

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY

May 24, 1993

Committee Members Present:

Joan Barr, James Hayes, Michael Pollock, Marya Ryan,
Clifford Singer (Chairman), John Taylor and Joseph
Whelan

Committee Members Absent:

None

Staff Members Present:

Bruce Walden, Jack Waaler, Bruce Stoffel, Richard Dunn,
April Getchius, William Gray, Glenn Berman, Ronald
Eldridge, Charles Gordon, Joe Smith, Reed Berger,
Phyllis Clark and Mayor Satterthwaite

Others Present:

Marie Earley, Dan Eaton, Joe Corley, Mary Blackstone,
Mitch Duszynski, Charles Weber, Earl O'Shea, Members of
the News Media

Meeting Location:

Urbana City Council Chambers

There being a quorum, Chairman Singer called the
meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda and Staff Report

There were none.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mr. Whelan moved to approve the minutes of the March 22,
1993 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes and
carried by a voice vote.

Petitions and Communications

Marie Earley-DiBello, Dan Eaton and Joe Corley,
representing CUCVB, and Mitch Duszynski, representing The Lincoln

Lodge, addressed the Committee to encourage continued funding at the previous year's rate.

Mary Blackstone, representing the Housing Authority of Champaign County, addressed the Committee regarding the cooperative agreement between the City of Urbana and the Housing Authority of Champaign County.

Charles Weber, Champaign Fire Department, addressed the Council in support of the proposed hazardous materials ordinance.

Earl O'Shea, 606A Glover, addressed the Committee in support of better government.

An Ordinance Amending The Urbana Local Traffic Ordinance, As Amended (Springfield Avenue Corridor Master Plan)

Chairman Singer stated this ordinance is a result of the developments at the Engineering Library. Vice Chancellor Wendell was in the audience to address any questions.

Public Works Director William Gray presented an exhibit of the planned developments of the Springfield Avenue Corridor Master Plan and explained that this is a program that the University of Illinois and the City of Urbana began discussions on last fall. The plan address is a beautification effort along Springfield Avenue between Wright and Goodwin. Additional components to the improvement include the closing of Burrill Avenue at Springfield Avenue, a pedestrian crossing east of the Burrill Avenue intersection, and a pedestrian crossing at Mathews. Mr. Gray stated that in future years there will be work on Mathews between Springfield and Stoughton.

Mr. Gray further stated that bus stops will be needed for eastbound Springfield Avenue traffic. To do this safely, parking on the north side of Springfield will be moved to the south side in order that bus stops and parking will not be on opposite sides of the street.

Mr. Gray proceeded to explain that safety concerns for the University High School students are addressed by converting Mathews Street to one-way northbound between Springfield Avenue and Main Street. The Mass Transit District buses will stop along the east curb line of Mathews Street in front of the high school reducing the need for students to cross Springfield Avenue.

There will be no parking on Springfield Avenue between Wright Street and Burrill Avenue to allow for a transition zone for eastbound motorists because of the realignment of the travel lane.

A total of 14 parking spaces will be lost on Springfield Avenue. There will be an additional 12 parking spaces created along the west side of Mathews Street.

The University will pay 100% of the cost of the streetscape along the north and south side of Springfield Avenue and along Mathews Street between Springfield Avenue and Stoughton Street. This includes new sidewalk pavers, a bike path, and planting. The University will also pay for all costs of the bus stops on Mathews at the University High School. Costs associated with the closing of Burrill Avenue and the pedestrian crossings at Mathews Street and east of Burrill Avenue will be University expenses.

The City has plans in the 1994 Capital Improvement Program to resurface Springfield Avenue between Wright Street and Goodwin Avenue which will be coordinated with the streetscape work. Associated resurfacing costs which will be included in the resurfacing project. Costs for relocating parking meters and traffic detector loops on Springfield Avenue at Wright Street are included in the Public Works Budget.

Mr. Pollock inquired if there has been a traffic study to understand what the long range effect of reversing the traffic on Mathews and the closing of Burrill would be?

Mr. Gray responded that the City has not done a traffic impact study. There has been discussion with the University regarding their needs for their buildings.

Mr. Pollock asked about the traffic controls at the two pedestrian intersections at Mathews and Burrill. Mr. Gray stated that there will be flashing yellows at Mathews only.

Mr. Pollock inquired if there will be bike lanes? Mr. Gray responded that there will be a new bike path going both ways.

