

**CITY OF URBANA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - MARCH 13, 2006 - 7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 400 S. VINE STREET, URBANA, IL**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Heather Stevenson (Chair); Lynne C. Barnes; Brandon Bowersox; Danielle Chynoweth; Robert E. Lewis; Dennis Roberts; Charlie Smyth

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Laurel Lunt Prussing; Phyllis Clark; Bruce Walden; James Gitz; Kent Jepsen; William Gray; Elizabeth Tyler; Robert Myers; Patrick Pioletti; Mathew Wempe; James Kelly

OTHERS PRESENT: Ian Goldberg; Scott Glassman; Gabe Omo-Osagie; Carolyn Baxley; Mathew Murray; Carol Inskeep; Julie Watkins; Jan Kelmer; Gary Storm; Morton Brussel; Members of the Media

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Stevenson called the meeting of the Committee Of The Whole to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT

There were no additions to the agenda.

The staff report was moved to the end of the agenda and given by Mayor Prussing.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

February 27, 2006 - Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held February 27, 2006. Ms Barnes seconded.

Mayor Prussing requested that the minutes be corrected to show that she was present at the meeting. There were no objections.

The motion to approve the minutes of February 27, 2006 carried by a voice vote, as amended.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Gabe Omo-Osagie, 2409 N. High Cross Road, addressed the Committee with concerns about usage of the bridge on the parking deck and the upper parking deck proposal on tonight's agenda. He also expressed his opposition to the smoking ban issue.

Carolyn Baxley, 510 W. Main, addressed the Committee with concerns she had regarding the upper parking deck proposal. Ms Baxley did not speak in opposition to the proposal, but expressed her concerns regarding parking and the availability of parking spaces for tenants.

The Chair acknowledged the following names of persons who did not wish to address the Committee, but wanted the record to indicate their support of Resolution No. 2006-03-009R (Resolution to End the U.S. Military Occupation of Iraq): Mathew Murray, Carol Inskeep, Julie Watkins, and Jan Kelmer.

Committee Member Input

There was none.

5. **DISCUSSION: OMNIBUS TEXT AMENDMENT TO URBANA ZONING ORDINANCE (PLAN CASE NO. 1979-T-06)**

Mathew Wempe presented the staff report and reviewed the proposed amendment with Committee Members. Several text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance are being recommended which include adding/deleting definitions, reorganizing sections, creating a new article, revising allowed uses and parking requirements, and other minor amendments. (See proposed amendment attached.)

Council action on this item was not warranted at this time.

6. **A MOTION DIRECTING STAFF TO PREPARE AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Mr. Bowersox presented this item. It is proposed that the name of this body be "Bicyclist and Pedestrian Advisory Commission." Mr. Bowersox described the duties of the commission and suggested that it consist of nine (9) members appointed by the Mayor with City Council approval. (See attached.)

Ms Chynoweth requested that the proposed commission have more representation from the community and also the high school or someone under the age of 18 years. There were no objections. Debate ensued.

Ms Barnes moved to direct staff to prepare an ordinance establishing a bicycle and pedestrian advisory commission. Mr. Smyth seconded.

Following debate, the motion carried by a voice vote.

7. **ORDINANCE NO. 2006-03-030: AN ORDINANCE VACATING A PORTION OF COURTESY ROAD, EAST OF BROADWAY AVENUE**

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

Ms Barnes made a motion to send this item to Council with a recommendation for approval. Mr. Lewis seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

8. **DISCUSSION: UPPER DECK PROPOSAL**

Chair Stevenson recognized public input from local entrepreneurs, Ian Goldberg and Scott Glassman. Messrs. Goldberg and Glassman gave a PowerPoint presentation depicting their proposal for an "Island Getaway" setting on the upper west portion of the parking deck located in Downtown Urbana. This portion of the upper deck would be used on Friday and Saturday nights with an outdoor entertainment venue consisting of live band music and a portable bar concluding at approximately 2:00 a.m.

