

CITY OF URBANA

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - December 12, 2011 - 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, December 12, 2011 in the Council Chambers of the Urbana City Building.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT: Eric Jakobsson (Chair); Robert E. Lewis; Diane Marlin; Dennis Roberts; Phyllis D. Clark

Mayor Prussing entered the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE: None

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: Charlie Smyth; Brandon Bowersox; Heather Stevenson

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Monson; Patrick Connolly; William Gray; Curt Borman; Elizabeth Tyler; Bart Hagston; Lisa Bralts; Tom Carrino; Christina McClelland; Gale Jamison; Bradley Bennett

OTHERS PRESENT: Cynthia Johnson; Carol McKusick; Gary Cziko; Greg Kacvinsky; Greg Dorolek; Glenn Berman; Jack Mackie; Becky Weber; Members of the Media

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Erickson called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT

There were none.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

November 28, 2011 - Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held November 14, 2011. Mr. Lewis seconded. Ms. Marlin asked for a spelling correction. The minutes of November 14, 2011 meeting as corrected were approved by voice vote.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Gary Cziko spoke to the Committee in favor of roundabouts and showed a short video.

Carol McKusick spoke to Committee of her concerns regarding the Boneyard plan and upcoming public hearing.

5. Presentation: Boneyard Creek Improvements Project Public Art Design

Brad Bennett (Civil Engineer) introduced Greg Kacvinsky of Foth Consultants and Greg Dorolek of Wenk Associates who gave a presentation of the improvements recommended for final approval. Staff has been working with Foth Consultants and Wenk Associates on plans to incorporate public art into the Boneyard Creek Improvement Plan in the hopes of creating a pedestrian-friendly urban part in the downtown area.

Christina McClelland (Public Arts Director) also gave a short update and introduced artist Jack Mackie who went into detail about his proposed art plan. A public meeting was held on March 15, 2011 to allow for public comment. Several themes were developed at that time and it was recommended to hold a request for qualifications to identify an artist for the project. The panel who reviewed submissions recommended Jack Mackie for the project.

Staff is recommending approval of his design for the final project and for the final design concept for Boneyard Creek Improvement Plan and Race Street/Broadway Avenue Streetscape project. Discussion followed.

No further action was taken at this time.

6. ***Ordinance No. 2011-12-135: An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget (Tourism Promotion)***

Tom Carrino (Economic Development Manager) gave the staff report. Council had earlier requested staff to review to see if it was possible for Community Development staff to handle some of the functions that are currently handled through Champaign County Convention and Visitor's Bureau. After review, it appears necessary for to allow for additional staffing to handle the expanded efforts in tourism. Specific additional tasks would include brochure and publication development, social media, business district promotion, Krannert promotion, City website, convention and meeting promotion, and Sister City coordination. It is recommended that two staffing changes and possible redirection of UBA focus would allow the City to handle the additional tourism activities. The Public Arts Coordinator position would be increased from three-quarters time to full-time which would require additional funding of at an estimation of \$14,120 annually split between Market at the Square and General Funds. The other proposed staffing change would result in hiring a 25 hour per week temporary, part-time Community Marketing associate at approximately \$23,200 annually split between TIF and General Fund. Staff would work with UBA to focus on new activities which would result in the need for a modified agreement. Discussion followed.

Ms. Marlin made a motion to postpone indefinitely. Mr. Roberts seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

7. ***Ordinance No. 2011-12-136: An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement for Promotion and Marketing Services (Urbana Business Association, FY 2011-2012)***

Tom Carrino (Economic Development Manager) gave the staff report. Normally, the City has an agreement with the UBA each year for marketing and promotion which is usually approved in June or July. However, due to staffing changes, it was felt best to wait until the new Executive Director was hired. Cynthia Johnson has recently been hired in this position and the agreement needs approval for activities from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012. The proposed agreement is the same amount as last year. The new proposal does include reallocation of funds, consolidation of some provisions, addition of provision related to tourism and promotion. Discussion followed.

Ms. Marlin made a motion to send to Council for approval. Mr. Roberts seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

8. ***Resolution No. 2011-12-043R: A Resolution Extending the Build Urbana Tax Rebate Program for One Additional Year (to December 1, 2012 - Build Urbana)***

Tom Carrino (Economic Development Manager) gave the staff report. This resolution is a proposed one-year extension of the City's Build Urbana Tax Rebate Program from the expiration date of December 1, 2011 to December 1, 2012. This program has successfully brought about the construction of over 1,000 new single-family and duplex housing to the City. All program partners have expressed interest in continuing the program for an additional year. Discussion followed.

Mr. Lewis made a motion to send to Council for approval. Mr. Roberts seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

9. ***Ordinance No. 2011-11-131: An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement Clarifying Ownership of Parking Deck Walkway (115 W. Main Street)***

William Gray (Public Works Director) gave the staff report. When the original parking deck was built in 1983 by the owner of the 115 W. Main Street property, the document for ownership was not properly recorded. City wishes to have ownership clarified at this time. The current owner, Glenn Berman, is willing to enter into agreement to establish their ownership of the walkway. There would be little fiscal impact to the City other than recording fees. Discussion followed.

Mr. Roberts made a motion to send both items to Council for approval. Mr. Lewis seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

10. ***Ordinance No. 2011-11-132: An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement for Use of Right-Of-Way (Fish Alley)***

William Gray (Public Works Director) gave the staff report. This agreement would formalize the arrangement now in place. The owners and tenants currently do not have the space needed for refuse and recycling, as well as a condenser. These items are currently located in the alley behind the building at 115 Main Street.

Ms. Marlin made a motion to send to Council for approval. Mr. Lewis seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

11. ***Ordinance No. 2011-12-137: An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute Tiered Approach to Corrective Action Objectives (TACO) Agreement (Green Street at Lincoln Avenue)***

Gale Jamison (Assistant City Engineer) gave the staff report. BP Products North America, Inc. (BP), have been completing correction work at the corner of Green Street and Lincoln Avenue to handle leaking underground storage contamination. This agreement defines the responsibilities for removal of contamination in the right-of-way at 809 West Green Street if found during construction activity. This agreement also requires the City to prohibit use of the groundwater as a potable water supply within the right-of-way. Discussion followed.

Mr. Lewis made a motion to send to Council for approval. Mr. Roberts seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

12. ***Resolution No. 2011-12-044R: A Resolution Initiating the Submission to the Voters of the City of Urbana of the Public Question of Whether to Authorize the City to Arrange for the Supply of Electricity for Residential and Small Commercial Retail Customers Who Do Not Opt Out of Such a Program (Municipal Electric Aggregation)***

Bart Hagston (Environmental Sustainability Manager) gave the staff report. The City has been evaluating the use of municipal electric aggregation as allowed under State law. This resolution would allow the next step in placing a referendum on opting-out of municipal aggregation on the March 20, 2012 ballot. Discussion followed.

Mr. Roberts made a motion to send to Council for approval. Ms. Marlin seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Jakobsson declared the meeting adjourned at 10:38 p.m.

Joan M. Ryan
Recording Secretary

This meeting was taped.
This meeting was broadcast on cable television.
Minutes Approved: January 9, 2012