

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY

JUNE 27, 1994

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Committee Members Present:

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

Committee Members Absent:

None

Staff Members Present:

Bruce Walden, April Getchius, Charles Gordon, Jack Waaler, Bruce Stoffel, Phyllis Clark and Mayor Satterthwaite

Others Present:

Doris Brownridge, Roger Marcum and 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

Chairman Singer moved to approve the agenda with deletion of Resolution Regarding Prevailing Wages. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes and carried by a voice vote.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Ms. Ryan moved to approve the minutes of the May 23, 1994 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt and carried by a voice vote.

Petitions and Communications

There was none.

Modernization Plan - Housing Authority

Community Development Manager Bruce Stoffel and Community Development Director/City Planner April Getchius were present to discuss staff's view of the Modernization Plan - Housing Authority.

Mr. Stoffel stated that included on the agenda is a resolution authorizing Mayor Satterthwaite to execute a certification on behalf of the City in connection with the Housing Authority of Champaign County's (HACC) submittal of a Comprehensive Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The certification states that the HACC plan is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS), that the City was consulted during preparation of the plan, and that HACC's proposed drug elimination activities are coordinated with and supportive of the City's drug elimination and neighborhood improvement strategies. Certification by the City is required before HUD will accept the plan and before HUD will release public housing improvement funds to HACC for expenditure in Urbana. A joint Urbana-Champaign proposed resolution was drafted because certification is required from both cities.

HACC is a public agency providing public housing and administering Section 8 rent assistance for low-income Champaign County residents. It operates Lakeside Terrace, Dunbar Court and Steer Place in Urbana and administers approximately 200 Section 8 program certificates/vouchers in Urbana. HACC is funded almost exclusively by HUD.

Mayor Satterthwaite has asked Community Development Services staff to review a draft Comprehensive Plan for 1994, which was submitted by Doris Brownridge, HACC Acting Assistant Executive Director.

Mayor Satterthwaite and staff consulted with Champaign Mayor Dannel McCollum and Champaign city staff regarding the HACC Comprehensive Plan and management issues.

As a result of these consultations, a joint resolution was directed for consideration by the Councils of Champaign and Urbana. Realizing that the HACC has a challenging task, the resolution offers the cities' technical support and assistance in addressing management issues. If the resolution is passed by both councils, the local government certification would be executed by the mayors and submitted to HUD, the Champaign County Board, and HACC, along with a copy of the executed resolution.

Staff recommends City Council approval of A Resolution Authorizing The Mayors Of the City Of Champaign And The City Of Urbana To Execute The Local Government Statement For The Housing Authority Of Champaign County Comprehensive Plan.

Members of the Committee stated their concerns that all funds available to the HACC had not been applied for and utilized. The Committee also stated concern regarding the number of personnel vacancies within the

Agencies.

Ms. Brownridge answered questions regarding the management of and personnel working for HACC as posed by Members of the Committee. Ms. Brownridge stated that she had only been in her position as HACC Acting Assistant Executive Director since February, 1994 and there are fewer vacancies now than before she entered the position.

When questioned by the Committee regarding the management of the HACC, Acting Executive Director Roger Marcum deferred to Ms. Brownridge and declined to comment.

Mr. Pollock moved to send A Resolution Authorizing The Mayors Of The City Of Champaign And The City Of Urbana To Execute The Local Government Statement For The Housing Authority Of Champaign County Comprehensive Plan to Council. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ryan.

Following debate, Ms. Patt moved to amend the motion by replacing "WHEREAS, the municipalities generally support the Plan but have specific concerns and reservations as outlined herein."

with "WHEREAS, the municipalities support modernization of public housing units but have serious concerns about the ability of the Housing Authority of Champaign County to manage its funds responsibly;"

and replace Section 2.(a) "The HACC has not provided an adequate opportunity for formal local government participating in the PHA-wide comprehensive planning process."

with (a) "The HACC has failed to involve local government in the PHA-wide comprehensive planning process."

and add (f) "The HACC failed to utilize approximately \$500,000 of Transitional Self-Sufficiency Program funds, despite a commitment from the municipalities to provide \$75,000.00 of additional funding for administrative costs of the program. As a result, the HACC served only 22 households through the program which was sufficiently funded to serve 75 households."

The motion was seconded by Ms. Ryan. Following debate, the amendment to the resolution carried 6-1 by a roll call vote. Voting aye were Members of the Committee: Hayes, Patt, Pollock, Ryan, Singer and Taylor - 6; voting nay: Whelan - 1.

A Resolution Authorizing The Mayors Of The City Of Champaign And

The City Of Urbana To Execute The Local Government Statement For The Housing Authority Of Champaign County Comprehensive Plan, as amended carried 6-1 by roll call vote. Voting aye were Members of the Committee: Hayes, Patt, Pollock, Ryan, Singer and Taylor - 6; voting nay: Whelan 1.

Following further debate, Chairman Singer moved a sense of the Committee motion to send both A Resolution Authorizing The Mayors Of The City Of Champaign And The City Of Urbana To Execute The Local Government Statement For The Housing Authority Of Champaign County Comprehensive Plan, as amended, and A Resolution Authorizing The Mayors Of The City Of Champaign And The City Of Urbana To Execute The Local Government Statement For The Housing Authority Of Champaign County Comprehensive Plan to Council in the event that the City of Champaign does not approve the resolution as amended.

Following continued debate on the resolution and its accuracy and documentation, the motion failed 2-5 by roll call vote. Voting aye were Members of the Committee: Singer and Taylor - 2; voting nay: Hayes, Patt, Pollock, Ryan and Whelan - 5.

#### **Local Traffic Ordinance Codification**

City Attorney Jack Waaler presented an up-to-date compilation of the Urbana Local Traffic Ordinance for consideration by the Committee.

Following debate, Mr. Taylor moved to send to Council the Local Traffic Ordinance Codification. The motion was seconded by Mr. Singer and carried by a voice vote.

#### **CDBG Budget Amendment**

The Community Development Commission and Community Development staff recommend approval of An Ordinance Revising The Annual Budget Ordinance authorizing expenditure of CDBG funds for the proposed summer house painting training collaborative.

Mr. Hayes moved to send to council An Ordinance Revising The Annual Budget Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ryan and carried by a voice vote.

#### **Closed Session (Property Acquisition/Labor Negotiations)**

Mr. Hayes moved to go into closed session for the purpose of considering property acquisition/labor negotiations. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt and carried 7-0 by roll call vote. Voting aye were Members of the Committee: Hayes, Patt, Pollock, Ryan, Singer, Taylor and Whelan - 7; voting nay: none.

The Committee went into closed session at 9:25 p.m. and returned to Council Chambers at 10:52 p.m. with all members of the committee previously in attendance still present.

Mr. Taylor moved that the Committee reconvene. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ryan and carried 7-0 by roll call vote. Voting aye were Members of the Committee: Hayes, Patt, Pollock, Ryan, Singer, Taylor and Whelan - 7; voting nay: none.

### **Goal Setting Schedule**

Chairman Singer stated that he requested that this item be put on the agenda for consideration.

Following recognition by members of the committee that this item is of importance, it was decided that a retreat or some other type meeting would be preferable for its discussion.

Mayor Satterthwaite suggested that staff investigate possible alternatives for this meeting.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Singer declared the meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Taylor  
Recording Secretary

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

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