

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
Monday, August 21, 2000**

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The City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois met in regular session at 7:30 p.m., Monday, August 21, 2000, in the Urbana City Council Chambers at 400 South Vine Street.

There being a quorum, Mayor Satterthwaite called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

Present at the meeting were Members of the Council: Hayes, Kearns, Patt, Taylor, Whelan, and Wyman – 6; absent: Huth (excused) – 1.

Also present were staff members: Police Chief Eddie Adair, Economic Development Manager Reed Berger, Public Works Director Bill Gray, Senior Planner Rob Kowalski, City Attorney Jack Waaler, Chief Administrative Officer Bruce Walden, and Division Chief Matt Weber.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Alderman Whelan requested that item E.b. be removed from the agenda and be discussed at the meeting of the Committee of the Whole on August 28, 2000 along with issues regarding wards and the possibility of members at large.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Alderswoman Kearns moved to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2000 regular meeting. Alderswoman Wyman seconded the motion. Alderswoman Patt requested to amend the minutes on page 5, paragraph 1, first line from "Alderman Taylor moved to defeat" to "Alderman Taylor moved to approve" and in the last line from "and was defeated" to "and failed". There were no objections. The minutes, as amended, were approved by voice vote.

## **PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Alderman Taylor commented on an article that was published in the News-Gazette on Sunday, August 20, 2000. The article entitled "**150 years of history leaves Urbana a poor stepsister**" was written by Tom Kacich and discussed historical reasons why the tax rate in Urbana is higher than that of Champaign.

Alderwoman Patt commented that she also thought the column was excellent and she was glad to see that Mr. Kacich also mentioned that 75 percent of the structures in Urbana are property tax exempt and that contributes greatly in the tax rate difference between Urbana and Champaign.

Alderman Whelan stated that he is working with the help of state representatives to find a way to get the University to pay more in-lieu of taxes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Mayor Satterthwaite stated that staff has requested that **Ordinance No. 2000-07-091: An Ordinance Approving an Annexation Agreement with Walter B. Gerhardt (Gerhardt Property/1804 N. Cunningham Avenue)** and **Ordinance No. 2000-07-080: An Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory to the City of Urbana (Gerhardt Property/1804 N. Cunningham Avenue)** be forwarded to the City Council meeting of September 5, 2000 for action. There were no objections.

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **Committee of the Whole**

Alderman Taylor moved to approve **Ordinance No. 2000-08-094: An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Addendum No. 1 to the Savoy-Urbana Boundary Agreement.**

The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Wyman and carried 6-0 by roll call vote. Voting aye were Members of the Council: Hayes, Kearns, Patt, Taylor, Whelan, and Wyman – 6; voting nay: none.

Alderman Taylor moved to release the following **Closed Session Minutes**:

March 27, 2000 minutes regarding pending litigation; June 12, 2000 minutes regarding probable litigation; July 3, 2000 minutes regarding probable litigation and the July 17, 2000 minutes regarding pending and probable litigation. Those minutes no longer have any reason for confidentiality. The motion was seconded by Alderman Whelan and carried by a voice vote.

Alderman Taylor moved that the May 1, 2000 minutes regarding property acquisition; May 24, 1993 minutes; March 7, 1994 minutes; March 4, 1996 minutes; June 24, 1996 minutes; May 12, 1997 minutes; August 25, 1997 minutes; the August 24, 1998; September 14, 1998 minutes, May 24, 1999 minutes, and the June 21, 1999 minutes not be released as they still have a need for confidentiality, other than those that have already been released in part. The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Kearns and carried by a voice vote.

Alderman Taylor moved to send the minutes to be released to the September 5, 2000 meeting of the City Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Patt and carried by a voice vote.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee of the Whole will be Monday, August 28, 2000 in the Urbana City Council Chambers at 400 South Vine Street.

### **REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

There were none.

### **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

Chief Administrative Officer Bruce Walden reminded Council and the public that Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup> is the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Sweet Corn Festival in downtown Urbana. An additional feature this year is a street dance on Friday evening prior to the Festival.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Satterthwaite introduced **Ordinance No. 2000-08-095: An Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory to the City of Urbana (Lots 901 and 902 of the Preliminary Plat of Beringer Commons Subdivision)** and **Ordinance No. 2000-08-096: An Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory to the City of Urbana (A Part of the Unplatted Portion of Beringer Commons Subdivision)**.

