

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
OCTOBER 28, 2002
7:30 P.M.**

Committee Members Present:

James H. Hayes, Jr., Laura Huth, Milton Otto (Chair), Esther Patt, and Ruth Wyman (arrived at 8:05 p.m.)

Committee Members Absent:

Danielle Chynoweth and Joseph A. Whelan (excused)

Staff Members Present:

Police Chief Adair, City Clerk Phyllis Clark, Comptroller Ronald Eldridge, Assistant City Engineer Gale Jamison, Planning Manager Rob Kowalski, Economic Development Specialist Kathy Larson Public Works Director William Gray, Office Manager Delora Siebrecht, Community Development Director Elizabeth Tyler, Assistant City Attorney Stephen Holz, Chief Administrative Officer Bruce Walden, and Mayor Satterthwaite

Others Present:

Mike Martin, Laurie Bonnett, Dale Huffman, Carl Hill, Laura Haber, and Members of the Media

Meeting Location:

City Council Chambers, 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, Illinois.

There being a quorum, Mr. Hayes called the meeting to order at 7:52 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda and Staff Report

There were none.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Ms. Patt moved to approve the October 14, 2002 minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Otto and carried by a voice vote.

Public Input

Community members addressing the Committee in support of Resolution No. 2002-10-028R: A Resolution Extending the Single-Family Home Tax Rebate Program for Two Additional Years (Build Urbana):

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Mike Martin, representing the Atkins Group
Laurie Bonnett, Executive Director of the Urbana Business Association
Dale Huffman, new homeowner/resident of Urbana
Carl Hill, area developer

Laura Haber, representing the Urbana School District, addressed the Committee regarding the King Park Community Center proposal.

Mr. Hayes stated that attendance was good at the King Park Neighborhood meeting, which was held prior to the Committee meeting. Mr. Hayes stated his desire to keep a dialogue continuing between the City and the residents of the King Park Neighborhood.

Ordinance No. 2002-02-013: An Ordinance to Immobilize and Impound Vehicles with Unpaid Parking Fines

Comptroller Ronald Eldridge stated that Delora Siebrecht had included a memorandum in the Committee packet with information related to collecting parking tickets. Mr. Eldridge stated that the Finance Department had identified what they feel are the problems with collecting parking tickets, especially those that are above 10 with people who don't live locally who don't come in to take care of their suspended drivers license.

Collecting parking tickets is very important to the parking system. If parking tickets, the goals of the parking system will fail. For various reasons, the boot cannot be used as a substitute for suspending driver's licenses. Boots are very costly; the car has to be located; the boot put on and later removed. The boot is recommended as a supplement to the suspension program.

Following debate, Mr. Otto moved to forward **Ordinance No. 2002-02-013: An Ordinance to Immobilize and Impound Vehicles with Unpaid Parking Fines** to Council with recommendation for approval with an amendment that the boot be applied at 20 tickets rather than 10. The motion died for a lack of a second.

Ms. Patt moved that the Committee request that staff bring back the necessary ordinance changes to provide for the notice that is given 60 days after a tenth ticket is unpaid, to include the intent to both suspend the drivers license and to tow if the ticket is not paid within 45 more days, and to enable our staff to employ both options for tickets that are not paid 45 days after getting the notice in accordance with the present procedures. (Ms. Wyman arrived.) The motion was seconded by Ms. Wyman. Following debate, Ms. Patt's motion carried by a voice vote.

Ordinance No. 2002-02-013: An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Vehicle Immobilization Devices)

This ordinance is linked with the previous ordinance and no action was taken.

Ordinance No. 2002-10-128: An Ordinance Approving a Final Subdivision Plat (Savannah Green Subdivision Phase IV – Plan Case No. 1844-S-02)

Planning Manager Rob Kowalski presented staff report. Construx of Illinois has submitted a final plat for Phase IV of Savannah Green Subdivision. The plat would create 61 lots to the north of Phase II and III, which are currently under construction. The plat would dedicate the continuation of Smith Road, Oglethorpe Avenue, and Montgomery Street from their existing stubs to the south. The plat would also create four new alleys to serve the lots from the rear. Staff recommends approval.

