

**CITY OF URBANA
COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE - OCTOBER 9, 1995
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 400 S. VINE STREET, URBANA, IL**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Pollock, Chair; James Hayes, Jr; Carolyn Kearns; Esther Patt; Marya Ryan; John Taylor

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Joseph Whelan, Jr.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Tod Satterthwaite, Mayor; Phyllis Clark, City Clerk; Bruce Walden, Chief Administrative Officer; Jack Waaler, City Attorney; Eddie Adair, Chief of Police; William Pessemier, Fire Chief; Ron Eldridge, Comptroller; Reed Berger, Economic Development Coordinator; Craig Grant, Building Safety Division Manager; Diane Schober, Grants Management Coordinator; Glen Berman, Assist. Public Works Director

OTHERS PRESENT: Michele Gurgas; Douglas S. K. Chien; Robert Naiman; Earl O'Shea; Jonathan Sterne; Carrie A. Rentschler; Robert Naiman; Scott Maddux; Gretta Guzman; Tracy Egan; James Ellis; Steve Frankel; Shoshana Cohen; Belden Fields; Ron Neimark; Bichat Frederigne; Marcy Null; Jessica Stone; Radhika Mongia; Samantha King; Sarah Clusen; Blair Tuttle; Marcella Smith; Cynthia Morales; Peter Miller; Antonietta Marongie; Adam Berrey; Rick Russell; Media

There being a quorum, Chairman Pollock called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

1. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT

Chairman Pollock noted corrections to the agenda on item #8 (ending date corrected to read "June 30, 1996") and #10 (\$5.75 corrected to read "\$5.705").

Mayor Satterthwaite commented on item #15 (A Resolution Urging a Retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal) stating that Ms Ryan was responding to a constituent request, however, he does not believe this item to be appropriate to have on the Committee agenda because it does not pertain to City of Urbana business. Mayor Satterthwaite requested that this item be deleted from the agenda.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to delete item #15 from the agenda. Ms Kearns seconded.

Ms Patt indicated that it would be discourteous to Ms Ryan to remove this item from the agenda without allowing her the opportunity to introduce her concerns.

Ms Ryan pointed out that every year we take approximately 15

minutes or so to congratulate the boys Little League team. This is not City business but we do it because the people involved are Urbana residents and we want to do something nice for the children. Ms Ryan informed the Committee of three proposals she has been approached with during her term in office.

1) Last year an environmental group asked her to propose an ordinance barring the Public Works Department from using certain tropical woods. Mayor Satterthwaite was willing to make that an executive policy, therefore, there was no need for an ordinance.

2) This summer, she was asked to bring forward an item regarding foreign aid, to which she has not yet had time to focus on.

3) A couple of weeks ago, she was asked to address the issue on tonight's agenda.

Ms Ryan stated that governmental bodies have considered these types of resolutions. It was her opinion that one of the things people dislike about government is that they feel it is not responsive to them. Ms Ryan requested that this item remain on the agenda.

Mayor Satterthwaite stated that congratulating the Little League could not be compared to a resolution of this nature. To make an intelligent decision or statement on issue of whether someone should or should not get a retrial would take months of research. Mayor Satterthwaite stated that it would be inappropriate to ask the Council to make a statement or decision they cannot possibly have enough information to make, or to ask them to take the time to get the information they would need to make an intelligent decision. There are many other venues available (i.e., an individual or group holding a press conference or writing letters or joining either statewide or national groups).

With a show of hands, the motion to delete item #15 from the agenda failed.

With regard to agenda item numbers 7 through 10, Mr. Walden requested, if the Committee desired to do so, sending only item #7 to Council for formal approval at its October 16, 1995 meeting. Because of the timeframes established by State Statutes, Mr. Walden requested that agenda items 8, 9 & 10 be forwarded to the November 6, 1995 Council meeting.

Mr. Walden noted that he had distributed a corrected version

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of a memo regarding the CIP lighting funding options.

2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Ms Patt made a motion to approve the minutes of September 11, 1995. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor. The motion carried by voice vote.

3. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Michele Gurgas, 409 Elm #6, did not address the Committee, but asked that her position be entered into the record as being in support of releasing the RFP on franchising for solid waste.

