

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

July 12, 1993

Committee Members Present:

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

Committee Members Absent:

Joan Barr

Staff Members Present:

Bruce Walden, Jack Waaler, Frank Nesbitt, April Getchius, Craig Grant, Bill Gray, Mike Brunk, Pat Pioletti, Chief Schlieter, Charles Gordon, Glenn Berman, Mayor Satterthwaite, Phyllis Clark

Others Present:

Ernie O'Shea, Sue Johnson Smith, Lester Pritchard, Members of the News Media

Meeting Location:

City Council Chambers

There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. by Chairman Pollock.

Additions to the Agenda and Staff Report

There were none.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

Mr. Taylor moved to approve the minutes of the June 14, 1993 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Singer and carried by a voice vote.

ADA Program Accessibility

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Sue Johnson-Smith, Director of Persons Assuming Control of Their Environment, Inc. (PACE) and representing Universal Community Access Network (U-CAN), read into the record a letter encouraging the City to provide program accessibility to people with disabilities and requesting that the City incorporate suggestions submitted by PACE and U-CAN into the City's Compliance Plan.

Committee discussion focused on ADA requirements relative to the prohibition of surcharges for providing program accessibility to the disabled and audible warning devices on traffic signals.

Human Relations Officer Frank Nesbitt reviewed the established procedures for obtaining assistance for special needs.

Ms. Ryan moved to send to Council the ADA Compliance Plan Addendum and requested that staff consider the comments submitted by PACE and U-CAN. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whelan and carried by a voice vote.

Mr. Pollock stated that the item will be on the July 19, 1993 City Council agenda.

Public Participation

Ernie O'Shea, 606A South Glover Street, expressed appreciation for repair work completed in response to his complaints.

Bike Path Map

City Planner/Community Development Director April Getchius presented a Bikepath Map which had been expanded to close some dead end loops and incorporate new proposed paths. Ms. Getchius stated that the map has been developed for inclusion in an Intermodal Surface Transportation Enhancement Act (ISTEA) grant application.

Ms. Getchius said she would incorporate a suggestion to more clearly define Class III paths, which share road space with motor vehicle traffic, in the map legend.

Mr. Taylor moved to send the proposed Bikepath Map to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ryan and carried by a voice vote.

Mr. Pollock stated that the item will be on the July 19, 1993 City Council agenda.

Outside Storage Ordinance

Ms. Getchius noted that the proposed ordinance amendment allows residents to store building materials outside for an extended period of time in order to finish a building project. At the end of

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120 days, materials must be removed from the site or the owner must obtain a temporary storage permit from the City Building Official. The fee attached to the storage permit compares to the cost one would incur if materials were stored in a self-service storage facility.

Building Safety Division Manager Craig Grant stated that the proposed amendment is not meant to impose arbitrary time constraints on finishing a project, but rather to minimize impact on surrounding properties and eliminate deterioration of materials from exposure to weather conditions. He said the established parameters would be given to individuals applying for building permits in the future in an effort to inform residents of the changes.

Concerns were raised about the application of Section B-113 6.1 of the ordinance. Mr. Grant explained that the provision is not meant to regulate peeling paint, but rather black celotex surfaces which would not withstand weather conditions for a long period of time.

Regarding the fear that the ordinance would be interpreted to exceed its purpose, Chief Administrative Officer Bruce Walden stated that staff is qualified and competent to make appropriate decisions that would not be interpreted as unreasonable.

Mr. Grant noted that the amendment provisions would be imposed on a complaint basis and applied to complaints received in the recent past.

Mr. Taylor moved to send to Council An Ordinance Amending Article XXX Of Chapter 5 Of The Urbana City Code. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes and carried by a voice vote.

Mr. Pollock stated that the ordinance will be on the July 19, 1993 Council agenda.

Review of Police Department Positions and Expectations

Chief of Police Willard Schlieter summarized a memorandum distributed to committee members prior to the meeting regarding the duties of new police officers and programs. He noted that the program will not begin until January due to manpower constraints; however, procedural aspects will be addressed in the meantime. The memorandum proposed that a seven-member neighborhood advisory committee for Census Tract 53 be appointed by the Mayor to begin an active role by September; that survey sampling for statistical validity begin in October; and that an officer be selected and partially trained by January.

Chief Schlieter and Mayor Satterthwaite solicited suggestions on the proposed program from committee members.

Mr. Pollock moved to place discussion of new police positions on the agenda of the next Committee on Environment and Public Safety meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whelan and

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carried by a voice vote.

Mr. Pollock stated that the item will be on the July 26, 1993 Committee on Environment and Public Safety agenda.

Fueling Facility Intergovernmental Agreements

Public Works Director William Gray was present to answer questions regarding an informational memorandum describing plans to replace the existing City fueling facility located at the Public Works Center. He noted that Urbana School District 116 will participate in the construction and operation of the facility and contribute \$9,135 toward the project costs.

City Expansion Discussion

Elevator Repair Discussion

Mayor Satterthwaite reported that staff emphasis is being placed on facility expansion, delaying a decision on which option to pursue in repairing the broken elevator in the City Building.

Lincoln Avenue Entryway Grant/Beautification

Mr. Gray announced that City Arborist Michael Brunk was successful in his efforts to receive, on behalf of the City, a grant from the Champaign County Design and Conservation (CCDC) Foundation in the amount of \$12,500 for entryway beautification on Lincoln Avenue near Interstate 74. The funds will be used to complete median improvements, brickwork and to purchase trees and plantings.

Mr. Hayes moved to send to Council An Ordinance Revising The Annual Budget Ordinance (Lincoln Ave. Entryway Beautification - \$12,500). The motion was seconded by Mr. Singer and carried by a voice vote.

Floodplain Ordinance Revision

Mr. Gray stated that he and Craig Grant have reviewed comments submitted by the Coordinator for Local Assistance Program, Floodplain Management Section of the Illinois Department of Transportation Division of Water Resources regarding the City's floodplain ordinance. The suggestions being reasonable and necessary to bring the City ordinance into compliance with federal emergency management agency requirements, staff recommends that the City ordinance be revised to incorporate the suggestions.

After some of the revisions were clarified by staff, Mr. Singer moved to send the Floodplain ordinance to Council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whelan and carried by a voice vote.

Mr. Pollock stated that the ordinance will be on the July 19, 1993 Council agenda.

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Noise Ordinance

Noting that the existing noise ordinance is virtually unenforceable, City Attorney Jack Waaler proposed changes that would provide police officers with regulations to enforce loud noise complaints.

Concerns were voiced regarding responsibility placed on persons who may have no control over the individual responsible for the offending noise. Mr. Waaler explained that the provisions were designed to assist police officers in determining a responsible party which has been difficult in the past.

Continued discussion focused on more narrowly defining who would be responsible for loud noise violations and whether landlords should be notified if tenants have been arrested for violating the noise ordinance.

Mr. Singer moved to send to Council An Ordinance Amending Chapter 16, "Noise And Vibrations" Of The Code Of Ordinances Of The City Of Urbana, Illinois to Council and requested that the City Attorney consider a more clear definition of who has been warned and who is citeable.

It was suggested that staff contact the City of Champaign to inquire about their experience with a similar ordinance.

The motion failed by a show of hands vote. Mr. Singer requested that the item be placed on the agenda of the next Committee meeting.

Mr. Pollock stated that the noise ordinance revisions will be placed on the agenda of the July 26, 1993 Committee on Environment and Public Safety meeting.

Resolution Determining Prevailing Wages

Mr. Waaler reported that the proposed resolution ascertaining prevailing wages is the same as those routinely approved by Council in the past. He said that investigation into the necessity of such a resolution has resulted in a determination that Council approval is required annually.

Mr. Whelan moved to send to Council A Resolution Ascertaining Prevailing Wages. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried by a voice vote.

Provisional License - Taxicab Drivers

Mr. Waaler explained that the State of Illinois has objected to the Police Department utilizing their computer access to State Criminal History files for the purpose of checking backgrounds of

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persons applying for city licenses. The procedure that must now be followed to obtain the information can take up to three to four weeks. Because the process is problematic for cab companies, a proposal has been developed to issue provisional licenses to taxi cab drivers for the interim period while background checks are being processed through the mail. A provisional license would be issued after a local background check; a permanent license issued or revoked based on the information received from the state.

Committee discussion focused on why the state is not allowing the computer system to be used for the purpose of background checks, what information is available locally, and the possibility of requesting assistance from state legislators and staff in determining if the state system could be used under any conditions.

Mr. Whelan moved to send to Council a provisional taxicab drivers license ordinance along with a request for staff to solicit help from state staff and officials in finding a way to access the information needed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Singer and failed by a voice vote.

Mayoral Appointments

Mr. Hayes moved to send to Council the Mayor's appointment of Jerry Stull to the Business District Development and Redevelopment Commission. The motion was seconded by Mr. Singer and carried by a voice vote.

Mr. Pollock stated that the appointment will be on the July 19, 1993 Council agenda.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Pollock declared the meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Menges, Secretary

*This meeting was tape recorded

**This meeting was broadcast on cable television

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