

CITY OF URBANA
COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE - MONDAY, JULY 8, 1996
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 400 S. VINE STREET, URBANA, IL

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Pollock, Chairman; James Hayes, Jr.; Carolyn Kearns; Esther Patt; Marya Ryan; John Taylor; Joseph Whelan, Jr.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Tod Satterthwaite, Mayor; Phyllis Clark, City Clerk; Bruce Walden, Chief Administrative Officer; Steve Holtz, Assistant City Attorney; Eddie Adair, Chief of Police; William Pessemier, Fire Chief; April Getchius, Community Development Director; Patrick Pioletti, Buildings Supervisor

OTHERS PRESENT: Earl O'Shea; Marsheneal Townsend; Rosetta Gray; Ernest Westfield; Media

1. **Call to Order**

Chairman Pollock called the meeting to order at 7:53 p.m.

2. **Additions to the Agenda and Staff Report**

There were none.

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

May 13, 1996 -- Ms Patt made a motion to approve the minutes of May 13, 1996 and was seconded by Mr. Taylor.

Chairman Pollock pointed out a correction on page 2, paragraph 6, first sentence. Where it reads, "... presented their request for funding for the social service grants allocations.", should be corrected to read, "... presented their request for funding." Chairman Pollock stated the reason for this correction is because they were not present for the purpose of social service grants. There were no objections from Committee Members.

The motion to approve the minutes of May 13, 1996 passed by voice vote.

4. **Public Input**

Earl O'Shea, 606-A Glover, addressed the Committee in support of a better government and problems regarding his neighbor's (Jeff Cross) property.

Marsheneal Townsend, 1306 W. Tremont, representing the Teen

Corporation, addressed the Committee in opposition to the neighborhood center. Ms Townsend read a letter into the record from the Teen Corporation requesting the City's support for a teen center and programs they would like to have in the center. The Teen Corporation would like the City to grant enough funds to cover yearly utility bills. Ms Townsend explained that their proposal for a teen center came about several years ago and now has been replaced with the proposed neighborhood center. With regard to the neighborhood center proposal, Ms Townsend feels that the Teen Corporation was left out of the loop and expressed the following concerns: 1) The land will be owned by the Urbana School District and leased to the City; 2) The building will be owned by the City of Urbana; 3) The Urban League of Champaign County will enter into an agreement to manage the facilities; 4) The cost estimates by the City; 5) They do not like the site on Fairview that was chosen; 6) Why is it necessary to have a police office in the building?

Rosetta Gray, 1307 N. Romine, addressed the Committee on the topic of the teen center (neighborhood center) and expressed her support for it.

Ernest Westfield, 918 N. Harvey, addressed the Committee regarding the neighborhood center and expressed his support for it along with future considerations for the use of building that he would like to see (i.e., gym use for basketball games, recreation, meeting place, etc.).

5. Memorandum of Information - Neighborhood Center

Mr. Whelan noted that there was consideration in the report given to teens of various organizations (i.e., Boys & Girls Club, etc.) in being able to use the facility. Mr. Whelan inquired about who would be administering the center.

Community Development Services Director April Getchius stated that what was brought to the Committee was from staff level working with the School District, Park District, the neighborhood, Urban League, and other commitments to the project. It is not designed just to be a teen center, but also a neighborhood center that accommodates the teen and elderly programs, neighborhood potlucks, the Urban League with computer-family education, and community policing (with an office where a social security administrator could come into the neighborhood and community). It would be a general community center. Ms Getchius indicated that staff proposes to enter into an interagency agreement that would have a governing board consisting of neighborhood representation and various representatives from the agencies involved. The Urban League

would oversee the programs. Ms Getchius said that staff is asking for Council's direction to go ahead and move forward.

Chairman Pollock made reference to an existing \$236,000 budget shortfall (meaning funds the City does not have). The City will provide a one-time \$100,000 contribution for construction. Chairman Pollock wanted to know what the total budget would be to build the center. Ms Getchius responded \$376,496. There is some question about the engineering fees. Chairman Pollock made the following recommendations: 1) Not doing user fees; 2) The School District, Park District and City talk about doing a contract in which each would provide one-third of the dollars required to operate this on a yearly basis. 3) Make sure there is room for expansion (i.e., athletics, gym for basketball courts, etc.), and take a look at the King Park Plan and amend the goals in that plan to make it clear, if it is the will of the Council or Committee, that we want this built at some point in the future; and 4) The City of Urbana representative should be whoever the Council representative is from the ward in which this facility is going to reside.

With regard to the concept of user fees, Grants Management Division Manager Bruce Stoffel stated that it would be assessed to private users (i.e., neighborhood residents for reunions, etc.) and not neighborhood organizations. There are also other "in-kind" contributions being considered. Chairman Pollock's comments were that he saw no problem if those making contributions could provide services that would make up for some of the \$30,000 needed. With regard to user fees, Chairman Pollock commented that "there's an awfully thin line between a neighborhood organization and neighborhood residents who want to use the facility."

This item was on the agenda for discussion only. No action was taken.