Douglas Chien, 404 W. Elm Street, addressed the Committee in favor of releasing the RFP on franchising for solid waste.

Robert Naiman, 702 Western #2, did not address the Committee on the topic of franchising, but wanted it noted for the record that he is in favor of releasing the RFP.

Earl O'Shea, 606-A Glover, addressed the Committee on the topics of better government and the resolution regarding a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Jonathan Sterne, 905 E. Illinois Street, addressed the Committee in support of the resolution regarding a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Carrie Rentschler, 905 E. Illinois Street, did not address the Committee, but wanted to be entered into record as being in support of the resolution regarding a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Robert Naiman, 702 Western #2, addressed the Committee in support of Alderwoman Ryan's resolution for a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal. Regarding the question of appropriateness, Mr. Naiman indicated that as a resident of Urbana he feels more comfortable addressing the City Council than perhaps another higher legislature.

Scott Maddux, 211 W. Nevada, did not address the Committee, but wanted to be entered into record as being in support of releasing the RFP on franchising for solid waste.

Greta Guzman, 404 W. Elm, did not address the Committee, but was entered into record as being in support of releasing the RFP on franchising for solid waste.

Tracy Egan, 905 W. Church, Champaign, addressed the Committee in support of the resolution for a retrial for Mumia

Abu-Jamal.

Marcella Smith, 507 W. California, did not address the Committee, but wanted to be entered into the record as being in support of the resolution for a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal and also releasing the RFP on franchising for solid waste.

Blair Tuttle, 507 W. California, did not address the Committee, but wanted to be entered into the record as being in support of the resolution for a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal and also releasing the RFP on franchising for solid waste.

James Ellis, 618 W. Springfield #2, Champaign, did not address the Committee, but wanted to be entered into the record as being in support of the resolution for a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal and also releasing the RFP on franchising for solid waste.

Steve Frankel, 409 W. Elm #6, stated that he was in support of a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal and also addressed the Committee on the topic of the RFP on franchising for solid waste. He was in support of releasing the RFP and addressed parts of the Solid Waste Management Planning Goals.

Shoshana Cohen, 1108 S. Lincoln #9, did not address the Committee, but wanted to be entered into record as being in support of releasing the RFP on franchising for solid waste.

Belden Fields, 206 W. Pennsylvania, addressed the Committee in support of the resolution for a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal. Mr. Fields gave a brief synopsis about the trial and addressed some of the concerns raised by Mayor Satterthwaite.

Ron Neimark did not address the Committee, but wanted to be entered into record as being in support of releasing the RFP on franchising for solid waste and the resolution for a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Douglas Chien, 404 W. Elm Street, did not address the Committee on the topic of a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal, but was entered in the record as being in support of the resolution.

Adam Berrey, 303 W. Urbana, did not address the Committee, but wanted to be entered into the record as being in support of the resolution urging a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Bichat Frederigne, 307 John Street, Champaign, did not address the Committee, but was in support of releasing the RFP on franchising for solid waste.

Marcy Null, 605 E. White, did not address the Committee, but was in support of releasing the RFP on franchising for solid waste.

Jessica Stone, 202 E. John Street #A11, did not address the Committee, but was entered into record as supporting the release of the RFP on franchising for solid waste.

Radhika Mongia, 1 Buena Vista Court, did not address the Committee, but was entered into record supporting the resolution urging a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Samantha King, 906 S. Maple, did not address the Committee, but was entered into record supporting the resolution urging a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Sarah Clusen, 105 N. Busey, Apt. 103, did not address the Committee, but was in support of releasing the RFP on franchising for solid waste.

The following people submitted public input cards late, but requested that their names be entered into record:

Cynthia Morales, 404 W. Elm Street, supporting the release of the RFP on franchising for solid waste; Peter Miller, 804 S. Race, supporting the resolution for a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal and releasing the RFP on franchising for solid waste; and Antonietta Marongie, 714-B S. Race, supporting the resolution for a retrial for Mumia Abu-Jamal and releasing the RFP on franchising for solid waste.

6. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE (906 AND 908 WEST EADS STREET)

Diane Schober informed the Committee that this would probably be one of the last properties to be acquired to complete the "build-out" of the Eads at Lincoln development.

