

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY

APRIL 22, 1996

7:30 P.M.

Committee Members Present:

James Hayes, Carolyn Kearns, Esther Patt, Michael Pollock,
Marya Ryan (Chairperson), and John Taylor

Committee Members Absent:

Joseph Whelan

Staff Members Present:

Police Chief Adair, Bruce Stoffel, Karen Rasmussen, Jack
Waalder, Bruce Walden, Phyllis Clark, and Mayor Satterthwaite

Others Present:

Delroy Robinson, Carol Mahar, Joan Burch, Betty Summers,
Frieda Wascher, Gerrard Archibald, Members of the Media

Meeting Location:

Urbana City Council Chambers

There being a quorum, Chairperson Ryan called the meeting to
order at 7:30 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda and Staff Report

Chairperson Ryan requested to remove the Discussion of
Enforcement Of Parking on Lawns from the agenda. There was no
objection.

Mayor Satterthwaite reported on the disaster implementations
and provided color coded maps depicting the level of damage done to
the houses in that area. One hundred and ten structures were damaged
in some way; twenty-five of those had major damage, another twenty-
five to thirty had moderate damage, and the rest had minor damage.

The City has been communicating with residents of that area
through newsletter leaflets. Most of Eagle Ridge and Ennis Ridge is
no longer a restricted area but there is still police presence. There
is still a check point in Eagle Ridge because of the severity of
damage there. All power has been restored.

Permit fees will be waived for any construction work that needs to be done in the tornado damaged area. The area has been declared a disaster area on the local and state level, but no word has been received yet as to whether it will be a Federal disaster area.

Mayor Satterthwaite thanked everyone for their assistance and cooperation during this difficult time.

Chief Administrative Officer Bruce Walden presented the budget presentation schedule for Monday and Tuesday, April 29 and 30, 1996.

Mr. Hayes stated that it was a pleasure to represent the Mayor and the City of Urbana at the Rally for Hopeful Kids. This was a project to try to assure that all preschool children have their immunizations.

Mr. Hayes presented Mayor Satterthwaite with a baseball cap on behalf of the Hopeful Kids.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Ms. Kearns moved to approve the minutes of the March 25, 1996 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes and carried by a voice vote.

Public Input

Carol Mahar, 1611 Beckman Court, addressed the Committee to publicly praise the City of Urbana for their quick response in handling of the tornado disaster.

Carol Mahar, Joan Burch, and Betty Summers, representing the Champaign County Chapter of the University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service, were present to answer any questions regarding the money management program.

Frieda Wascher, representing Habitat for Humanity, addressed the Committee to thank the City for the donation of the property at 806 North Harvey.

Gerrard Archibald, 1105 East Oregon, addressed the Committee regarding a response to suggestions and questions he had posed previously regarding the solid waste ordinance.

Mayor Satterthwaite stated if Mr. Archibald would call his office, he would be glad to meet with him.

Chairperson Ryan echoed Mayor Satterthwaite's commendation of City personnel, as well as many other Agencies and Cities that have

Committee on Environment & Public Safety

April 22, 1996

Page 3

helped, for their handling of the disaster.

Review of Traffic Commission Minutes

Mr. Pollock inquired about the discussion of the parking on Cedar and Green.

Chairperson Ryan stated Tom Bruno, who has an office in that area, was concerned that with the construction of an apartment building, there would be more demand for on-street parking. Mr. Bruno requested that there be metered spaces put into that location. That is problematic because it is a residential street.

Ms. Patt stated that she asked that the issue of parking on lawns be put on the agenda due to complaints from her constituents. There are two different laws, depending on whether the lawn is on the parkway side or on private property. One involves traffic, the other involves zoning.

Mr. Pollock stated that part of the difficulty with this and other parking nuisances is that there are three different departments administering it, Police, Public Works, and Community Development. Perhaps centralizing these functions in one office would make it easier to enforce.

Discussion of Res. No. 9596-R35: A Resolution Approving The Urbana HOME Consortium And City Of Urbana Consolidated Plan Annual Action Plan For Program Year 1996-1997 And Authorizing Its Submittal To The U.S. Department Of Housing And Urban Development

Delroy Robinson, representing the Urban League, addressed the Committee regarding the Urban League's employment and training program and was available to answer questions from the Committee.

