

CITY OF URBANA

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - March 24, 2008 - 7:00 P.M.

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

The City Council Committee Of The Whole of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, March 24, 2008 in the Council Chambers of the Urbana City Building following the special meeting of the City Council.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT: Dennis Roberts, Chair; Lynne C. Barnes; Brandon Bowersox; Danielle Chynoweth; Robert E. Lewis; Charlie Smyth; Heather Stevenson; Laurel Lunt Prussing; Phyllis Clark

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE: None

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Ronald O'Neal Jr.; Elizabeth Tyler; William Gray; Anna Hochhalter; Mike Bily; Ronald Eldridge; Delora Siebrecht

OTHERS PRESENT: Mark Enslin; Susan Parents; Qilo Matzen; Daniel Lewart; Sarah Scott; Elizabeth Simpson; Chris Evans; Jelani Saadiq; Carol Ammons; Mark Lopez; Carolyn Baxley; Peggy Patten; Adam Davis; Jasper Van Halewyck; Neil Malone; Max Mitchell; Georgia Morgan; Linda Lorenz; Dr. Camille Goudeseune; Gloria Wilhelm; Carol Lichtensteiger; Susan Jepsen; Bruce Krueger; Audrey Ishii; Mike Lopez; David Eisenman; Chris Dillion; Dave Cocagne; Members of the Media

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Roberts called the meeting of the Committee Of The Whole to order at 8:11 p.m. *This meeting followed the Special City Council Meeting.*

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT

There were no additions to the agenda.

Elizabeth Tyler, Community Development Director/City Planner, announced there would be an event on Sunday, March 30, 2008 to celebrate Urbana's 175th Birthday. The event will honor the founding of the University of Illinois in March 1867 and will highlight Clark Robinson Griggs, Urbana Mayor and State Legislator, who brought the University to Urbana.

Mayor Prussing announced the Urbana History project will begin with an insert in the News Gazette which highlights early stories of Urbana. If anyone has an interesting story regarding Urbana, they are encouraged to share with City staff.

Ms. Barnes announced she had given the Committee members the new visitors guide for 2008-2009 which has some good pictures of Urbana.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Ms. Barnes made a motion to approve the minutes of March 10, 2008. Mr. Lewis seconded. The minutes of March 10, 2008 were approved by a voice vote.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

The following people spoke in support of a public arts program: Mark Enslin, 207 W. Indiana Avenue; Susan Parents, 902 S. Lincoln; Carol Ammons, 1108 N. Busey Avenue; Jelani Saadiq, 1108 N. Busey Avenue.

The following people spoke in support of a cell phone ban while driving: Linda Lorenz, 409 W. High; Carol Ammons, 1108 N. Busey Avenue; Georgia Morgan; 804 W. Nevada.

Committee Member Input

There was none.

5. **Discussion: Public Arts Program and Commission**

Elizabeth Tyler, Community Development Director/City Planner, gave the staff report.

The following people did not want to address the Committee, but wished to support a public arts program: Sarah Scott, 407 S. Johnson; Daniel Lewart, 310 N. Busey Avenue; Qilo Matzen, 1005 Fairview Avenue.

The following people addressed the Committee in support of a public arts program in Urbana: Elizabeth Simpson, 1005 Fairview Avenue; Chris Evans, University of Illinois.

After discussion, Ms. Chynoweth made a motion to send the creation of a public arts program back to the Committee of the Whole for discussion at the next meeting on April 14, 2008. Ms. Barnes seconded. The motion was voted on in omnibus fashion. Motion carried by a voice vote. *This was voted in omnibus fashion with Ordinance No. 2008-03-013.*

6. **Ordinance No. 2008-03-013: An Ordinance Establishing a Public Arts Commission and Permanent Public Arts Program**

After discussion, Ms. Chynoweth made a motion to defer action on this ordinance to the next Committee of the Whole meeting on April 4, 2008 to allow staff to review proposed ordinance, especially in relation to funding issues, and to allow for a presentation regarding the history to date of the program' creation. Ms. Barnes seconded the motion. The motion carried by a voice vote. *This was voted on in omnibus fashion with creation of a public arts program.*

7. **Ordinance No. 2008-03-015: An Ordinance Amending Chapter Fourteen of the Code of Ordinances, City of Urbana, Illinois Regarding the Schedule of Fees (July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009)**

Delora Siebrecht, Office Manager/Parking Administrator, gave the staff report with additional input from Ronald Eldridge, Comptroller.

After discussion, Mr. Lewis made a motion to send to Council on May 5, 2008 with a recommendation for approval. Ms. Barnes seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

8. **Ordinance No. 2008-03-021: An Ordinance Banning the Use of Mobile Electronic Devices While Driving in the City of Urbana, Illinois**

Mr. Smyth gave an updated report to the Committee with additional input by Ron O'Neal Jr., Acting City Attorney and Mike Bily, Police Chief.

The following people did not wish to address the Committee, but wished to support the ban on cell phone usage while driving: Carolyn Baxley, 510 W. Main; Peggy Patten, 609 W. Indiana; Adam Davis, 1105 S. Orchard; Jasper Van Halewyck, 505 W. Green Street; Carol Lichtensteiger, 307 E. Willard; Bruce Krueger, 806 W. California.

The following people did not wish to address the Committee, but wanted to have their positions entered into the record as against a cell phone ban: Neil Malone, 310 Burwash, Savoy; Max Mitchell, 3345 Stoneybrook.

The following people addressed the Committee in support of a cell phone ban while driving: Dr. Camille Goudeseune, 902 S. Orchard; Gloria Wilhelm, 1047 Leoville; Daniel Lewart, 310 N. Busey Avenue; David Eisenman, 300 Hessel Blvd., Champaign; Audrey Ishii, 805 S. Coler Avenue; Mike Lopez, 3208 Baronry Drive.

Susan Jepsen, 2631 Muirfield Place, representing Reynold's Towing, addressed the Committee in opposition to the proposed cell phone ban, especially as it may pertain to business use.

Mayor Prussing announced she had received many emails regarding the proposed ban of cell phone usage while driving.

A straw poll showed the Committee divided pretty evenly between wanting hands-on/hands-free ban versus only a hands-on ban.

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Smyth to direct staff to review and revise proposed ordinance as discussed, especially as it relates to business and emergency vehicle usage; hands-on or hands-free devices, pedestrian usage, education and enforcement. Mr. Lewis seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

9. **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Roberts declared the meeting adjourned at 10:57 p.m.

Joan M. Ryan
Recording Secretary

*This meeting was taped.

**This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

Minutes Approved: April 14, 2008