

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

September 27, 1999

7:30 P.M.

Committee Members Present:

James Hayes, Carolyn Kearns, Esther Patt (Chair), John Taylor, and Ruth Wyman

Committee Members Absent:

Laura Huth and Joe Whelan (Excused)

Staff Members Present:

Phyllis Clark, Mayor Satterthwaite, Police Chief Eddie Adair, Ronald Eldridge, April Getchius, Bill Gray, and Steve Holz

Others Present:

Doris Hoskins and Members of the Media

Meeting Location:

Urbana City Council Chambers

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

Additions to the Agenda and Staff Report

Chair Patt stated that there is a correction in an ordinance title. The ordinance number Ord. No. 1999-09-105 should be Ord. No. 1999-09-090.

Mayor Satterthwaite presented the Studs Terkel Humanities Service Award to Doris Hoskins for her many years of community service and her work in the African-American community.

Ms. Hoskins thanked the Mayor and all those responsible for her being selected for this award.

Mr. Hayes commended Ms. Hoskins for her service to the community stating he that he does not know a person more deserving of this award.

Mayor Satterthwaite recognized Laura Eldridge for her work as a camera operator for the City Council/Committee meetings stating that this evening is her last evening in this position.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Ms. Wyman moved to approve the minutes of the September 13, 1999 meeting of the Committee of the Whole. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kearns and carried by a voice vote.

Public Input

Chair Patt read a message from a constituent, which is as follows: "I am Richard Wellbank. And I am not willing to pay for recycling nor recycle. Forcing us to pay for an idiotic idea is dumb and taking a poll by mouth is dumb. You are not doing a good Job in Urbana.

The viaduct needs cleaning and the rail crossing on University needs redone and new sidewalks by Subway. To me Democrats are all for show. I would do better if I were mayor or hire me to plan the work and mark sidewalks to fix and clean walks, but sadly you will think I am dumb or wheelchair bound. But no I walk on my knees, can sweep and I don't mind to be seen. I am disabled but not a disabled thinker."

Campus Area Transportation Study Presentation

Mayor Satterthwaite presented a motion in which the Urbana City Council acknowledges receipt of the Campus Area Transportation Study and has reviewed its recommendations. The motion also lists several concerns regarding the impact of specific recommendations included in the first phase of the study that must be addressed, before the City of Urbana can consider accepting or approving them. This motion only commits the City to \$35,000 for the first phase of the project.

Following debate, Mr. Hayes moved to send the motion to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kearns and carried by a voice vote.

Res. No. 1999-09-036R: A Resolution Determining The Amounts Of Money Necessary To Be Raised By The Tax Levy (1999), Ord. No. 1999-09-101: Annual Tax Levy Ordinance Of The City Of Urbana, Illinois For The Year Beginning July 1, 1999 And Ending June 30, 2000, Ord. No. 1999-09-102: An Ordinance Abating Tax Levy For \$1.0 Million General Obligation Bonds, Series 1992, and Ord. No. 1999-09-103: An Ordinance Abating Tax Levy For \$5.705 Million General Obligation Bonds, Series 1994

Comptroller Ron Eldridge presented staff report.

Res. No. 1999-09-036R is the first step to comply with the State Truth in Taxation Law. This law requires that the City Council pass a resolution that provides notice of our intent to levy certain property

taxes. The increase this year is 4%; therefore no public hearing is required.

Mr. Eldridge recommends that Council approve Ord. No. 1999-09-101, Ord. No. 1999-09-102, and Ord. No. 1999-09-103.

Ord. No. 1999-09-101 is the ordinance that actually levies the property tax. The amount to be raised is \$4,301,648.

Ord. No. 1999-09-102 and Ord. No. 1999-09-103 instruct the County Clerk not to levy or "abate" certain levies that are already in place because of past debt issues. Because the City has T.I.F. incremental taxes available to satisfy this debt service, the property tax levy is not needed and thus lowers property taxes that would otherwise be required.

Mr. Taylor moved to send Res. No. 1999-09-036R: A Resolution Determining The Amounts Of Money Necessary To Be Raised By The Tax Levy (1999) to the next Council meeting for approval and to send Ord. No. 1999-09-101: Annual Tax Levy Ordinance Of The City Of Urbana, Illinois For The Year Beginning July 1, 1999 And Ending June 30, 2000, Ord. No. 1999-09-102: An Ordinance Abating Tax Levy For \$1.0 Million General Obligation Bonds, Series 1992, and Ord. No. 1999-09-103: An Ordinance Abating Tax Levy For \$5.705 Million General Obligation Bonds, Series 1994 to the November 1, 1999 Council meeting for approval.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes and carried by a voice vote.