In response to a question from Mr. Pollock regarding what the Urban League has in mind to target the funds received from the City of Urbana to Urbana residents, Mr. Robinson stated that the League will make sure that the funds go to residents of the City of Urbana.

Ms. Kearns stated that, after speaking with various agencies, City staff and others involved, her feeling is that the Committee should support staff's original recommendation. Ms. Kearns stated that her concern is the number of people served by the funds, and eliminating the money management program. People need to be able to manage their money in order to improve themselves.

Regarding the youth scholarships, Ms. Kearns stated that the

Committee on Environment & Public Safety

April 22, 1996

Page 4

concerns she had heard are that the Urbana Park District is a taxing entity and they have passed a referendum. Ms. Kearns stated that the referendum was not for scholarships, it was for the recreation center, Meadow Brook Park, and the Anita Purves Center. The Park District uses approximately \$22,000 for scholarships. The 4-H Camp is a very valuable investment. The Central Illinois Conservatory of Music supports 25% of the scholarships that are awarded. With the Conservatory and The Reading Group, that is three scholarships each, and they are very important. How would very low income children be able to attend these classes if they didn't receive scholarships?

Ms. Kearns stated that the \$11,150 for the M.A.L.E. Project has aspects that concern her. In a letter received from Planned Parenthood April 11th, it was indicated that next year the Jr. Male Project would be started and ongoing at King School. The Principal at King School had never had anyone contact him. There is already a tutoring-mentorship program at King School.

Ms. Patt stated that it is unfortunate that this issue came to the Committee with a recommendation from staff contradicting the recommendation from the Community Development Commission.

All these programs are worthwhile. Ms. Patt stated that she would hate to see them put off under the premise that they might receive social service funding.

One of the primary reasons the Community Development Commission recommended funding for the M.A.L.E. Project and El Centro Por Los Trabajadores was because those projects are unique and there are no other agencies doing specifically what they are doing. There is no other program that is targeting the low income Hispanic community.

In the area of youth scholarships, in the last couple of years, the Community Development Commission has allocated small amounts of money to several different sources in that area. This year the Commission put all youth scholarships into the M.A.L.E. Project.

Ms. Patt inquired of people representing Planned Parenthood seated in the gallery if they could break their request down more? Carla Peterson, Director of Education and Training and Supervisor for the M.A.L.E. Project, stated that the senior male program currently has six young men from Urbana and the remaining young men are from Champaign. It would be very difficult to begin a new program in a grade school with less funding, even if they were to take one of the Champaign programs out, because it takes considerable staff time to develop a program and develop contacts with the young men and their parents.

Mr. Pollock inquired if it was in the realm of possibility

Committee on Environment & Public Safety

April 22, 1996

Page 5

for the Council to fund half of the requested \$11,000 and ask for a match from Planned Parenthood for the other half for a program for Urbana youths.

Ms. Peterson stated that it takes 15 to 20 hours for one staff person to develop a new program. Planned Parenthood had thought it would be fairly easy to develop a program in an Urbana elementary school with \$11,000. A lesser amount would not be enough to open a program at an Urbana site.

Mr. Pollock stated that he is working with a pool of \$13,150. This represents what he thinks gets the most value for the dollar. It does not include the request from the Urbana Park District. It is a good program, but they are a taxing district and have the ability to tax for their programs.

Mr. Pollock's moved to fund the following:

\$5,600 (Urbana specific)	Planned Parenthood
5,600	Money Management Program
800	The Reading Group
1,150	Conservatory of Central Illinois of Music

The motion was seconded by Ms. Kearns.

Chairperson Ryan stated that all she would change from the Commission's recommendation for youth activities. She would leave in the money for El Centro Por Los Trabajadores.

Ms. Kearns stated that since the money management program is funded equally by other entities, the Committee should check to see if it can still function if the City of Urbana decreases its funding.