6. Ord. No. 9697-4: An Ordinance Amending Schedule L Of Section 17-1 Of Article XVII Of The Urbana Local Traffic Code Establishing Parking Meter Zones (Clark Street)

Chairman Pollock explained that this item had been at Council and is now before the Committee. There was a question about what the Council had the ability to do in terms of establishing certain issues related to hours of enforcement and time limits on meters.

Buildings Supervisor Patrick Pioletti distributed a map that was modified to clearly depict the meter locations. The

recommendation from the Traffic Commission was to originally add meters all the way on Coler from Clark to Main. It was changed on the floor to add as many meters as possible between Clark and the alley. The two meters that exist now on Coler are all that can fit without some further modification of the traffic restrictions there.

Ms Patt inquired if Mr. Pioletti meant that there could be no more meters from Main Street to private driveway (illustrated on map) because it is yellow space now. Mr. Pioletti responded affirmatively and noted that is Coler to the alley; not Main Street to a private driveway.

Chairman Pollock asked if the yellow zones were removed from the area between the driveway and Clark Street, how many meters could be added to the two that are already there? Mr. Pioletti responded that staff would have to check this out. Depending upon the specific modifications, they would need to keep 30' from the intersection on the north side from the alley. We could shorten the yellow zone considerably and still keep the 30'. There is a possibility that one or two spaces could be added.

Mr. Whelan inquired if the original recommendation was going down to Lincoln Avenue. Mr. Pioletti stated that the original recommendation was seven years old and was based upon a count of vehicles that came in the morning and stayed all day and then left at the end of the business day. The thrust of that was that there was not much turnover on those two blocks on Clark. Mr. Whelan wanted to know if the purpose of this was to eliminate the use of this lot by employees of nearby institutions or businesses to provide better access for the neighbors and people who visit.

Mr. Pioletti stated that he believed that was one of the primary reasons. The broader stroke is that parking is a viable commodity and we are proposing to install meters to force the turnover. The practical problem is that: 1) on-street spaces are being filled-up by non-residents for free or without control; and 2) the parking is not regulated (e.g., the number of cars that park there exceed what is appropriate).

Chairman Pollock stated that it was his understanding that the Traffic Commission will be looking at the block between Busey and Lincoln and reconsider whether to do the same type of two-hour meters in that area as proposed on Clark Street.

Ms Ryan clarified that, although the map reflects what came from the Traffic Commission, Council did vote to take out the southernmost part of the parking on Coler. Therefore, the proposed two-hour meters that are south of the private driveway are no longer a part of it.

Chairman Pollock's suggestion was: 1) go ahead with Clark Street, as depicted on the map, take the existing two meters between the alley and Clark (ask staff if another space can be put there), and reduce the yellow area to a reasonable area that we would normally look at in terms of parking; 2) of the seven meters that were proposed from that driveway to Main Street, knock off three southernmost meters and paint the curb yellow, and put in four meters from that alley. Ms Ryan stated that she would not like to see the yellow curbing. There are residents who park in that area in the evenings. Some of her motivation was to try and make parking available for residents.

Following further debate, Mr. Whelan made a motion to subtract three meters from south of the private driveway, look at adding another space north of the alley, and then go with the proposal on Clark Street as proposed. Mr. Taylor seconded.

Ms Ryan made a friendly amendment to go with three of the seven rather than four of the seven meters, and instead of having a yellow curbing that would ban parking 24 hours, restrict parking to daytime only in that area. Messrs. Whelan and Taylor had no objections.

Chairman Pollock clarified that this would mean that there would be signs for the first four spaces or so that would indicate no parking from 10-5:00, or something along that line. Mr. Pioletti stated that the only difficulty he sees is that it creates just another hybrid in the parking system because there are no other zones like that in the City. Ms Patt noted that there are signs in front of the high school that state "No Parking from 7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m."

The motion on the floor is to do Clark Street as recommended, to do the alley to Clark Street with a more reasonable yellow zone adding in a space or two, and out of the seven meters to knock off the four southernmost meters in that area, and to take the balance of that area up to Main Street with no parking sometime during the day. Ms Ryan suggested a 10:00 p.m. enforcement time.

The motion, as amended, carried by voice vote.

Ms Ryan made a motion to:

1. amend Section 17-8.b to read: "Except where the City Council chooses to establish the parking limit for the space controlled by each parking meter owned and operated by the City, the Director

of Public Works is hereby delegated that authority based upon the Director of Public Works' judgement of the appropriate parking limit considering the following factors"; and

2. amend Section 17-8.c to read: "Except where the City Council chooses to convert existing meter spaces into rental spaces and to convert existing rental spaces into metered spaces on the basis of demand for rental spaces in such location, the Director of Public Works is also hereby delegated that authority ..."; and
3. amend Section 17-14.c.1 to read: "All meters controlling parking on dedicated right-of-way shall be enforced between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, except as otherwise specified by the City Council."

Ms Patt seconded.

The motion carried by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Pollock adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah J. Roberts
Recording Secretary

*This meeting was broadcast on cable television.