

CITY OF URBANA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - DECEMBER 11, 2006 - 7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 400 S. VINE STREET, URBANA, IL

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Brandon Bowersox (Chair); Danielle Chynoweth; Robert E. Lewis; Dennis Roberts; Charlie Smyth; Heather Stevenson; Laurell Lunt Prussing; Phyllis Clark

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: Lynne Barnes (excused)

STAFF PRESENT: Bruce Walden; James Gitz; Michael Bily; William Gray; Elizabeth Tyler; Robert Myers; Rebecca Bicksler; Jeff Engstrom

OTHERS PRESENT: Members of the Media

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Bowersox called the meeting of the Committee Of The Whole to order at 7:50 p.m. *[Note: Meeting called to order at this hour due to a special Council meeting that took place at 7:00 p.m.]*

2. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT**

There were no additions to the agenda.

Elizabeth Tyler (Community Development Services Director/City Planner) gave a brief update on the Property Maintenance Code.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

November 27, 2006 - Mr. Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held November 27, 2006. Mr. Roberts seconded.

Mr. Smyth noted an error on page 1 under "Committee Members Present". This section should show Ms Chynoweth as the Chair and not Ms Barnes. There were no objections.

The motion to approve the minutes of November 27, 2006 carried by a voice vote, as amended.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

There was none.

5. **REPORT ON HOUSING INVESTMENT CORPORATION WORKSHOP**

Robert Myers (Planning Division Manager) presented the staff report. As a result of the Committee's direction to staff at its October 23, 2006 meeting, staff organized an introductory workshop on housing investment corporations. Several requests were made to hold an expanded workshop and invite specialists to speak on different aspects of housing investment corporations. Staff is proposing the following steps:

- a. Continue to hold meetings with neighborhood groups to talk about solutions for neighborhood problems, including use of housing investment corporations; and
- b. Hold an expanded workshop on housing investment corporations. Planned speakers would include an attorney to answer questions about incorporating not-for-profit organizations, and a board member of a CDC or HIC from Chicago or St. Louis to answer questions about working in neighborhoods near large universities.

It was the consensus of the Committee that staff move forward with the steps presented this evening.

6. **RULES REGARDING TELEPHONIC PARTICIPATION AT CITY COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

James Gitz (City Attorney) presented the staff report.

Following debate, Mr. Smyth moved to send both the ordinance and Council Rules changes to a special Council meeting. Ms Stevenson seconded. Debate ensued.

Following further debate, the motion carried by voice vote.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Bowersox declared the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Deborah J. Roberts
Recording Secretary

*This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

Minutes Approved: January 8, 2007