Carol Mahar stated that if the funding is cut, the other partners have to be notified that one partner has cut funding and those partners would have to decide what portion they will fund.

Chairperson Ryan inquired if there is a breakdown of hours spent with Urbana residents and Champaign residents? Ms. Mahar responded that it would be sent to the Committee.

Betty Summers stated that her case load is minimum 80 countywide participants. She is currently working with 36 Urbana family units that are enrolled and working full time.

Mr. Hayes stated that he would hate to see the funding for Planned Parenthood go below \$5,600. This funding is needed in order to help to change attitudes of adult males.

Mr. Pollock stated that he intends to ask for an Urbana

Committee on Environment & Public Safety

April 22, 1996

Page 6

specific program from Planned Parenthood and that would be almost impossible to do with less than \$5,600.

Chairperson Ryan stated that she would like to see funding for El Centro Por Los Trabajadores and 4-H Camp.

The motion to fund as follows:

\$5,600 (Urbana specific)	Planned Parenthood
5,600	Money Management Program
800	The Reading Group
1,150	Conservatory of Music

carried by a voice vote.

Mr. Taylor moved to take the \$1,150 for the Conservatory of Music of Central Illinois and split it, \$575 for the Conservatory and \$575 for 4-H scholarships. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pollock and carried by a voice vote.

Ms. Patt moved to take \$600 from Planned Parenthood and \$600 from the Money Management Program for \$1,200 for El Centro Por Los Trabajadores. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried by a voice vote.

An Ordinance Amending Section 15-63 Of The Urbana City Code Entitled "Curfew For Minors" And Section 1-18 Entitled "Minimum Fine Schedule For Certain Violations"

Mayor Satterthwaite explained that this ordinance recommends minor changes to the curfew ordinance. (See copy attached.)

The idea is to get parents more involved in curfew violations and to be sure parents are notified when curfew is violated by minors.

Mr. Pollock questioned if there has been a deficiency found in the application of the ordinance? City Attorney Jack Waaler stated that the basic problem is the number of repeat offenders that take the ordinance lightly. The Legal Division and the Police Department believe that parents should be involved. A procedure was created to involve the parent in the second offense in order to eliminate the problem rather than see the same juvenile repeatedly in court. The punishment for the violation is usually 10-15 hours of public service. Compliance is a problem.

Mr. Pollock inquired how many instances there have been of more than two curfew violations? Mr. Waaler stated that he didn't have the statistics but at least 25 and maybe as many as 50.

Mr. Hayes inquired what happens to the parent that wants the child to be home before curfew and calls into the Police Department to let the police know the child is not home but that is now their choice? Does that parent get any relief in that situation? Mr. Waaler stated that he would probably use prosecutorial discretion and not charge the parent, if that parent had done all that could be done.

Ms. Patt inquired if a parent is breaking the law if they wish to allow their 16 year old to stay out until 11:30 p.m. and give him permission to do so? Mr. Waaler stated that if the parent is not present with the child, the child is breaking curfew.

Ms. Kearns asked if a minor is given a ticket when they are caught violating curfew? Mr. Waaler stated that they are given a notice to appear. The minor is returned to the parent.

Ms. Patt stated that the American Civil Liberties Union is opposed to this type of law due to the following reasons:

1. The curfew law makes criminal behavior which is not wrong, hurts no one, and is really none of the government's business.
2. The law is arbitrary in its designation of age--of hours--and in its distinction between week nights and weekends.
3. The law vests in the police the discretionary power to conduct searches of innocent persons without probable cause.
4. There is risk that the law would be disproportionately enforced against low-income and minority youths.
5. The curfew law constitutes unwarranted government interference in the parent-child relationship.

This unwarranted intrusion would be further aggravated by the proposed change in the law which seeks to punish parents for knowingly allowing their children to stay out after 11:00 p.m.

No public good would be served by the City Council using the power of the police and taking up the time of the courts to veto a parent's judgment about how late a teenager can stay up or stay out.

No public good would be served by involving parents or teenagers in the criminal justice system when no criminal activity is involved--other than disregard for a ridiculous law.