Mr. Hayes made a motion to send to Council. Ms Patt seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

7., 8., 9. & 10. A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE AMOUNTS OF MONEY NECESSARY TO BE RAISED FOR THE TAX LEVY; ANNUAL TAX LEVY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 1995 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 1996; AN ORDINANCE ABATING TAX LEVY FOR \$1.0 MILLION GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 1992; AND AN ORDINANCE ABATING TAX LEVY FOR \$5.705 MILLION GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 1994

Chairman Pollock reminded the Committee of staff's request that the resolution be acted on first at the October 16, 1995 Council meeting, and the remaining tax levy ordinances be acted on at the November 6, 1995 Council meeting.

Ron Eldridge stated that, under the Truth and Taxation Law, we are first required to pass the resolution which sets the maximum that we intend to levy. With this in mind, there is a two-week delay in the passage of the ordinances.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to send the resolution to Council for approval on October 16, 1995. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes. The motion carried by voice vote.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to send the tax levy ordinances to Council for approval on November 6, 1995. The motion was seconded by Ms Kearns. The motion carried by voice vote.

4. SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER PROPOSAL

Reed Berger presented staff's report. Mr. Berger stated that the proposal would essentially provide service for two days a week for small business assistance. If the Small Business Development Center is established it would begin as a pilot project under contract with the University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service. Mr. Berger stated that they are looking at opening a storefront office which would be located where the Urbana Promotion Corporation currently meets at 111 W. Main Street, Urbana. The City's 1995-96 CDBG Program includes \$25,000 for the establishment of a small business development center. Upon approval by the Council, staff will proceed to negotiate a contract with the Cooperative Extension Service and open the center by November 1, 1995.

Mr. Taylor inquired if the City was obligated beyond the \$25,000. Mr. Berger responded "no."

The program would assist people who are already in business as well as those who want to start a business. Ms Ryan inquired about how the program would be promoted to people who are not already in the business so that they would know this is a service that would be available to them. Mr. Berger responded that staff plans to notify via a newsletter and would be holding workshops that would be focused on certain target groups.

Mr. Hayes expressed concerns on pages 5 and 8 of the proposal. On page 5, regarding individual counseling sessions, he wanted to know if the purpose would be better served by having

a group processed in the individual stage instead of individual counseling sessions. With regard to creative financing for small business on page 8, perhaps this could be dealt with in an initial group setting where more people could be informed and it would cut down the cost. Mr. Hayes also noted that there was no mention of the cost to the participant.

Rick Russell, U of I Cooperative Extension Service, addressed Mr. Hayes' concerns. There are group counseling sessions where there are up to 30 individuals which deal with individuals who are interested in starting a business or who are actually in a business. The individual counseling sessions are offered as a compliment to the group sessions, since some people are not comfortable as a group. Typically, someone will go into a group counseling session first and then follow-up with individual sessions. The fees for the service are all incorporated into the total project cost of \$19,000. There is no fee for individual counseling sessions.

Chairman Pollock clarified that even though target areas are mentioned, it is a communitywide program for the benefit of anyone in the city. Until we are successful in drawing in other municipalities and organizations, the funds that are dedicated through the City of Urbana's CDBG will be funneled to Urbana residents.

Mr. Hayes made a motion to send to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms Ryan. The motion carried by voice vote.

5. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF URBANA, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS AND THE GOOSE ALLEY PROPERTY OWNERS

Mr. Berger stated that staff's intent was to model the Redevelopment Agreement that would authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement so that all of the property owners, as a developer, could be bound as one entity.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to send to Council for approval. Ms Patt seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

11. A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A STREET LIGHTING REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

Chairman Pollock noted that this item was originally discussed at the October 2, 1995 Council meeting and was tabled with an amendment on the floor which read: "The staff will identify funding sources, initial cash infusion, budget

surpluses, or any combination of these methods to insure that the residential street improvement program will not be interrupted."

