

CITY OF URBANA

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - Monday, September 22, 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, September 22, 2008 in the Council Chambers of the Urbana City Building.

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

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE: None

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Patrick Connolly; Michael Dilley; Ronald Eldridge; Elizabeth Tyler; Thomas Carrino; William Gray; Michael Brunk; Robert Myers, Ronald O'Neal Jr.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dianna Visek; Members of the Media

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Barnes called the meeting of the Committee Of The Whole to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

William Gray (Public Works Director) made a request to remove item #5 from the agenda on the request of the University of Illinois. Upon questioning about the time restraints involved by Ronald O'Neal, Jr. (City Attorney), Mr. Gray stated University officials were pulling their application and would re-apply at a later date. Chair Barnes announced the item would be removed from the agenda and there were no objections.

Chair Barnes announced a request for an addition to the agenda under section 6 which would become 6B. There were no objections.

STAFF REPORT

Mr. Smyth updated the Committee on LED lighting and his findings during a recent conference of lighting professionals. William Gray (Public Works Director) also announced some recent findings regarding lighting possibilities for the City.

Mayor Prussing thanked the Public Works Department for the sewer work completed over the years which eliminated a lot of the flooding that other communities experienced during the recent storms. There are still some flooding issues on Vine Street which staff is continuing to address.

She also announced the City had received a couple of awards recently. The bicycle plan had received recognition from the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations with a national award for outstanding over-all achievement in metropolitan transportation planning.

The American Planning Association for Illinois recognized the City of Urbana for their bicycle plan as well.

The City of Urbana received an honorable mention from the Illinois Arts Alliance for their beginning efforts on establishing a Public Arts Commission. This award will be recognized during the Illinois Municipal League Conference in Chicago this week.

Fire Chief, Michael Dilley, will be giving a history of the Urbana Fire and Rescue Department during a talk September 23 to the Champaign County Historical Society at the Urbana Free Library beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Elizabeth Tyler (Community Development Director/City Planner) mentioned the University Avenue Corridor Study public meeting will be held October 16 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and will include both the University Corridor Study and the Springfield/White Corridor Study.

She also announced the updated report from the Census Bureau shows a new census number of 40,550. Due to the Illinois Arts Alliance determination, the City is able to use the designation of an Illinois arts friendly community.

Ronald Eldridge (Comptroller) reviewed the tax monies the City could expect to receive from the metro agreements in the future.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. September 8, 2008 - Ms. Stevenson made a motion to approve the minutes of September 8, 2008. Mr. Lewis seconded. The minutes of September 8, 2008 were approved by a voice vote.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Dianna Visek, 608 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, spoke to the Committee regarding her concerns a resolution or ordinance had not been brought to Council regarding the financial transparency issues City staff had already been addressing on the website. She also asked the Committee, in their roles as Township Trustees, to reconsider some of the wording used in the resolution passed by the Township.

Committee Member Input

There was none.

5. **A Motion Directing the Public Works Director to Issue a House Moving Permit for the Mumford Farm House Located at 1403 West Lorado Taft Drive Upon Satisfactory Submission of All Required Items**

William Gray (Public Works Director) reported University officials had asked this item be removed from the agenda tonight as they are pulling their application until a future date. Chair Barnes asked the item be removed and there were no objections. The item was removed.

6. **Public Works - Chipper Truck Purchase**

a. **Ordinance No. 2008-09-119: An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Chipper Truck Purchase)**

William Gray (Public Works Director) presented the staff report with additional information from Michael Brunk (City Arborist). Mr. Bowersox made a motion to send ordinance and resolution to Council for approval and vote in omnibus fashion. Mr. Roberts seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

b. **Resolution Waiving the Bidding Process to Purchase a Chipper Truck**

William Gray (Public Works Director) announced that during the bidding process and review of truck options it was noted the visibility was poor in all but one truck. Michael Brunk (City Arborist) discussed the visibility problems. Ronald O'Neal, Jr. (Acting City Attorney) advised Committee regarding legalities involved in choosing a bid. The motion to send to Council for approval was voted in omnibus fashion and approved with 6a.

7. **Resolution No. 2008-09-019R: A Resolution Deeming Certain Funds in the Special Tax Allocation Fund for the Downtown Urbana Tax Increment Redevelopment Project Area as "Surplus" Funds and Directing the Payment and Distribution Thereof (2008)**

Ronald Eldridge(Comptroller) presented the staff report. Mr. Roberts made a motion to send to Council for approval. Ms. Stevenson seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

8. **Closed Session: Property Acquisition Issues, Pursuant 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(5)**

Mr. Smyth made a motion for the Committee to move to closed session for the purpose of considering property acquisition issues, pursuant 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(5). Mr. Roberts seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Barnes - aye	Bowersox - aye
Gehrig - aye	Lewis - aye
Roberts - aye	Smyth - aye
Stevenson - aye	

The motion for the Committee to move to closed session was approved by a roll call vote (7-aye:0-nay).

The Committee went into closed session at 7:50 p.m.

The Committee adjourned the closed session at 8:47 p.m.

The Committee resumed its regular session at 8:51 p.m.

9. **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Barnes declared the meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Joan M. Ryan
Recording Secretary

*This meeting was taped.

**This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

Minutes Approved: October 13, 2008