

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
September 26, 2005

Committee Members Present:

Lynne Barnes, Brandon Bowersox, Danielle Chynoweth, Robert Lewis, Dennis Roberts, Charlie Smyth, Heather Stevenson, and Mayor Prussing -8.

Committee Members Absent:

None.

Staff Members Present:

Police Chief Eddie Adair, Comptroller Ron Eldridge, Public Works Director Bill Gray, Personnel Manager Mona Shannon, Community Development Director Libby Tyler, and Chief Administrative Officer Bruce Walden.

Others Present:

Gary Cziko, Tyler Fitch, Laura Huth, Georgia Morgan, Hiram Paley, and Members of the Media.

Meeting Location:

Urbana City Council Chambers

There being a quorum, Chair Roberts called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda and Staff Report

Ms. Barnes requested to add a discussion on requesting the Mayor to add on an ad hoc advisory task force to work with staff to develop ordinances to improve public safety in or near high density rental units.

Chief Administrative Officer Bruce Walden stated the Committee Members would probably receive some information on staffs' strategy to accomplish Council goals and also some additional goals from staff.

Mayor Prussing stated that she had attended the Illinois Municipal League Convention. At the convention, she attended a session on reducing crime in rental

properties and she has passed out copies of the Schaumburg Crime Free Multi-Housing Project. This report has a copy of their ordinance and a discussion of their project.

Mr. Walden stated that Police Chief Adair had passed out a memo regarding the Department's efforts to curtail the burglaries in East Urbana.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Ms. Stevenson moved to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2005 meeting of the Committee of the Whole. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bowersox and carried by a voice vote.

Public Input

Laura Huth, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity, invited the Members of the Committee to attend the dedication of a house at 1310 West Eads on Saturday, October 1, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. The home is for Felicia Huff Family.

Hiram Paley, 706 West California, addressed the Committee regarding the traffic on Lincoln Avenue.

Mr. Bowersox reported that the Police Department's First Thursday community meeting will be held Thursday, October 6, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at Vineyard Church.

Ordinance No. 2005-09-140: An Ordinance Requiring Payment of a Stormwater Drainage Connection Fee Relating to a Certain Tract (PIN #91-21-06-426-004 and #91-21-426-009/Marathon Tract)

Public Works Director Bill Gray presented staff report. The five acre Marathon Tract is not party to any specific development agreement and it is now advised that the City consider an ordinance requiring payment of a stormwater connection fee. The prorated fee for the five-acre tract is \$74,632.

It is advisable that an ordinance be in place to confirm the Marathon requirement for that payment if detention is to be provided off-site. It is staffs' understanding that the developer wants to provide stormwater detention offsite rather than use up valuable developable land.

Following debate, Ms. Barnes moved to forward **Ordinance No. 2005-09-140: An Ordinance Requiring Payment of a Stormwater Drainage Connection Fee Relating to a Certain Tract (PIN #91-21-06-426-004 and #91-21-426-009/Marathon Tract)** to Council with a recommendation for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smyth.

Following further debate, the motion carried by a voice vote.

Approval of an Entryway Sign

Mr. Gray stated that the City has received a request to install entryway signs in an area bounded by Washington Street, Vine Street, Maple Street, and Glover Avenue from the Historic East Urbana Neighborhood Association (HUENA). Staff felt a city-wide policy would be appropriate.

Entryway signs would be placed in the City right-of-way and the material costs will be the responsibility of the requestor. It is suggested that the City would pay for and provide labor and equipment to make sure the installation and hardware used for installation met City standards.

Ms. Barnes moved to forward the request for **Approval of an Entry Sign Policy** to Council with a recommendation for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Stevenson. Following debate, the motion carried by a voice vote.

Tyler Fitch, 503 East California, addressed the Committee in support of the HUENA neighborhood signs.

Resolution No. 2005-09-015R: A Resolution Determining the Amounts of Money Necessary to be Raised by the Tax Levy

Comptroller Ron Eldridge presented staff report. State of Illinois Truth-in-Taxation Law requires that the City make a determination of the maximum amount that is being considered to be levied. If the amount is above a 5% increase notice must be given to the public of the City's intent to adopt this levy and the City must hold a public hearing for comment. That is the purpose of this resolution. Staff recommends approval.

Ms. Barnes abstained from discussion and vote on this issue due to a conflict of interest.

Following debate, Mr. Bowersox moved to forward **Resolution No. 2005-09-015R: A Resolution Determining the Amounts of Money Necessary to be Raised by the Tax Levy**. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lewis and the motion carried by a voice vote.

