

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY

MAY 28, 1996

7:30 P.M.

Committee Members Present:

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

Committee Members Absent:

None

Staff Members Present:

Police Chief Adair, Fire Chief Pessemier, April Getchius,
Bill Gray, Bruce Stoffel, Karen Rasmussen, Jack Waaler,
Bruce Walden, Amy Jordan, Phyllis Clark, and Mayor
Satterthwaite

Others Present:

Sandy Peyton, Virginia Farmer, Carolyn Wills, Brian Wills,
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

Chairperson Ryan requested to move item 8, An Ordinance
Authorizing The Sale Of Certain Real Estate Owned By The City Of
Urbana And Acquired Under The Community Development Block Grant
Program (910 West Church Street); item 9, An Ordinance Authorizing The
Purchase Of Certain Real Estate (710 North Hickory Street); and item
10, An Ordinance Authorizing The Purchase Of Certain Real Estate (718
1/2 North Hickory Street) to follow item 13, An Ordinance Transferring
A Certain Parcel Of Real Estate From The City Of Urbana To The Urbana
Park District, so that all the property acquisition items will be in
sequence. There were no objections.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mr. Taylor moved to approve the minutes of the April 22, 1996 meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt. Mr. Hayes requested to change Hopeful Kids to Hope for Kids each time that it occurs on page 2. There were no objections. The minutes, as amended, were approved by a voice vote.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in remembrance of Memorial Day.

Public Input

Mr. Taylor requested to move item 12, An Amendment To Section 14-12 Of The Urbana Local Traffic Code (West Urbana Parking Zone) To Include The Area Bounded by Vermont, Delaware, Race and Broadway to follow item 4, Review of Traffic Commission Minutes.

Virginia Farmer, 118 West Vermont, and Sandy Peyton, 1408 South Race Street, addressed the Committee to present a petition requesting that 3:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. restricted parking be extended to the west side of Broadway from Pennsylvania to Florida, inclusive of Pennsylvania and Florida, with no parking this side of the street on the north side of Vermont, from Race to Broadway, and no parking this side of the street on the south side of Delaware from Race to Broadway. Permit parking from 3:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. would be on the north side of Delaware, south side of Vermont, and Pennsylvania, as well as the east side of Race.

This request is being made to address the intrusion of non-resident parking that is occurring on Delaware, Vermont and Pennsylvania.

Virginia Farmer presented pictures to illustrate the parking problem in that area.

Ms. Peyton stated that the residents of Delmont Village chose not to participate in the petition and did not take a position.

In response to questions from Mr. Taylor, Ms. Peyton stated that the parking problem is not a problem with high school students but employees of the University and neighbors that live further down in the 600 hundred block of Race Street. Delmont Court has garages on site for their residents to use.

In response to Mr. Pollock's question regarding whether there is enough off street parking for people in the neighborhood, Ms.

Committee on Environment & Public Safety
May 28, 1996
Page 3

Peyton stated that most of the people have drives or double drives.

Carolyn and Brian Wills, 112 W. Vermont, did not address the Committee but indicated support for the amendment to the West Urbana parking zone.

Review of Traffic Commission Minutes

There were no comments.

An Amendment To Section 14-12 Of The Urbana Local Traffic Code (West Urbana Parking Zone) To Include The Area Bounded by Vermont, Delaware, Race and Broadway

Chairperson Ryan stated that the title of this amendment should include changes to 14-3 because there are two ordinances, one which would extend the parking zone and the other which would ban parking on one side each of Vermont and Delaware between Race and Broadway. The title would be An Amendment To Section 14-12 And 14-3 Of The Urbana Local Traffic Code (West Urbana Parking Zone) To Include The Area Bounded By Vermont, Delaware, Race And Broadway. There were no objections.

Mr. Taylor moved to send An Amendment To Section 14-12 And 14-3 Of The Urbana Local Traffic Code (West Urbana Parking Zone) To Include The Area Bounded By Vermont, Delaware, Race And Broadway. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt.

Mr. Pollock asked for a separation of the two sections for discussion purposes. There was no objection.

Mr. Pollock stated that he supports the second part which is taking parking off of one side of those streets. There is not a lot of room when cars are parked on both sides of the street.

Mr. Pollock stated that he is not convinced residents in a neighborhood are owed empty streets and he does not see it as a safety issue. If there is a need to do this for safety reasons or because there is not enough off street parking for residents, he is willing to consider it. In this case he has not seen those problems.