Mr. Whelan inquired about the total cost to the City. Mr. Gray stated that the resurfacing work has not been calculated yet. The work for striping, signing and meter relocation would be in the order of \$1,000 to \$2,000.

Mr. Whelan inquired if the resurfacing work is in addition to the Capital Improvement Plan. Mr. Gray said that it is scheduled in future years, it will probably be recommended that the Springfield portion be accelerated to coincide with other Springfield work next year.

Chairman Singer asked if there were contracts with the

MTD. Mr. Gray responded that there are none.

Following further debate, Alderman Pollock moved to send the Springfield Avenue Corridor Master Plan to Council. The motion was seconded by Alderman Hayes and carried by a voice vote.

Discussion of IMRF Participation by Council Members

Mr. Whelan moved to ask staff to investigate the possibility of Council Members participating in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund.

Mr. Pollock stated that the amount of compensation the Council Members receive does not warrant the time it would take staff to investigate the possibility.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Discussion of Removal Of Brick Street - Illinois Street Between Urbana and Vine Streets

Chief Administrative Officer Bruce Walden explained that this issue involves the removal of brick on Illinois between Urbana and Vine Streets. The City has planned to replace that one block with cement as opposed to replacing the bricks which are partially showing beneath the asphalt.

Mr. Pollock stated that there is a plan to completely redo the bricks on Illinois in a year or two. Should that decision be revisited, this section will be part of that replacement and inquired about a recommendation from staff.

Mr. Walden responded that the plan for Illinois Street should be revisited. He stated that it was his understanding that the Engineering Division feels the street should be resurfaced in cement.

Mr. Pollock asked if there is a rush on this project? Mr. Walden responded that the planned construction work which involved the signalization of Vine and Illinois Streets has been accelerated because the City has been able to receive the 50% funding match on the signalization program at the State; this work would be done in conjunction with the signalization work.

Mr. Pollock asked if operating under the assumption that the half block that is already paved will continue to be paved and can be resurfaced along with the Vine intersection and the other half block left as it is, will that impact the work to be done at Vine. Mr. Gray responded that it would not.

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Following further debate, Mr. Pollock moved to send this back to staff for further investigation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried by a voice vote.

Final Budget Mark-up

Mr. Pollock moved to distribute the information regarding the budget being provided by staff and the Mayor, take a brief recess, then come back and move on from this item promptly at 10:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ryan and carried by a voice vote.

The Committee recessed at 9:20 p.m. and reconvened at 9:32 p.m. with all Members previously in attendance still present.

Chairman Singer stated that before the Committee is a recommendation for budget modifications from the Mayor as well as a summary of the actions taken at a previous meeting. Mr. Singer also pointed out that in addition to the items in the packet and items before the Committee, the Economic Development Commission was given \$2,000 subject to a \$4,000 match from the County. He further stated that the dollar match item would be in the minutes when it comes before the Council.

Mayor Satterthwaite presented his budget modifications to the Committee.

As funding through the Community Development Block Grant or through interest from the Building Fund, or tax increases was unacceptable to the public, Mayor Satterthwaite proposed funding through the General Fund. (See attached.)

Mr. Pollock asked Mr. Walden if the cuts, outside of pension and capital improvement cuts, are going into funds that would normally be left at the end of the year. Mr. Walden responded that they are.

Mr. Pollock questioned if cuts makes the funding for the Community Policing Officer permanent or is this just a stop gap.

Mr. Walden responded that there is very little control over what the State sets in terms of pensions, however the City has traditionally had some cushion.

City Controller Ronald Eldridge stated that he looks at the cuts as permanent reductions.

Mr. Taylor inquired about the effect of the \$1,000 reduction for the school crossing guards. Mr. Walden responded that it would not entail any reduction in actual school crossing guards. It is believed that the \$1,000 reduction can be maintained without any impact on the hours that these guards are provided.

Assistant Police Chief Charles Gordon stated that this line item is able to be reduced because children are required to stay at school at some schools during the lunch hour, thus the time required has been reduced.

Mr. Whelan inquired about the travel and conference reduction in the Police Department. Mr. Gordon stated that those funds were generally used by the Chief and Assistants for conferences and seminars. Their feeling is strong enough regarding the need for the Community Policing Officer that the rest of the department is sacrificing with overtime and they feel they can do with a reduced level of travel and conference to help make up the difference.