Ms. Patt moved to repeal Section 15.6.3 of the City Code and direct staff to draft an ordinance to that effect for the Council meeting on May 6, 1996.

Mr. Taylor moved a friendly amendment to table the ordinance to the meeting of the Committee on Environment and Public Safety on June 24, 1996. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt and carried by a voice vote.

An Ordinance Vacating A Portion Of Berkley Avenue

Mr. Waaler stated that it had been brought to his attention that an Ordinance was passed in 1969 in which the City, in cooperation with the school district, vacated Berkley Avenue near Washington School. There was an error in the legal description and this ordinance corrects that description.

Prior to passing this Ordinance, it would need to go through the notice procedure for the 45-days prior to vacating a street.

Mr. Pollock moved that staff take measures to resolve this issue. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried by a voice vote.

An Ordinance Amending The Urbana Local Traffic Code (Section 14-13, Section 14-4, and Schedules K, M, and N)

Mr. Waaler stated that the City would like to change the loop around the Post Office drop boxes to tow-away zone and no parking from 3:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. so it would coordinate with the other 3:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and tow-away zone which is in another portion of Lincoln Square.

Following debate, Mr. Hayes moved to send **An Ordinance Amending The Urbana Local Traffic Code (Section 14-13, Section 14-4, and Schedules K, M, and N)** to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pollock and carried by a voice vote.

Proposed Annual MFT Maintenance Program For 1996

Mayor Satterthwaite stated that this is the MFT Resolution for street resurfacing.

Mr. Pollock inquired whether some of the houses on Scottswood and Dodson are in the City or whether the City and the County should be doing some of this work together. Mayor Satterthwaite said he could find out.

Mr. Taylor moved to send **Proposed Annual MFT Maintenance Program For 1996** to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kearns and carried by a voice vote.

An Ordinance Authorizing The Sale Of Certain Real Estate Owned By The City Of Urbana And Acquired Under The Community Development Block Grant Program (806 North Harvey Street)

Grants Management Manager Bruce Stoffel stated that this is the paperwork required to donate the property at 806 North Harvey Street to Habitat for Humanity. The "as is" condition is a cleared lot.

Mr. Hayes moved to send **An Ordinance Authorizing The Sale Of Certain Real Estate Owned By The City Of Urbana And Acquired Under The Community Development Block Grant Program (806 North Harvey Street)** to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt and carried by a voice vote.

Mr. Stoffel stated that Ms. Wascher wanted the Committee to know that there will be an open house on Sunday, April 28, 1996 at 3:00 p.m. at the 1308 Eads lot, which is the Habitat property that is being done by the University Chapter.

An Ordinance Amending Chapter Fourteen Of The Code Of Ordinances, City Of Urbana, Illinois Regarding The Schedule Of Fees

Mr. Waaler stated that this has to be on file with the City Clerk for 30 days before Council can act on it.

Mayor Satterthwaite stated that this Schedule of Fees is acted on every year before the budget process. Some of the major fees are increased every year by an inflationary percentage.

Mr. Pollock questioned whether the purchase of the new Vactor would be taken out of the Vehicle Equipment and Replacement Fund? Mayor Satterthwaite stated that it would.

Mr. Pollock stated that he is not sure whether the sewer benefit tax should be raised by an inflationary rate and then have another 2% added to that. It seems that the inflationary rate should be enough. He asked that someone from Public Works address the Committee on why they need both increases before Council acts on this.

Mr. Pollock moved to send this to the meeting of the Committee on Administration and Finance on May 13, 1996. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried by a voice vote.

Rules Committee Announcement

Mr. Taylor stated that the closed minutes are with City

Committee on Environment & Public Safety

April 22, 1996

Page 10

Clerk Phyllis Clark, Mayor Satterthwaite and Mr. Waaler. There is a recommendation from the Mayor and Mr. Waaler regarding which closed minutes will be released. Please look them over and submit any suggestions to Mayor Satterthwaite, Mr. Taylor or Mr. Waaler.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chairperson Ryan declared the meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Taylor
Recording Secretary

*This meeting was taped.

**This meeting was broadcast on cable television.