

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY

JULY 24, 1995

7:30 P.M.

Committee Members Present:

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

Committee Members Absent:

Clifford Singer

Staff Members Present:

Bill Gray, Tim Fitzpatrick, Rod Fletcher, Pat Pioletti,
April Getchius, Glenn Berman, Phyllis Clark, and Mayor
Satterthwaite

Others Present:

Frieda Wascher, Dee Miles, Jane Miles, and 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

Mr. Hayes requested that item 9, Solid Waste Ordinance
Changes, be placed as the last item on the agenda. There were no
objections.

Chairperson Ryan requested that item 6, Staff Report on
Nuisance Ordinances, be discussed with Staff Report. There were no
objections.

Mr. Whelan requested that item 10, Tax Incentives For
Existing Business, and item 11, Parking on Clark Street, be placed as
items 4 and 5 following Public Input. There were no objections.

Mayor Satterthwaite reported on a memo from Public Works
Director William Gray and Environmental Manager Rod Fletcher updating
the status of multifamily recycling.

Staff was previously directed to initiate actions for Council to consider alternatives for a multifamily recycling program by August 1, 1995.

A Statement of Interest (SOI) was issued to the haulers, other potential collection entities, and Council members on June 15, 1995. The purpose of this SOI was to identify those interested and gather their input for program development. Responses to the SOI were due on July 7, 1995. No responses were received.

There are three methods by which recycling services can be provided: a single or multiple hauler(s) could provide service under contract with the City as a result of a solicitation process; owners of multifamily unit properties could be required by ordinance to provide services to tenants; or haulers could be required by ordinance to provide multifamily unit customers with services.

At this time, staff has no recommendation regarding these methods.

Staff is continuing to develop a general recycling program guide for multifamily owners. The purpose of this is to facilitate interest and provide information to these owners while Council considers this program. The target date to complete the guide is August 15, 1995.

After a draft guide is completed, it will be put out to haulers, Council, and interested parties for comment.

Mr. Gray presented the status of the Nuisance Code revisions stating that there are two chapters under consideration. They are chapter 11, regarding health and sanitation, and chapter 25, relating to vegetation. Staff is working on the draft, and it should be ready for legal review soon.

In addition to the legislative changes, there will also be changes to internal documents, such as violation notices and permit forms.

It is hoped that the revisions will be ready for Committee review by the August 28, 1995 meeting of the Committee on Environment and Public Safety.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mr. Hayes moved to approve the minutes of the June 26, 1995 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt. The motion to approve the minutes carried by a voice vote.

Public Input

Frieda Wascher, 803 W. Fairview, addressed the Committee with her concerns regarding the four-way stop at Busey and Fairview and urged the Committee to retain it. Ms. Wascher also addressed the need for tax incentives for existing businesses, stating that at one time business were the underwriting girder of the community. If tax incentives are needed to draw businesses into a community, there is something wrong with the system.

Jane Wiles, representing UCAN, addressed the Committee to urge retention of the four-way stop at Fairview and Busey. Ms. Wiles mentioned the safety of people crossing the street at that intersection as a serious concern.

Dee Miles, 813 W. Fairview, addressed the Committee regarding the need for the four-way stop sign at Busey and Fairview, indicating safety is a major reason that it should be retained.

Chairperson Ryan requested that the questions from the gallery regarding the Final Report Review - Traffic Impact Analysis be kept for future reference.

Tax Incentives For Existing Business

Mr. Whelan stated that he has asked Mr. Taylor if he would agree to be on a informal committee to discuss the retention of business with staff and the Mayor. Mr. Whelan stated that he had also asked former Council Member Bob Hurt and George Chaplin, a developer in the community, to participate in the discussions. They have agreed to do this.

Mr. Whelan moved to create such a committee with that purpose in mind and move it to the Council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor.

Mayor Satterthwaite stated that he would be willing to meet with this group but saw no need to create a committee or to create any more bureaucracy.

Mr. Whelan stated that it was not his intent to create more bureaucracy, but to have an ad hoc bipartisan committee to work on this issue with the Mayor.

Mr. Taylor stated that he feels this is a good idea and is willing to participate.

Mr. Whelan stated that he appreciates Mayor Satterthwaite's willingness to cooperate.

Mr. Taylor suggested that the meeting be held some morning at 8:00 a.m. with the people Mr. Whelan has suggested and that it be published as an open meeting.

The motion to hold the meetings carried by a voice vote.

Parking on Clark Street

Mr. Whelan stated that the issue of parking on Clark street has been addressed previously and regards parking meters in that area.

After exploring this issue further, it appears that some of the people in the neighborhood are concerned about Carle employees using the parking on Clark Street without leaving the meters during the day.

Mr. Whelan requested that this issue be brought back for consideration and inquired what staff position had been on this issue?

