

CITY OF URBANA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - JUNE 10, 2002 - 7:30 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 400 S. VINE STREET, URBANA, IL

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Tod Satterthwaite; Phyllis Clark; Bruce Walden; Jack Waaler; Eddie Adair; Elizabeth Tyler; Reed Berger; Robert Kowalski; Kathy Larson

OTHERS PRESENT: Stephen Altaner; Howard Wakeland; Randy Kangas; Carolyn Baxley; Marta Conway; Carl Hill; Members of the Media

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

Chair Otto called the meeting of the Committee Of The Whole to order at 7:33 p.m.

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

Since there were a number of people present with concerns about the historic preservation text amendment issue, Chair Otto suggested moving agenda item #10 to follow "Public Input". There were no objections.

Mayor Satterthwaite pointed out that Ms Patt had indicated that she would be presenting a minor item to the budget this evening, and inquired if there were any other small budget items that Council Members might have. There were none.

Ms Patt informed the Committee that at last Wednesday's meeting of the Human Relations Commission, the Commission voted to ask that the Council add \$1,000 to the budget for next year for training for commissioners. In the current year's budget \$1,000 was budgeted for training and all but a few dollars of that has gone unspent because the training that they would like to do is one that is presented by the John Marshall Law School Fair Housing Project and it costs more than the amount they had budgeted. The Community Development Services Department will be able to help with a portion of the cost, since they have some money in their budget for monitoring fair housing compliance.

There were no objections. This item will be added as an amendment to the budget that will be acted on by Council next week (June 17, 2002).

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

May 28, 2002 - Ms Wyman made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2002 meeting. Ms Patt seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

The following people addressed the Committee in support of a petition to request changes to the Urbana Historic Preservation Text Amendment:

Stephen Altaner, 806 W. Main Street;
Howard Wakeland, 2213 Combes; and
Marta Conway, 804 E. Mumford Drive.

The following people addressed the Committee in opposition to the proposed changes to the Urbana Historic Preservation Text Amendment:

Randy Kangas, 804 W. Main Street; and
Carolyn Baxley, 510 W. Main Street.

Carl Hill, 1913 Trails Drive, representing the Urbana Business Association (UBA), addressed the Committee in support of barrier curbs on Myra Ridge Drive. He also gave Committee Members an update on the upcoming "Home Parade" event.

Committee Member Input

There was none.

10. **HISTORIC PRESERVATION TEXT AMENDMENT**

This item was placed on the agenda at the request of Mr. Whelan. Mr. Whelan presented debate and then made a motion to reconsider the Historic Preservation Ordinance to see if there is some way to improve it to make it more substantially sustainable. For clarity, Mr. Whelan moved to direct staff to review the ordinance and report back to the City Council. Chair Otto seconded for the purpose of discussion. Debate ensued.

Chair Otto indicated that he would be making a motion to defer this item. Mayor Satterthwaite raised a point of order noting that deferrals could only be made by a Council forum and not Committee, and would require two members to defer. Ms Patt concurred and reviewed Council Rules.

Following further debate, Ms Patt called for the question. The vote to call for the question carried by a voice vote. The motion now on the floor is Mr. Whelan's motion to direct staff to review the ordinance and report back to the City Council.

Mr. Whelan withdrew his original motion. He then moved to postpone this item for discussion in two weeks. Chair Otto seconded. The motion failed by a voice vote.

5. **ORDINANCE NO. 2002-06-062: AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE CITY OF URBANA (INVOLUNTARY ANNEXATION OF 11 LOTS WHOLLY SURROUNDED BY URBANA'S CORPORATE LIMITS)**

Reed Berger (Economic Development Coordinator) presented the staff report. This is the annexation of the final lots of Beringer Commons. Mr. Berger noted the revised ordinance would have corrected dates inserted indicating May 29, 2002 as the date notices were mailed, and June 10, 2002 as the recording date of the affidavit of mailing.

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.