Ms. Patt moved to send **Ordinance No. 2002-10-128: An Ordinance Approving a Final Subdivision Plat (Savannah Green Subdivision Phase IV – Plan Case No. 1844-S-02)** with a recommendation for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Huth and carried by a voice vote.

Resolution No. 2002-10-028R: A Resolution Extending the Single-Family Home Tax Rate Rebate Program for Two Additional Years (Build Urbana)

Economic Development Specialist Kathy Larson presented staff report. Initiated in 2001, the City's Single-Family Home Tax Rebate Program has provided incentives for builders, developers, and homeowners to construct new housing in Urbana. This Program rebates the property tax difference between Urbana and Champaign to the homeowner, which equalizes the taxes on new Urbana homes. The Tax Rebate Program is also an integral part of the Build Urbana program. Due to the success of the Tax Rebate Program and a hope for continued success, staff has received numerous requests for its extension over an additional period of time. Staff recommends approval.

Following debate, Ms. Patt moved to send **Resolution No. 2002-10-028R: A Resolution Extending the Single-Family Home Tax Rate Rebate Program for Two Additional Years (Build Urbana)** to the November 18, 2002 Council Meeting with a recommendation for approval to give the public the opportunity to communicate with Members of the Council regarding this issue. The motion was seconded by Mr. Otto. Following debate, the motion carried by a voice vote.

Ordinance No. 2002-10-127: An Ordinance Amending Schedule J of Section 23-183 of the Urbana Local Traffic Code Prohibiting Parking at All Times on Certain Streets (Lincoln Avenue, Anthony Drive, Kenyon Drive)

Public Works Director Bill Gray presented staff report. The ordinance (Schedule J) is for the establishment of a "No Parking This Side of Street" zone on both sides of Lincoln Avenue from Interstate 74 to Somer Drive, Anthony Drive from Oak Street to 410 West Anthony, and Kenyon Road from Oak Street to Gregory Street. This is necessary due to problems of semi-trucks parking on these streets and blocking traffic while waiting to unload in the early morning hours at the SuperValu warehouse. Staff recommends approval.

Following debate, Mr. Hayes moved to forward **Ordinance No. 2002-10-127: An Ordinance Amending Schedule J of Section 23-183 of the Urbana Local Traffic Code Prohibiting Parking at All Times on Certain Streets (Lincoln Avenue, Anthony Drive, Kenyon Drive)** to Council with a recommendation for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Huth and carried by a voice vote.

Urbana Landfill Update

Mr. Gray stated that the City received a letter dated October 18, 2002 from the IEPA which put the City on notice that it may be creating a water pollution hazard by allowing leachate flow into the Saline Branch from the City's landfill. This letter was based on an inspection conducted by IEPA staff on September 23, 2002, with no supporting analytical data.

The Public Works Department has received sample analysis from two separate and distinct substances seeping from the Saline Branch banks from our consultant's testing lab. One substance was a clear liquid that is comparable to the groundwater found in the Wedron aquifer. There were no PCB's or organics detected and the total dissolved solids are comparable to levels found in Class II groundwater.

The second sample was from a petroleum-based residue. The material consistency is similar to an asphaltic type substance. The sample indicated a presence of compounds commonly found in an asphalt pavement. No PCB's were detected.

This week water samples have been taken upstream and downstream of the landfill site for analysis in order to determine what impact may have resulted to the Saline Branch eco-system. The results should be available for discussion in November.

It is too early to determine the costs to contain the stream bank seepage and stabilize the bank and landfill. Staff intends to solicit Requests for Qualifications from engineering firms to design the appropriate solution.

Public Works crews are continuing to contain the petroleum distillate bank seepage and maintain an absorbent boom on the surface of the Saline Branch.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee; Chair Wyman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Taylor
Recording Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED: