



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
March 26, 2007

Committee Members Physically Present:

Lynne Barnes, Brandon Bowersox, Danielle Chynoweth, Robert Lewis, Dennis Roberts, Charlie Smyth, and Heather Stevenson

Committee Members Absent:

None

Other Elected Officials Present

Mayor Laurel Prussing and City Clerk Phyllis Clark

Staff Members Present:

Police Chief Mike Bily, Economic Development Manager Tom Carrino, Public Works Director Bill Gray, Operations Manager Jim Kelly, Planner Paul Lindahl, Planning Department Manager Robert Myers, Assistant City Attorney Ronald O'Neal, Community Development Director Libby Tyler, and Chief Administrative Officer Bruce Walden.

Others Present:

Audrey Ishii, Darrel Foste, Amy Ando, Debbie Insana, and Members of the Media

Meeting Location:

Urbana City Council Chambers

There being a quorum, Chair Chynoweth called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda and Staff Report

There were none.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Ms. Barnes moved to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2007 Special Meeting of the Committee of the Whole. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roberts and carried by a voice vote.

Public Input

Audrey Ishii, 805 South Coler, addressed the Committee on the topic of sidewalk snow removal and the speed limit on Race Street.

Darrel Foste, 409 West Main Street, addressed the Committee with his views on snow removal and recycling.

Ordinance No. 2007-03-032: An Ordinance Amending Schedule Q of Section 23-64 of the Urbana Local Traffic Code Decreasing State Speed Limits in Certain Zones (Race Street)

Public Works Director Bill Gray presented staff report. This ordinance is to establish speed limits on Race Street from Windsor Road to the south City limits just north of the Yankee Ridge Subdivision. The speed limit is now 30 MPH.

A speed study was performed at two locations on South Race Street and the average speed was found to be 38.5 MPH and the 85th percentile was 44.25 MPH. These results clearly indicate the existing speed limit is not appropriate and is not being obeyed by motorists. This ordinance would change the speed limit to 40 MPH.

Following extensive debate, Mr. Bowersox moved to ask staff to post the current speed limit, put a speed trailer at this location, look at potential traffic calming factors and bring this back at the end of summer. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barnes and carried by a voice vote.

Ordinance No. 2007-03-032: An Ordinance Amending Schedule Q of Section 23-64 of the Urbana Local Traffic Code Decreasing State Speed Limits in Certain Zones (Race Street) will return to Committee at a later date.

Discussion: Sidewalk Snow Removal

Amy Ando, 712 West Michigan Avenue, addressed the Committee with her concerns regarding sidewalk snow removal.

Mr. Gray and Operations Manager Jim Kelly led the discussion. Mr. Gray stated that if the City Council is considering a sidewalk snow removal program or ordinance, it is important to have an understanding of current law and logistics of snow removal, with a focus on the quantity of sidewalks within Urbana.

Discussion centered on who is responsible for cleaning sidewalks, whether the City should provide service and what would be involved in that service. Education should be provided and perhaps a memo across the bottom of the television screen to encourage citizens to clear their individual sidewalks after a snow event.

It was decided to leave issue of **Sidewalk Snow Removal** to the Neighborhood Safety Task Force and staff. No action was taken on this issue.

Discussion: Ordinance No. 2007-01-003, “An Ordinance to Repeal Section XIII-3, Planned Unit Developments, of the Zoning Ordinance of the City Of Urbana, Illinois, and to Adopt A Reinstatement Of Section XIII-3, Planned Unit Development, of the Zoning Ordinance of the City Of Urbana, Illinois (Planned Unit Development Text Amendment – Plan Case No. 2020-T-06)”

Planner Robert Myers presented staff report. Since March 5, City staff has sought to incorporate changes requested by Council and Mayor and as indicated by legal review. The Mayor and City Council have requested that the PUD approval process ensure ample opportunity for public input for continued opportunity to incorporate improvements to a PUD proposal based upon public input.

The study sessions at Plan Commission and City Council meetings planned to achieve public input were found to be open to legal challenge. Consequently, staff revised the March 20 PUD draft to eliminate study sessions and include a two-step process with a preliminary PUD plan which is conceptual and a final PUD plan, which is more specific.

Following debate, Mr. Smyth moved to forward **Ordinance No. 2007-01-003, “An Ordinance to Repeal Section XIII-3, Planned Unit Developments, of the Zoning Ordinance of the City Of Urbana, Illinois, and to Adopt A Reinstatement Of Section XIII-3, Planned Unit Development, of the Zoning Ordinance of the City Of Urbana, Illinois (Planned Unit Development Text Amendment – Plan Case No. 2020-T-06)”** to Council, with the change Mayor Prussing requested on page 201. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barnes and carried by a voice vote.

Ordinance No. 2007-03-029: An Ordinance Approving a Combined Preliminary and Final Subdivision Plat (Brickhouses Road Subdivision, Plan Case No. 2019-S-06)

Mr. Myers responded to specific issues raised about the Brickhouses Road Subdivision plat at the March 19th City Council meeting.

Debate followed regarding the waivers requested by the petitioner, Debbie Insana. Ms. Insana participated in the debate.

Issues discussed were reducing the street width requirement from 31' to 25';

sewers and changes in basic infrastructure; and the stormwater detention basin.

Mr. Gray participated in the discussion on the sewer lines.

Mr. Roberts moved to ask staff to draft language providing for a 25 foot street width with the condition of no parking on either side. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barnes and carried by a voice vote.

Mr. Smyth moved to waive sidewalks on the 4 properties on the west side of the street and defer sidewalks on the 7 properties on the east side until sidewalks appear on Airport Road. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barnes. Following debate, the motion carried by a voice vote.

Following extensive debate, Mr. Roberts moved to require the sewer to be put in and capped until needed. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barnes. Following debate, the motion carried by a voice vote.

Following debate, Mr. Smyth moved to make sure the language is included to meet the Road Township design criteria for the entrance to Airport Road. Following debate Mr. Smyth withdrew the motion.

Mr. Smyth moved to have staff develop language that guarantees the conservation aspect of this development. The motion was seconded by Chair Chynoweth.

Assistant City Attorney Ronald O'Neal requested that staff be allowed to research this aspect rather and be directed to develop language. Mr. Smyth stated that he would defer to direct staff to research incorporating conservation into what comes before Council. This was accepted by the seconder.

Following debate, Ms. Barnes called the question. The motion carried by a show of hands vote.

Mr. Smyth moved to forward **Ordinance No. 2007-03-029: An Ordinance Approving a Combined Preliminary and Final Subdivision Plat (Brickhouses Road Subdivision, Plan Case No. 2019-S-06)**, with the motions made at this meeting to Council. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barnes. Following debate, the motion carried by a voice vote.

Mr. Smyth stated that there will be a Computer/Electronic Recycling event at the Solo Cup parking lot from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 21, 2007.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Chynoweth declared the meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Taylor
Recording Secretary

*This meeting was taped.

**This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

Minutes approved: April 9, 2007