Ord. No. 1999-09-104: An Ordinance Revising The Annual Budget Ordinance (Pension Funds)

Mr. Eldridge presented staff report stating that the budget amendment will increase the amount of property taxes levied for the policemen's and firemen's pension funds to the amount required by law and reduce the amount of property tax levied for the general fund and transferred into the tax stabilization fund.

The actual amount required is \$72,090 higher than the estimated amount in the fiscal year 1999-2000 budget. Staff recommends approval of this budget amendment.

Mr. Taylor moved to send Ord. No. 1999-09-104: An Ordinance Revising The Annual Budget Ordinance (Pension Funds) to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes and carried by a voice vote.

Ord. No. 1999-09-090: An Ordinance Amending Schedule M Of Section 23-190 Of The Urbana Local Traffic Code Establishing Tow-Away Zones (Busey Avenue)

Public Works Director Bill Gray stated that this ordinance creates a tow-away zone in the 200 Block of South Busey Avenue on both sides of the street between Elm and Green Streets. This tow-away zone is needed due to the number of violations of vehicles parking on both sides of the street in no parking zones.

Mr. Taylor moved to send **Ord. No. 1999-09-090: An Ordinance Amending Schedule M Of Section 23-190 Of The Urbana Local Traffic Code Establishing Tow-Away Zones (Busey Avenue)** to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kearns and carried by a voice vote.

Res. No. 1999-09-037R: A Resolution Clarifying A Special Use Ordinance (Champaign County Brookens Administration Center)

Ms. Getchius stated that this ordinance would allow the County to relocate its court services offices to Brookens Administrative Center during the construction and renovation of the new courthouse facility in downtown. In an effort to comply with the intent of the special use ordinance and accommodate space needs of the County, staff recommends approval of the resolution.

Following debate, Mr. Taylor moved to send **Res. No. 1999-09-037R: A Resolution Clarifying A Special Use Ordinance (Champaign County Brookens Center)** to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes and carried by a voice vote.

A Motion Regarding The Master Site Plan For Champaign County Courthouse

Mayor Satterthwaite presented the following motion to Committee for consideration: "The Urbana City Council supports Champaign County's master site planning process for the downtown location of the County Courthouse. The City Council acknowledges and accepts those decisions made by the County Board to accomplish renovation of the old courthouse and construction of an attached, new courthouse at the site bounded by Main Street, Broadway Avenue, Elm Street and Vine Street, and will support the Board's efforts to complete this project."

Ms. Kearns moved to send **A Motion Regarding The Master Site Plan For Champaign County Courthouse** to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes and carried by a voice vote.

Jacques House Discussion

Ms. Getchius stated that Council had requested that staff bring forward a budget amendment for the cost of demolition and clearing for the Jacques House because the library would have incurred those costs to accommodate the westward expansion of the library.

Ms. Getchius met with Mr. Spencer to determine those costs related to the clearing and demolition. Costs relating to the demolition are \$19,530 plus Mr. Spencer's labor costs of \$7,700 for a total of \$27,230.

Following debate, Ms. Wyman moved to request staff to prepare a budget amendment for \$26,000 to reimburse Mr. Spencer, as the amount in the budget for demolition is \$24,000 to \$26,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor.

Ms. Kearns moved a friendly amendment to increase the amount to \$27,230. The amendment was acceptable to the mover and seconder.

These funds will come from the library expansion line item.

Following further debate, the motion carried by a voice vote.

Ord. No. 1999-09-098: An Ordinance Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Annexation Agreement With The Weisiger Family Trust (Plan Case 1728-A-99)

Ms. Getchius stated that there had been a problem regarding the annexation and the timing, which has been resolved. The entire property will come into the City upon City Council's approval of the preliminary plat, which is scheduled to come before Council at the next meeting.

The northwest corner of the property is currently zoned R-5 (County Manufactured Home or Mobile Home Park) and the rest is zoned R-2 (Single Family). The entire property will be zoned R-2 upon its annexation to the City.

Following debate, Mr. Taylor moved to send **Ord. No. 1999-09-098: An Ordinance Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Annexation Agreement With The Weisiger Family Trust (Plan Case No. 1728-A-99)** to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wyman and carried by a voice vote.

Mr. Hayes stated that Neighborhood Clean up is scheduled for October 23, 1999.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Patt declared the meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Taylor, Recording Secretary

*This meeting was taped.

**This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

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Mrs. Kearns noted corrections on page 4 under "Jacques House Discussion."

Paragraph 3 should have the word "estimated" inserted following "amount" to read:
". . .As the amount estimated in the budget for demolition is \$24,000 to \$26,000."