

CITY OF URBANA

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - MARCH 11, 2002 - 7:30 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 400 S. VINE STREET, URBANA, IL

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph A. Whelan, Jr. (Chair); Danielle Chynoweth; James H. Hayes, Jr.; Laura Huth; Milton Otto; Esther Patt; Ruth Wyman

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Tod Satterthwaite; Phyllis Clark; Bruce Walden; Jack Waaler; Eddie Adair; William Gray; Elizabeth Tyler; Robert Grewe; Michael Loschen

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Lehman; Matthew McClain; Michael Stewart; Laurie Bonnett; Rosemary Braun; Carl Hill; William Gillespie; Members of the Media

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Whelan called the meeting of the Committee Of The Whole to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT**

There were no additions to the agenda.

Mayor Satterthwaite informed the Committee and public about the press conference that took place this morning where a formal announcement was made by Representatives Berns, Winkel, and Senator Weaver of a \$450,000 grant for the Library expansion project. This was officially added to the funding formula for the Library expansion.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

February 25, 2002 - Ms Patt made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held February 25, 2002. Ms Wyman seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Mike Lehman, 608 E. Green St., addressed the Committee concerning the tree that was removed in front of his house. Mr. Lehman addressed concerns about the failure of the City of Urbana's Arbor Division to inform residents of these type actions in time to appeal the removal of trees such as the one in front of his home.

The following people addressed the Committee in support of the proposed "Resolution in Support of Bargaining Rights for University of Illinois Graduate Employees":

Matthew McClain, representing Graduate Employees Organization;
Michael Stewart, 502 S. Anderson #1; and
Rosemary Braun, 410 W. High St.

The following people addressed the Committee in support of the UBA (Urbana Business Association) funding request:

Laurie Bonnett, 111 W. Main St., representing UBA; and

Carl Hill, 1913 Trails Dr., also representing UBA.

Ms Bonnett also requested a straw poll in order to see if the UBA would have the support of the Urbana City Council with their request for funding in the amount of \$50,000.

William Gillespie, 606 E. Green, addressed the Committee on three issues: 1) He spoke in support of the proposed resolution for the Graduate Employees Organization. 2) Tonight at 8:00 p.m. there will be a candlelight vigil on the Quad (University of Illinois) commemorating those whose lives were lost to war and terrorism. Mr. Gillespie read into record a resolution that will be heard at the vigil (see attached). 3) He expressed his concern about the tree removal in front of 608 E. Green

5. **UBA FUNDING REQUEST**

Mayor Satterthwaite presented the report. The Urbana Business Association is presenting a budget request for \$50,000 from the City of Urbana for the purpose of carrying out their mission (i.e., Sweetcorn Festival, Parade of Homes, etc.). Last year the City gave the UBA \$25,000 and the Home Builders in Urbana \$5,000, for a total of \$30,000. Both organizations have since merged and are requesting \$50,000. They would also like to know if the Council is generally supportive of this request.

Committee Members were not prepared for a straw poll until more information has been received (i.e., current year's budget; how money is being spent this year; project plan for the upcoming year; a list of programs last year and additional work anticipated this year for the additional amount of money).

6. **ORDINANCE NO. 2002-03-023: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE (1304 NORTH BERKLEY AVENUE)**

Michael Loschen (Grants Coordinator II) presented the staff report.

Ms Wyman made a motion to send this item to Council with a recommendation for approval. Ms Chynoweth seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

7. **CONSIDERATION OF SUGGESTED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY/COUNTY AGREEMENT REGARDING USE OF THE COURTHOUSE PARKING LOT**

Ms Wyman addressed this issue and a memo sent to Council and staff from Joel Fletcher on behalf of the County's Facilities Committee, which listed a couple of changes to the agreement pertaining to denial of the request to use the parking lot for a special event. Ms Wyman believed the changes stipulated in Mr. Fletcher's memo appeared to be reasonable.

Chair Whelan moved to send this item to Council with a recommendation for approval. Ms Wyman seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

8. **RESOLUTION NO. 2002-03-005R: RESOLUTION FOR IMPROVEMENT BY MUNICIPALITY UNDER THE ILLINOIS HIGHWAY CODE (FY 2002 MFT RESURFACING CONTRACT)**

William Gray (Public Works Director/City Engineer) presented the staff report.

Ms Patt made a motion to send this item to Council with a recommendation for approval. Ms Wyman seconded.

Following debate, the motion carried by voice vote.

9. **RESOLUTION NO. 2002-03-006R: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BARGAINING RIGHTS FOR UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS GRADUATE EMPLOYEES**

Ms Wyman presented the resolution. The University of Illinois Board of Trustees will meet to discuss this issue next week.

Following debate, Ms Wyman made a motion to send this resolution to Council with a recommendation for adoption. Ms Chynoweth seconded. Debate ensued.

Following further debate, the motion to send this item to Council carried by a voice vote.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Whelan declared the meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Deborah J. Roberts
Recording Secretary

*This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

Minutes Approved: March 25, 2002