Mr. Walden stated that this project is very preliminary. There is no engineering design as yet. Mr. Walden reminded the Committee that this plan would be presented at least nine (9) more times. It is a part of the CIP and has to be reviewed each year. Mr. Walden mentioned one option would be to announce now that the City will extend the timeframe of this project from 9 years to 9 years plus one construction season. Another option would be identify current or future savings for a one-time cash infusion to the plan. Lastly, with regard to the Motor Vehicle Parking System, Mr. Walden stated that additional contributions beyond the \$250,000 contributed in FY 95 are not advisable.

Mr. Taylor made a substitute motion to extend the project timetable to ten (10) years. Chair Pollock seconded for purpose of discussion.

Mr. Taylor indicated that changing the timetable to ten years would allow adequate funds and appears to be a more solid budgeting process.

Chairman Pollock stated that he would not support the substitute motion because there are so many options that it is extremely likely that the project will be completed in 9 years, as recommended by staff, and not impact the street program.

Following debate, the substitute motion failed by voice vote.

At this time the Committee acted on the current motion on the floor which was tabled at the last Council meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.

Ms Kearns made a motion to send back to Council for approval. Mr. Hayes seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

12. **REVISIONS TO THE WASTE HAULERS' LICENSE ORDINANCE**

Mayor Satterthwaite stated that in a telephone conversation earlier today with Stewart Diamond it was decided not to forward anything to Council at this time.

This agenda item will be held until staff is prepared to make a presentation to Council.

13. **SOLID WASTE RFP**

Ms Ryan stated she did not request this item be placed on the agenda for a vote this evening. Her thoughts were that the Council consider what alternative would be taken if unable to implement the compromise ordinance. Ms Ryan inquired how long it might take to restructure the bid process for a two or three zone RFP as opposed to the four zone that was tabled. Mr. Fletcher responded that approximately 30 days.

Mayor Satterthwaite added that when four zones were being considered in the past, the bid determination process was extremely difficult and cumbersome. If fewer than four zones were being considered, the easier the process gets.

End of discussion.

At this time, Chairman Pollock acknowledged that Mr. Walden had additional staff report concerning the Cross property on Glover Street. Mr. Walden gave the Committee a brief update regarding Jeff Cross' property located on Glover Street. A judge will make a determination as to whether or not Mr. Cross is in compliance with the out of court settlement this Friday, October 13, 1995. There has been some documentation provided by the City that he is not in compliance with the court supervised agreement.

14. **FIRE DEPARTMENT HAZARDOUS MATERIAL TRAINING**

Chief Pessemier presented his report to the Committee. They are requesting an additional \$20,000 to be added to the overtime line item budget. The technician level training begins October 23, 1995. The second module begins April 8, 1996. In order to get staff into the technician level they have to be certified at the operations level, which begins on October 16, 1995.

Mr. Taylor inquired where the funds would come from. Mr. Walden responded that they are still trying to determine what accounts to take the funds from within other departments. An effort is being made to review all possibilities in the hope of not having to use funds from the savings account.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to send this request to the next Council meeting and if funds from other City departments are not found, they be taken from the reserve account. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes. The motion carried by voice vote.

15. **A RESOLUTION URGING A RETRIAL FOR MUMIA ABU-JAMAL**

Ms Ryan presented a new sense of Council motion which reads:
"It is the sense of the City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, that enough questions have been raised about the trial

by which Mumia Abu-Jamal was convicted of murder and sentenced to death that the case should be retried under a new presiding judge."

Ms Ryan made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Ms. Patt.

Ms Ryan explained that the motion did not have anything to do with guilt, but due process.

Ms Kearns expressed opposition to the motion stating that she did not believe this issue was appropriate for the Council to act on and that she hoped the Council would not go back to dealing with everything that is wrong with the world.

Mr. Hayes acknowledged his support of the motion.

Mayor Satterthwaite concurred with Ms Kearns and stated that there are other more appropriate ways to support this issue.

Ms Patt stated that between 1972 and 1992 nationwide 48 people were released from death row after courts acknowledged that they were wrongfully convicted. The biggest problem with capital punishment is that it is irrevocable and once someone has been put to death the mistake has been made and there is no way to correct it. Ms Patt stated that for this reason she is in support of the motion.

With a show of hands, the motion failed.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Pollock adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah J. Roberts
Recording Secretary

*This meeting was broadcast on cable television.