operation in bars and nightclubs from 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.

Ms. Wyman requested that discussion of hours of liquor sales be put on the agenda of the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Ordinance No. 2003-08-080: An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement With the State of Illinois Department of Transportation for Street Improvements (University Avenue, FAP 808, U.S. Route 45, near the intersections of Mathews Avenue and Goodwin Avenue)

Public Works Director Bill Gray presented staff report on **Ordinance No. 2003-08-080: An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement With the State of Illinois Department of Transportation for Street Improvements (University Avenue, FAP 808, U.S. Route 45, near the intersections of Mathews Avenue and Goodwin Avenue)**. The University of Illinois is building a new 1500-space parking deck, along with first floor offices at the southwest corner of University Avenue and Goodwin Avenue. The traffic impacts of this construction have required improvement at that intersection which include an additional eastbound right-turn lane, an additional northbound right-turn only lane, and a southbound right-turn only lane, in addition to traffic modifications. There will also be an additional eastbound right-turn only lane at Mathews Avenue on University Avenue.

The Illinois Department of Transportation is willing to fund improvements within the University right-of-way. The related improvements costs on Mathews Avenue and Goodwin Avenue are at the University's expense.

The Illinois Department of Transportation must have an agreement with the City since the University is not a highway agency. The City will not have any direct expense for this improvement. Staff recommends approval.

Ms. Patt moved to forward **Ordinance No. 2003-08-080: An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement With the State of Illinois Department of Transportation for Street Improvements (University Avenue, FAP 808, U.S. Route 45, near the intersections of Mathews Avenue and Goodwin Avenue)** to Council with a recommendation for approval.

Ordinance No. 2003-08-081: An Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition of Certain Real Estate (1310 West Dublin Street)

Grants Coordinator Mike Loschen presented staff report. The subject property is located within the King Park Neighborhood. The only structure on the property is a shed, which the current owner has agreed to remove at their cost. At a later date, the City may create a request for proposals for the development of this property similar to Eads at Lincoln or donate the property to Habitat for Humanity for use in their construction program. Cost to the City would be \$12,000. Staff recommends approval.

Ms. Wyman moved to forward **Ordinance No. 2003-08-081: An Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition of Certain Real Estate (1310 West Dublin Street)** to Council with a recommendation for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt and carried by a voice vote.

Ordinance No. 2003-08-082: An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Urbana HOME Consortium Community Housing Development Organization Agreement (Homestead Corporation of Champaign-Urbana CHDO Operating FY 2003-2004)

Mr. Loschen presented staff report stating this is a HOME CHDO agreement to pledge \$31,783 to the Homestead Corporation for administration and operating costs related to new development of HOME funded rental housing properties. There would be no fiscal impact to the city budget. Funds for Homestead have been budgeted in Fiscal Year 2003-2004.

Staff recommends approval.

Following debate, Ms. Wyman moved to forward **Ordinance No. 2003-08-082: An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Urbana HOME Consortium Community Housing Development Organization Agreement (Homestead Corporation of Champaign-Urbana CHDO Operating FY 2003-2004)** to Council with a recommendation for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt and carried by a voice vote.

Ordinance No. 2003-08-083: An Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Certain Real Estate (914 West Eads Street) and **Ordinance No. 2003-08-084: An Ordinance Approving an Amendment to a Certain Urbana HOME Consortium Community Housing Development Organization Agreement With Homestead Corporation (Eads at Lincoln / FY 2002-2003)**

Grants Management Division Manager Bob Grewe presented staff report on the above listed ordinances. This is an amendment to the Eads at Lincoln Homebuyer Project and the related matter of conveying of 914 West Eads to Homestead Corporation. The amendment will provide resources to construct an affordable home at 914 West Eads Street. The conveyance will give title of the property to Homestead to assist in providing an additional homebuyer arrangement.

The proposed changes will not have any direct fiscal impact as funds were previously budgeted and are available to address expenses associated with this amendment. Staff recommends approval.

Ms. Wyman moved by omnibus motion to forward **Ordinance No. 2003-08-083: An Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Certain Real Estate (914 West Eads Street)** and **Ordinance No. 2003-08-084: An Ordinance Approving an Amendment to a Certain Urbana HOME Consortium Community Housing Development Organization Agreement With Homestead Corporation (Eads at Lincoln / FY 2002-2003)** to Council with a recommendation for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Huth. Following debate, the motion carried by a voice vote.

Resolution No. 2003-08-019R: A Resolution Amending the City of Urbana Tenant-Based Rent Assistance Program Description

Mr. Grewe presented staff report. To date this program has experienced limited participation. Mr. Grewe discussed the reasons for this limited participation and reviewed proposed changes in the program description.

Following debate, Ms. Patt moved to approve **Resolution No. 2003-08-019R: A Resolution Amending the City of Urbana Tenant-Based Rent Assistance Program Description** with the following amendments:

1.0 PURPOSE AND USE

ADD to the second paragraph (primary objective of TBRA):

3. Urbana households with at least one child under the age of 18 with household income below the federal poverty level, if the household is at risk of becoming homeless because the cost of rent and utilities exceeds 50% of the household income.

4.3 ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS

CHANGE third paragraph (residency requirements):

Residency requirements. At the time of the TBRA application, households must reside in the City of Urbana or in one of the following transitional housing programs in Urbana-Champaign or be homeless and identified as a special needs population and referred to the program by a Champaign County social service agency:

ADD to the list of programs in third paragraph: Regional Planning Commission, Men's Safe House and Women's Safe House

CHANGE fourth paragraph:

Applicant households living in transitional housing must be in good standing with their transitional housing program (delete time period) prior to being approved for a TBRA coupon.

ADD at the end of the fourth paragraph:

Applicant households who are renting an apartment in the City of Urbana at the time of application must:

- have at least one child under the age of 18 living in the household
- have income below the Federal poverty level
- be at risk of becoming homeless because the cost of rent and utilities exceeds 50% of household income

6.2 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

CHANGE third paragraph (residency requirements):

Residency requirements. At the time of the TBRA application, households must reside in the City of Urbana or in one of the following transitional housing programs in Urbana-Champaign or be homeless and identified as a special needs population and referred to the program by a Champaign County social service agency:

ADD to the list of programs in third paragraph: Regional Planning Commission, Men's Safe House and Women's Safe House

CHANGE fourth paragraph:

Applicant households living in transitional housing must be in good standing with their transitional housing program (delete time period) prior to being approved for a TBRA coupon:

ADD at the end of the fourth paragraph:

Applicant households who are renting an apartment in the City of Urbana at the time of application must:

- have at least one child under the age of 18 living in the household
- have income below the Federal poverty level
- be at risk of becoming homeless because the cost of rent and utilities exceeds 50% of household income.

The motion was seconded Ms. Wyman.

Following debate, the motion to forward **Resolution No. 2003-08-019R: A Resolution Amending the City of Urbana Tenant-Based Rent Assistance Program Description, as amended,** to Council with a recommendation for approval carried by a voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Whelan declared the meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Taylor
Recording Secretary

*This meeting was taped.

**This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

Minutes approved: August 25, 2003, as amended

AMENDMENT TO THE AUGUST 11, 2003 MINUTES

Ms. Patt requested to amend the minutes at the bottom of page 2 by adding "The motion was seconded by Ms. Wyman and carried by a voice vote." There were no objections.