Following debate, Ms Chynoweth made a motion to direct staff, by next Monday, March 20th, to provide an update on the following:

1. Drafting a right-of-way usage agreement with Crane Alley for usage of the upper portion of the parking deck which includes:
 - a. a sidewalk permit, or relevant permitting;
 - b. a liquor license, if an additional one is needed;
 - c. permission to construct a stage;
 - d. a plan for equipment storage and bar area;
 - e. agreement by the City to have resurfacing in that part of the deck done by May 1, 2006;
 - f. permission to hang signage, provided design and location is approved by City staff; and
 - g. date range no later than May, 2006 and no earlier than November 1, 2006.
2. Problem solve around the issue of Friday access for second floor tenants on Main Street, especially wheelchair access.
3. Provide the Council with an estimate for "streetscape" beautification and deck surface coloring so that a financial commitment can be determined to the project as part of the agreement.

Ms Barnes seconded the motion. Debate ensued.

Ms Chynoweth amended her motion, directing staff to report back to the Council with a cost summary of expenses needed for this proposal. Ms Barnes had no objection to the amendment.

Following debate, the motion carried by a voice vote.

9. **RESOLUTION NO. 2006-03-009R: RESOLUTION TO END THE U.S. MILITARY OCCUPATION OF IRAQ**

Chair Stevenson acknowledge public input at this time from Gary Storm, 304 E. George Huff Drive, and Morton Brussel, 2003 George Huff Dr. who addressed the Committee in support of the resolution.

Mr. Smyth presented this item for discussion. He read into record a letter he received from Ms Peggy Patton in support of the resolution. (See attached.)

Following debate, Mr. Smyth moved to send this item to Council with a recommendation for approval. Mr. Roberts seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Prior to adjournment of the meeting, Mayor Prussing reported on the following staff items:

1. **Water Company Acquisition** - RWE, a German-based company, is still looking to sell its business. Mayor Prussing indicated that she

received an email that a Chinese company wants to purchase its British portion of the water business. Urbana's Bill passed the Senate and now will go to a local government committee in the House on Wednesday (March 13, 2006).

2. **Rails to Trails** - One of the Council's goals is to take a leadership role in the establishment of the trail between Urbana and Danville. At a recent meeting attended by Senator Durbin, Mayor Prussing stressed her concerns for the Lincoln connection and also took a tour of the trail. Vermillion County has a marker for Lincoln Trail Road dated 1922, however, there is no mark in Urbana. Mayor Prussing is encouraging a marker be established in Urbana and would like to see the entire circuit leading to Springfield, Illinois. Senator Durbin has received a \$400,000 appropriation on the rails to trails and Mayor Prussing is suggesting communities between here and Danville cooperate in a consortium to get the trail built into something useful.
3. **Urbana Park District** - Mayor Prussing said she has received a request from the Park District concerning the parks and asked that Mr. Lewis and Ms Stevenson attend a meeting with them tomorrow at 2:15 p.m. at the Anita Purves Center. The Park District will also hold hearings on Wednesday and Thursday this week to receive input from the public about improvements they would like to see in the parks. The meeting on Wednesday will be held at Lincoln Square from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and on Thursday at the Phillips Recreation Center from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Ms Barnes asked that the Council receive an update on the neighborhood task force in April or May. Mayor Prussing indicated that a report would be in May, due to a cancellation of one of the meetings of the task force. There were no objections.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Stevenson declared the meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Deborah J. Roberts
Recording Secretary

*This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

Minutes Approved: March 27, 2006*

*See Correction Sheet attached.

CORRECTIONS TO MINUTES MARCH 13, 2006

At a regular meeting of the Urbana City Council's Committee Of The Whole held Monday, March 27, 2006, the following correction was made to the minutes of March 13, 2006:

Page 1 → Correct the spelling of Jan Kelmer to read
Jan **Kalmar**.

This correction pertains to original debate in the minutes of March 13, 2006.

By attaching this correction sheet, the minutes of March 13, 2006 are hereby corrected to read as stated herein.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah J. Roberts
Recording Secretary