Mr. Taylor stated that the problem this far from campus is not as acute as it is nearer to campus. Public Works has stated in their memo that "the residents' claims of parking congestion causing problems with street cleaning and snow removal, driveway ingress, egress and guest parking are justified and confirmed by observations in the field."

Ms. Kearns stated her support for the ordinance.

The motion to send section 14-12 to Council carried by a voice vote.

The motion to send section 14-3 to Council carried by a voice vote.

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 24 Section 24-100 Of The Code Of Ordinances Of The City Of Urbana, Illinois Regarding Cable Television Joint CATV Commission

PEG Coordinator Amy Jordan was present to answer questions regarding the proposed Ordinance.

Mr. Pollock stated that the City asked the Cable Commission to reinvent itself in the face of an assault from someone on the Champaign City Council who would like to disband the commission. Both Councils decided at that time to take a look at what the commission is doing; whether to disband it or have it expand its mission.

The commission has presented this language to the City of Urbana and similar language to the City of Champaign to rename it and expand its venue.

Mr. Pollock stated his support for the ordinance.

In response to a question from Ms. Patt regarding the amount of funding the City provides to the Cable Commission, Mr. Pollock stated that it was in the neighborhood of two to three thousand dollars a year.

Mr. Taylor moved to send **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 24 Section 24-100 Of The Code Of Ordinances Of The City Of Urbana, Illinois Regarding Cable Television Joint CATV Commission** to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes and carried by a voice vote.

A Resolution Regarding Building Code Requirements In Annexation Agreements

Community Development Director April Getchius stated that this resolution is for the Council's consideration to determine policy regarding building code requirements in annexation agreements.

Champaign County does not have building codes other than

Committee on Environment & Public Safety

May 28, 1996

Page 5

those required by state law. As a result, there have been homes built on the city's fringe that do not meet city building codes.

Staff has routinely brought annexation agreements to Council where code compliance is required, but it is not always specified how the builder is expected to comply with these standards.

Staff recommends approval of this resolution.

Mr. Pollock inquired how this impacts people who annex property that is not up to code or is this for new construction? Ms. Getchius stated that this is for new construction. When commercial properties are annexed, there is a walk-through. If there are existing structures code issues that need to be addressed, the City works with them to make sure those get done. Properties are required to be up to code.

Mr. Taylor moved to send A Resolution Regarding Building Code Requirements In Annexation Agreements to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kearns and carried by a voice vote.

A Resolution Approving An Application For Shelter Plus Care Program Funds From The U.S. Department Of Housing And Urban Development

Grants Management Manager Bruce Stoffel stated that Grants Coordinator Karen Rasmussen has prepared a draft application for the Shelter Plus Care Program.

Mr. Hayes questioned if any other communities provide locations for some of the scattered sites? Mr. Stoffel stated that the locations will be throughout Champaign County.

Mr. Hayes inquired what happens to the program after the initial five year period? Ms. Rasmussen stated that there are a number of possibilities. It can be hoped that there would be an extension available to us or there is the possibility that there will be no further funding and we will only be able to run the program for five years.

In response to Mr. Whelan's question regarding the initiative for this program, Ms. Rasmussen stated the need was discussed by staff and outside agencies. There were a number of people that attended the briefing in Chicago to discuss new funding possibilities. The topic has also been discussed at the Council of Service Providers to the Homeless, shelter directors, and some of the transitional housing directors.

Mayor Satterthwaite stated that programs with five year funding cycles are too long to state definitely about future funding. In awhile, the City can evaluate its position. This program is consistent with our Consolidated Plan.

Mr. Whelan stated his feeling that scattered site housing within a neighborhood could have a negative effect on a neighborhood and he cannot support this program.

Ms. Patt stated that these are federal tax dollars available for this special purpose and as such, we should pursue the dollars to assist the people in our community rather than just watch them go for use in other communities.

Mr. Pollock questioned whether the eight percent of this funding that would cover the administration of the program is enough, who will provide the administration, and will there be a fiscal impact to the City?

Mr. Stoffel stated that the eight percent comes out of the total grant amount which is based on an assumption that the tenant is paying zero dollars toward their rent. In fact, the tenant will be paying 30 percent on a traditional Section 8 formula. It is vague at this time as to whom will administer the program. If the funds become available, it would be Council's decision whether to administer it in house or contract it. The four agencies that are cooperating in this project are being asked to use their existing staff and funds to do all the case management and the work with the individuals and families participating. The Housing Authority has some interest in the program.