Mayor Satterthwaite further proposed three TIF#1 modifications which will only effect the TIF #1 cash balance:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Eliminate Busey Plaza streetscape | \$20,000 |
| 2. Reduce crosswalk improvements | To \$10,000 from \$30,000 |
| 3. Reduce marketing and dues | To \$20,000 from \$35,000 |

Mayor Satterthwaite presented a proposal from Mr. Singer to increase borrowing in TIF #3 by \$500,000. He recommended that this be put in the budget with the clarification that the funds will not be spent without the approval of the Mayor and the Council.

Mr. Whelan inquired if the \$500,000 is above the \$1,000,000 that was planned. Mayor Satterthwaite replied that it is.

Mr. Pollock inquired what crosswalk improvements will not get done if the crosswalk improvements are cut by almost 60%? Mr. Walden responded that it reduces the amount budgeted to be released in the current fiscal year to determine if the crosswalk replacement projects as planned are successful. If this project is successful, additional monies can be budget in years to come.

Mr. Pollock questioned what was to be done with the \$15,000 that was reduced from marketing and dues? Mr. Walden responded that there were two elements to that reduction. One was in relationship to the marketing of downtown Urbana. The second was in relationship to the possibility of using the National League of Cities Planning Grant Program which required a \$15,000 match to do a downtown plan.

Mr. Pollock inquired if the approval of expenditure by the Mayor and the Council of the additional \$500,000 from TIF III

meant that there was an additional condition put on these funds in a document? Mr. Walden responded that it was the Mayor's recommendation that regardless of Council's decision to include or exclude an additional \$500,000 that it is his policy position that he would not move forward without a full explanation to the Council and in the event that an ordinance is necessary to further borrow upon the City's letter of credit or issue a separate bond for that amount it is likely that an ordinance authorizing debt would be necessary. The required vote for an ordinance authorizing debt is a simple majority.

Following further debate, Ms. Barr moved that Mayor Satterthwaite's proposal be incorporated into the budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes.

Mr. Pollock moved to delete the first section of the Mayor's proposal and transfer the \$45,000 for funding the Community Policing Officer from the Community Development Block Grant. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whelan and failed 4-3 by roll call vote.

Voting aye were Members of the Committee: Barr, Hayes, Ryan and Singer - 4; voting nay: Pollock, Taylor and Whelan - 3.

Following debate, the motion to incorporate Mayor Satterthwaite's proposal into the budget carried 5-2 by roll call vote. Voting aye were Members of the Council: Barr, Hayes, Pollock, Ryan and Singer - 5; voting nay: Taylor and Whelan.

Urbana Champaign Sanitary District (UCSD) Resolution

City Attorney Jack Waaler presented a brief background of the UCSD. Following discussion Mr. Pollock moved to send the Urbana Champaign Sanitary District (UCSD) Resolution to Council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whelan and carried by a voice vote.

Amendment To A Part Of The Zoning Ordinance Of The City Of Urbana, Illinois And The Zoning Map Of Urbana, Illinois - 906 North Broadway Avenue (Plan Case #1500-M-93)

City Planner/Community Development Director April Getchius was present to answer questions regarding the amendment. Following discussion, Mr. Whelan moved to send Amendment To A Part Of The Zoning Ordinance Of The City of Urbana, Illinois And The Zoning Map Of Urbana, Illinois - 906 North Broadway Avenue (Plan Case #1500-M-93) to Council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried by a voice vote.

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Application By Housing Authority For Survey/Planning Loan for
Scattered Site Development Housing Authority

Community Development Division Manager Bruce Stoffel was present to discuss the application. He stated that this application basically allows the Housing Authority to be reimbursed for funds spent.

Mr. Pollock moved to send to Council the Application By Housing Authority For Survey/Planning Loan For Scattered Site Development Housing Authority. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes and carried by a voice vote.

Hazardous Materials Ordinance

Mr. Pollock moved to send the Hazardous Materials Ordinance to Council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes and carried by a voice vote.

ISWDA Budget Review & Staff Development

Mr. Pollock moved to send to Council the ISWDA Budget Review & Staff Development. The motion was seconded Ms. Barr and carried by a voice vote.

Closed Session - Union Discussion

The Committee moved into closed session to discuss Union negotiations at 10:35 p.m. The Committee reconvened at 11:20 p.m. with all members previously in attendance still present.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Taylor
Secretary

*This meeting was taped.
**This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

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