Mr. Gray stated that a recommendation for parking meters on the south side of Clark street stemmed from an assessment report on the Park Street closing at Carle Foundation. One of the recommendations from that report was to put parking meters on the south side of Clark between Busey and Coler. The end results was that the west half of the south side of Clark was left unmetered.

Chairperson Ryan stated that she has not had any complaints about the parking situation on Clark Street.

In response to a question from Ms. Patt regarding the length of the meters, Mr. Gray stated that they are ten hour meters.

Responding to Ms. Patt's question whether it is possible for meters over the City to have different start times, Facilities Manager Pat Pioletti stated that all hours of enforcement over the City are consistent, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., even in the parking deck. The only variances from that are the 24 hour, 7 day, parking permits and Lincoln Square, which is not metered. It probably is possible to create a separate enforcement zone within a larger area of specialized enforcement.

Mr. Pioletti pointed out that parking is enforced by the Police Department.

Mr. Pollock stated that it is not a good idea to establish a

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metered area with different times as it would be difficult to administer. Unless the metered area designated a residential parking zone, there is no way to have just residential parking.

Following further debate, Mr. Whelan moved to increase the meters from Coler to Busey on the south side of the street, as originally recommended and ask staff to report back regarding the timing of the meters. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor.

Following debate, the motion failed 3-3 by show of hands vote.

Review of Traffic Commission Minutes

In response to a question from Mr. Hayes regarding whether a traffic signal being put in at Philo and Windsor within a two year period is definite, Mr. Gray stated that it would be a definite installation with the anticipation of the Meijer project.

Mr. Whelan discussed the problems of crossing the street at Vine and Windsor, stating that staff suggestions of moving forward with studies makes good sense.

Mr. Pollock stated that he is at that intersection two or three times a week at various hours and there is an overwhelming amount of traffic on Windsor compared to what is coming off Vine. With the increased traffic there will be with the commercial development further down on Windsor, there is no question that the stop sign will be needed.

Mr. Gray stated that there will be a change in the traffic conditions when the University is back in session full time in the fall. That will be a better time to get a more critical evaluation of that intersection.

Mr. Taylor stated that his chief concern is visibility. Standing at the northeast corner of Windsor and Vine and looking to the east there is a rise where traffic comes pretty quickly. Is that covered in any of the warrants?

Mr. Gray said that is incorporated into the gap counts. That is how much time there is between when one vehicle crosses and then another.

Mr. Taylor stated that he was uncomfortable trying to cross at that intersection with children.

Mayor Satterthwaite thanked staff for the very thorough study they have done on this intersection. It will be monitored

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during the fall season also. The speed on Windsor Road is also being monitored.

In response to a question from Mr. Taylor asking if there is any other way to address the visibility problem coming over the rise immediately before the park, Mr. Gray stated that will be handled by signage. There will be playground signs put up to serve as a warning that children are present. There will also be a flashing signal up for a time, to call attention to the sign.

No action is required on this issue at this time.

Four-Way Stop at Busey and Fairview

Chairperson Ryan stated that this issue was forwarded from the Traffic Commission with the recommendation to make that stop permanent.

Mr. Hayes moved to send this item to Council with the recommendation to make the stop signs at Busey and Fairview permanent. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt.

Mayor Satterthwaite stated that he is in favor of leaving the intersection just as it is as a four-way stop.

Mr. Whelan concurred with the Mayor.

Following debate, Mr. Taylor moved to table the issue of the Four-Way Stop at Busey and Fairview. The motion died for lack of a second.

Following further debate, Mr. Singer moved a friendly amendment that staff be directed to prepare an ordinance designating the intersection at Busey and Fairview a four-way stop. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whelan. There was no objection.

Following debate, the motion carried by a voice vote.

Acquisition of Property and Budget Ordinance Amendment - Public Works

Assistant to the Director Glenn Berman and Pat Pioletti addressed the Committee in support of the purchase of the property at 807 S. Glover, a vacant lot across from Public Works center. Staff is requesting a budget amendment in the amount of \$15,750 for the difference in the actual purchase price of the land over the amount budgeted which is \$60,000, to purchase this property.

Staff recommends approval of the proposed budget amendment

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and authorization ordinance. The property is the only totally vacant land proximate to the Public Works Center and will be essential for any economical and practical long term expansion of the facility.

Following debate regarding other Public Work's property and its use, and whether or not there is a need for this property, Mr. Taylor moved to send the Acquisition of Property and Budget Ordinance

Amendment to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes and carried by a voice vote.

Prevailing Wage Resolution

Mr. Taylor moved to send the Prevailing Wage Resolution to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt and carried by a voice vote.

Solid Waste Ordinance Changes

Mr. Hayes moved that the Committee go into closed session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor. Following debate, the motion carried by a voice vote.

The Committee went into closed session at 9:24 p.m and returned to open session at 9:40 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chairperson Ryan declared the meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Taylor
Recording Secretary

**This meeting was broadcast on cable television.