In response to Mr. Pollock's question as to when the funds would be available, Ms. Rasmussen stated that there is no technical submission for this program. This is the only application and we should hear very shortly. The funds could be available the first of the year if we receive approval.

Ms. Patt moved to send A Resolution Approving An Application For Shelter Plus Care Program Funds From The U.S. Department Of Housing And Urban Development to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kearns.

Mr. Pollock stated that it needs to be ascertained whether there is future liability, either administratively or financially, to the City.

The motion to send A Resolution Approving An Application For

Shelter Plus Care Program Funds From The U.S. Department Of Housing And Urban Development to Council for approval carried by a voice vote.

An Ordinance Amending Section 8-3 Of The Urbana Local Traffic Code Requiring Stop Signs At Certain Intersections (Wiley at Pennsylvania)

Mr. Whelan moved to send An Ordinance Amending Section 8-3 Of The Urbana Local Traffic Code Requiring Stop Signs At Certain Intersections (Wiley at Pennsylvania) to Council. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kearns.

Mr. Pollock stated his understanding that the primary reason for this is because this intersection is a crosswalk for school children and at present this intersection is unsafe.

Mr. Whelan stated that this is a hazardous place for children to cross and supported passage of the ordinance.

The motion to send An Ordinance Amending Section 8-3 Of The Urbana Local Traffic Code Requiring Stop Signs At Certain Intersections (Wiley at Pennsylvania) to Council carried by a voice vote.

An Ordinance Transferring A Certain Parcel Of Real Estate From The City Of Urbana To The Urbana Park District

Ms. Kearns moved to send An Ordinance Transferring A Certain Parcel Of Real Estate From The City Of Urbana To The Urbana Park District to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whelan and carried by a voice vote.

An Ordinance Authorizing The Sale Of Certain Real Estate Owned By The City Of Urbana And Acquired Under The Community Development Block Grant Program (910 West Church Street)

Mr. Pollock moved to send An Ordinance Authorizing The Sale Of Certain Real Estate Owned By The City Of Urbana And Acquired Under The Community Development Block Grant Program (910 West Church Street) to Council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whelan and carried by a voice vote.

An Ordinance Authorizing The Purchase Of Certain Real Estate (710 North Hickory Street)

Committee on Environment & Public Safety
May 28, 1996
Page 8

Mr. Pollock moved to send An Ordinance Authorizing The Purchase Of Certain Real Estate (710 North Hickory Street) to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whelan and carried by a voice vote.

An Ordinance Authorizing The Purchase Of Certain Real Estate (718 1/2 North Hickory Street)

Mr. Whelan moved to send An Ordinance Authorizing The Purchase Of Certain Real Estate (718 1/2 North Hickory Street) to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pollock and carried by a voice vote.

An Ordinance Authorizing The Acquisition Of Certain Property By Purchase Or Eminent Domain (Woodland Park Plan)

Mr. Stoffel stated that a copy of the agreement between the City and the Sanitary District regarding this area had been provided. The two properties listed in the ordinance are the two on which an acquisition agreement has not been reached. These discussions were started in December of 1994. The original offer was not accepted. Staff requested counter offers and did not receive any.

Staff is requesting direction on the property at 704 and 706 North Hickory. The owners of this property have asked for an agreement for consideration of purchasing property at 702 North Hickory. That property was not a part of the Sanitary District agreement. Staff is not recommending that purchase at this time.

Mr. Pollock questioned if the agreement to enter into condemnation proceedings if necessary, is included in the plan that the City signed with the Sanitary District?

Mr. Stoffel stated that section two of the agreement in the packet says that the City would use eminent domain if necessary, for the acquisition.

Mr. Hayes stated that he had spoken with the owners and they did not want to keep the house at 702 North Hickory if it is going to be located next to the Sanitary District.

Mr. Pollock questioned if a part of the agreement with the Sanitary District is that those properties totally included on North Hickory are not to be used for strictly Sanitary District operations?

Mr. Stoffel stated that is correct. The Sanitary District would only

Committee on Environment & Public Safety

May 28, 1996

Page 9

use that property for accessory uses such as vehicle storage, but no treatment activities whatsoever.

Following further debate, Mr. Pollock moved to send An Ordinance Authorizing The Acquisition Of Certain Property By Purchase Or Eminent Domain (Woodland Park Plan) to Council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried by a voice vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chairperson Ryan declared the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Taylor
Recording Secretary

*This meeting was taped.

**This meeting was broadcast on cable television.