Report on Employee Retention and Recruitment

Mr. Walden and Personnel Manager Mona Shannon presented staff report. On August 22, 2005, the Council agreed upon the appointed positions to be added to civil service and the notice period to be included in employment agreements between the City and appointees. At that time the Finance Office Manager, Public Works Operations Manager, Facilities Manager, and Fleet Manager were removed from the list of the annual appoints and staff was requested to bring back sample employment agreements for the remaining appointed positions.

These sample employment agreements are very similar to the draft agreements received previously. Each agreement uses the notice period agreed upon during that meeting. The original sample prepared for Department Heads and the City Attorney was revised to include appointed Division Managers, the language was clarified and the male pronouns were removed. Also included was the residency requirement for some positions.

Following debate, Mr. Smyth moved to forward the ordinance relating to the term of City Officers to Council with a recommendation for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Chynoweth and carried by a voice vote.

Mr. Smyth moved for forward an ordinance authorizing the execution of an employment agreement with amended attachments to Council with a recommendation for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barnes and carried by a voice vote.

Mr. Bowersox moved to direct Mr. Waaler to bring to Council next week the necessary civil service text amendments if they are ready. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smyth and carried by a voice vote.

Resolution No. 2005-09-016R: A Resolution in Support of Local Franchising

Mayor Prussing presented staff report. Three bills have been introduced into the 109th Congress of the United States that would prevent the City of Urbana from requiring providers of cable and video services that use City rights-of-way from having to obtain a franchise from the city from thus meeting local community needs.

This resolution would oppose these bills.

Ms. Chynoweth moved to forward **Resolution No. 2005-09-016R: A Resolution in Support of Local Franchising** to Council with a recommendation for approval. The motion was seconded by the motion Ms. Barnes. Following debate, Mr. Smyth requested to add a phrase immediately following in the third "WHEREAS" from the bottom: "the City of Urbana recognizes that airwaves are a commodity that belongs to the public local..." This was accepted as a friendly amendment. The motion carried by a voice vote.

The motion to rescind the personnel issue came in here.

Mr. Smyth requested a 5 minute break at 8:55 p.m. The Committee resumed at 9:05 p.m. with all Members previously in attendance still present.

Mr. Bowersox stated that he had been informed that the vote on the ordinances for the **Report on Employment and Recruitment** were in error and moved to rescind those motions and forward those items to the next Committee. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barnes and carried by a voice vote.

Campus Area Transportation Study Discussion

Mr. Gray introduced Jerry Payonk representing Clark Dietz, author of the project, and Rita Black, Transportation Engineer for CUAATS, both of whom have been very active in this study.

This study has been ongoing for about ten years. The purpose of this report is to seek direction on the adoption of the recommendations of Phase II of the Campus Area Transportation Study.

The Phase II Study completed the following tasks:

- Established a circulation plan for the University District that supported the modal priorities established by the Phase I Study.
- Confirmed that each recommended change, when implemented, contributed to improved traffic circulation.
- Confirmed the appropriate phasing of the recommendations.
- Established design standards to ensure consistent designs of projects when they are implemented by different agencies.
- Developed more accurate cost estimates, and proposed responsibility for implementation and cost sharing on each recommendation.

The CATS II recommendations can be divided into three areas including design guidelines, proposed street treatments and project implementations.

Mr. Paynok reviewed the three areas of recommendations.

Georgia Morgan, 804 West Nevada and Gary Cziko, 506 West Vermont, expressed the concerns regarding how the traffic on North Lincoln will be affected.

Debate followed the presentation. No action was required on this item.

Champaign County Visioning Project Presentation

Frank DiNovo, representing the Regional Planning Commission, presented the report on this project which is entitled big.small.all. big.small.all the name of an organization and this project.

The emphasis of the program is to develop a County-wide vision for the future looking out 24 or 30 years that identifies common goals, values, and ambitions.

Debate followed a power point outline of big.small.all. No action was needed on this item.

Ms. Chynoweth moved to defer discussion on the remaining two items,

Discussion: Affordable Housing – Inclusionary Housing Models and an Ad Hoc Committee for Public Safety in or Near High Density Rental Units to the Committee meeting on October 10, 2005. The motion was seconded by Ms. Stevenson and carried by a voice vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Roberts declared the meeting adjourned at 10:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Taylor
Recording Secretary

*This meeting was taped.

**This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

Minutes approved: October 10, 2005