

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY

MAY 23, 1994

---

Committee Members Present:

James Hayes, Esther Patt, Michael Pollock, Marya Ryan, Clifford Singer (Chairman), and John Taylor

Committee Members Absent:

Joseph Whelan

Staff Members Present:

Bruce Walden, April Getchius, Tim Fitzpatrick, Jack Waaler, William Gray, Glenn Berman, Ronald Eldridge, Phyllis Clark and Mayor Satterthwaite

Others Present:

Dave Johnson, Members of the Media

Meeting Location:

Urbana City Council Chambers

There being a quorum, Chairman Singer called the meeting to Order at 7:31 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda and Staff Report

Mr. Pollock moved to reorder the agenda following Public Input as follows:

4. Motion Approving Carle Master Site Plan and Time Line
5. Proposed Zoning Text Amendment Regarding Regulations of Parking Lots (Plan Case No. 1531-T-94 - Definition and Regulation of Parking Lots)
6. Solid Waste
7. Budget

The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt. Following discussion, the motion carried by a voice vote.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mr. Pollock moved to approve the minutes of the April 25, 1994 regular meeting and send to Council an item to discuss parking at Urbana High School. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt and carried by a voice vote.

Petitions and Communications

Dave Johnson, 705 West Illinois Street, addressed the Committee regarding enforcement of parking regulations.

Motion Approving Carle Master Site Plan and Time Line

Community Development Director/City Planner April Getchius stated that at the Carle Neighborhood meeting on May 18, 1994, the neighbors requested that the time line be accompanied by specific dates. Since not all meetings have been set, Ms. Getchius prepared a chart to better describe the time line. (See attached.)

Ms. Getchius further presented questions regarding Carle's employment of minority and female contractors.

Following debate on issues of concern relating to the Carle Site Plan, Mr. Pollock moved Committee approval of the Carle Time Line. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt.

Following further debate, Ms. Patt moved to amend the motion to add to the time line a review of Carle's minority/female hiring practices and redevelopment of blight by the end of July, 1994. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ryan and carried by voice vote.

The motion for Committee approval of the Carle Time Line carried by a voice vote.

Proposed Zoning Text Amendment Regarding Regulations Of Parking Lots (Plan Case No. 1531-T-94 - Definition and Regulation of Parking Lots)

Mr. Singer moved to send the Proposed Zoning Text Amendment Regarding Regulations Of Parking Lots (Plan Case No. 1531-T-94 - Definition and Regulation of Parking Lots to the June 13, 1994 meeting of the Committee on Administration and Finance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes and carried by a voice vote.

Solid Waste

Mr. Singer stated that his remarks on solid waste are a part of the budget process and he would make them during discussion of the budget. There were no other comments on solid waste.

Budget

Mr. Singer presented his view of the fundamental questions that face the City regarding the budget.

Mr. Singer presented issues of importance to be considered. These issues are: the new city building, public safety, parking, library, recycling, pension costs, Non-TIF property tax rate, social services (charities), and PEG.

Mr. Singer distributed a list of budget items for consideration at this meeting. Those items are:

- Solid waste
- City building
- P.E.G.
- Library
- Streetscapes
- Other CD-relevant stuff
- CUCVB/EDC
- "Social services"
- Grant levels (Township)
- Rent Assistance (Township & Social Services)
- Revenues (solid waste tax levies, parking & message transmission later in 1994)

Following debate on the city building and whether the existing structure should be restructured or a building built at a location on North Lincoln Avenue, Mr. Pollock moved to accept the figure in the budget for the city building, \$3,500,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor. Following further debate, the motion carried by a voice vote.

Chief Administrative Officer Bruce Walden gave a brief overview of some amendments made to the budget by Mayor Satterthwaite which will be presented at the budget markup meeting on May 24, 1994.

Mr. Singer stated that the amount of senior level staffing has been reduced by 1 with the perspective merger of the Champaign-Urbana Convention and Visitors' Bureau (CUCVB) and Economic Development Corporation (EDC) and he would not like to take further funds from them while they are trying to reorganize.

Mayor Satterthwaite stated that last year both CUCVB and EDC had budgets that were spending down reserves. With the savings in the

executive salary, they are expected to have balanced budgets and he would recommend that the budgeted amount be left as it is.

Mr. Walden and Ms. Getchius discussed the need for a consultant for a study of the downtown area. After the Carle project is completed, the City will return to the issue of what to do with some of the development requests pending for the expansion of projects in downtown Urbana. The issue is to hire a consultant that might bring new ideas and objectives. This project will not happen until spring of 1995.

Mr. Singer requested that Ms. Getchius explain the contingency of \$18,000 in the Economic Development Fund. Ms. Getchius stated that these funds give the flexibility to be responsive to development opportunities such as studies and research.

In response to Mr. Singer's request for an explanation of the \$22,000 for marketing and dues in TIF I, II and III, Ms. Getchius stated that those funds are a combination of the Illinois Tax Increment Association dues, Urbana Corporation Promotion dues, as well as some signage and new banners for downtown. Also, the marketing materials for downtown are antiquated and need to be updated.

Mr. Singer addressed the Committee regarding the importance of the Rent Assistance program and its funding, and the issue of public safety.

Mr. Singer discussed a ruling regarding solid waste from Justice Kennedy regarding the Clarkstown Township, New York and requested that committee members review it before the final budget meeting on May 24, 1994.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Singer declared the meeting adjourned at 10:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Taylor  
Recording Secretary

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

Committee on Environment & Public Safety  
May 23, 1994  
Page 5