Economic Development Manager Reed Berger presented staff report on these ordinances stating that these ordinances include, as a whole, all of the unplatted area of Beringer Commons Subdivision. This brings in all of High Cross Road from University Avenue, which is U.S. Route 150 north all the way to Interstate 74. That leaves only about a dozen lots that are already platted that will remain outside the City.

Alderwoman Wyman moved by omnibus motion to approve **Ordinance No. 2000-08-095: An Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory to the City of Urbana (Lots 901 and 902 of the Preliminary Plat of Beringer Commons Subdivision)** and **Ordinance No. 2000-08-096: An Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory to the City of Urbana (A Part of the Unplatted Portion of Beringer Commons Subdivision)**. The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Patt and carried 6-0 by roll call vote. Voting aye were Members of the Council: Hayes, Kearns, Patt, Taylor, Whelan, and Wyman – 6; voting nay: none.

Alderman Hayes moved to approve **Ordinance No. 2000-08-097: An Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory to the City of Urbana (Cook Residence/511 East G.H. Baker Drive)**

The motion was seconded by Alderman Whelan and carried 6-0 by roll call vote. Voting aye were Members of the Council: Hayes, Kearns, Patt, Taylor, Whelan, and Wyman – 6; voting nay: none.

Senior Planner Rob Kowalski presented staff report on **Ordinance No. 2000-08-098: An Ordinance Approving a Major Variance (Reduction of the required open space ratio in the City's R-**

**3, Single- and Two-Family Residential District, from 0.40 to 0.17 at 601 South Anderson Street –**

**Case No. ZBA-00-MAJ-4).** The petitioner has submitted a request for a major variance for the open space ratio on his lot at 601 S. Anderson Street. The petitioner is currently building an unenclosed porch on the north side of the main structure and wishes to enclose it to create an interior room addition and a two-car, detached garage on the lot. This construction would decrease the open space ratio below the required 0.40. The Zoning Board of Appeals voted 5-1 with one abstention to recommend approval of the major variance to the City Council.

Following debate, Alderwoman Kearns moved to approve **Ordinance No. 2000-08-098:**

**An Ordinance Approving a Major Variance (Reduction of the required open space ratio in the City's**

**R-3, Single- and Two-Family Residential District, from 0.40 to 0.17 at 601 South Anderson Street –**

**Case No. ZBA-00-MAJ-4).** The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Wyman and carried 6-0 by roll call vote. Voting aye were Members of the Council: Hayes, Kearns, Patt, Taylor, Whelan, and Wyman – 6; voting nay: none.

Rob Kowalski presented staff report on **Ordinance No. 2000-08-099: An Ordinance**

**Approving a Major Variance (Increase in the allowed area for an institutional sign in the City's R-3,**

**Single- and Two-Family Residential Zoning District, from 20 square feet to 42 square feet at 2601**

**South Philo Road – Case No. ZBA-00-MAJ-5).** The Church of Christ would like to redesign an existing

sign and build a new 42-square foot institutional sign on Philo Road. The Zoning Ordinance allows institutional signs in any zoning district without permit provided that the display surface is no more than 20 square feet. As this request is a variance of more than 25 percent, it is classified as a major variance and requires City Council approval. The Zoning Board of Appeals voted unanimously to recommend approval of the case to the City Council.

Following debate, Alderwoman Wyman moved to approve **Ordinance No. 2000-08-099:**  
**An Ordinance Approving a Major Variance (Increase in the allowed area for an institutional sign in the City's R-3, Single- and Two-Family Residential Zoning District, from 20 square feet to 42 square feet at 2601 South Philo Road – Case No. ZBA-00-MAJ-5)** with the condition that it not be illuminated except for the use of floodlights directed at the sign. The motion was seconded by Alderman Hayes and carried 6-0 by roll call vote. Voting aye were Members of the Council: Hayes, Kearns, Patt, Taylor, Whelan, and Wyman – 6; voting nay: none.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Satterthwaite declared the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Tod Satterthwaite  
Mayor

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Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

\*This meeting was taped.

\*\*This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

**Minutes approved:**