6. **ANNUAL REPORT ON BUILD URBANA PROJECT**

Kathy Larson (Economic Development Specialist) presented the staff report. (See attached.)

Following debate, Ms Chynoweth commended staff on the "Service Guarantees" concept that was included in the presentation. She indicated that she would also like to see some type of similar building incentives for the downtown area.

There was no action required on this item at this time.

7. **TIF ORDINANCES:**

[Note: These items were presented together.]

- a. **Ordinance No. 2002-06-063: An Ordinance Amending the Urbana Downtown Tax Increment Area Redevelopment Plan and Related Redevelopment Project for the Urbana Downtown Tax Increment Redevelopment Project Area of the City of Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois**
- b. **Ordinance No. 2002-06-064: An Ordinance Amending the Central Business District ("TIF II Downtown Area No. 2") Redevelopment Plan and Related Redevelopment Project for the Central Business District ("TIF II Downtown Area No. 2") Redevelopment Project Area of the City of Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois**
- c. **Ordinance No. 2002-06-065: An Ordinance Amending the North Campus and King Park Neighborhood Redevelopment Plan and Related Redevelopment Project for the North Campus and King Park Neighborhood Redevelopment Project Area of the City of Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois**

Elizabeth Tyler (Community Development Director) presented the staff report.

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

8. **ORDINANCE NO. 2002-06-066: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A FINAL SUBDIVISION PLAT (SAVANNAH GREEN SUBDIVISION PHASE II - PLAN CASE NO. 1828-S-02)**

Robert Kowalski (Planning Division Manager) presented the staff report.

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

9. **DISCUSSION: ORDINANCE NO. 2001-09-111: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS (WITH RESPECT TO PROJECTING SIGNS - PLAN CASE NO. 1794-T-01)**

Ms Huth recused herself from debate of this issue due to conflict of interest.

Mr. Kowalski presented the staff report.

Ms Chynoweth moved to send the ordinance as it is originally written to Council with a recommendation for approval. Ms Wyman seconded for the purpose of discussion.

Ms Patt moved to amend the motion to change 10 sq. ft. to 3 ft. wide and 3 ft. high. Ms Wyman seconded. Following debate, the motion failed by a show of hands.

The motion to send this item to council with a recommendation for approval carried by voice vote.

11. **DISCUSSION OF THE PERSONNEL DIRECTOR HIRING PROCESS**

Mr. Whelan placed this item on the agenda. Mr. Whelan began by making the following motion: "It is requested that the Urbana City Administration make a public statement that the hiring policy in replacing the officer of the City, that is the personnel director, will be open to all persons regardless of race, color or gender." Ms Patt seconded the motion.

Ms Wyman moved to amend the motion to include sexual orientation class and every other category and classification that is addressed under the Urbana Human Rights Ordinance. Ms Huth seconded. Debate ensued.

Mr. Whelan and Ms Patt accepted Ms Wyman's motion as a friendly amendment. The motion carried by voice vote, as amended.

Mayor Satterthwaite and Bruce Walden (Chief Administrative Officer) informed the Committee of the process the City plans to use in hiring the personnel director. (See attached.) Ronald Gremore's last day on the job is scheduled for June 28, 2002. Vacellia Clark will assume the position of Interim Personnel Manager in addition to her duties as Human Relations Officer. Other job responsibilities will be distributed between Mr. Walden and Ronald Eldridge (Comptroller).

12. **DISCUSSION OF CONCERNS RAISED BY THE RHODES CASE**

Mr. Whelan requested that this item be placed on the agenda. He inquired if it would be advisable to have the City Attorney, Human Relations Officer and Mayor give their opinions for improving or possibly reviewing the Human Relations Ordinance. Mr. Whelan made a motion entered as follows: "I would make the motion that the City Administration, to include the City Attorney, the Human Relations Officer and the Mayor, give us their advice on the possibility of improving our Human Relations Ordinance with special consideration of the following items:

- . That written notification shall be with the City Council as to whether or not there is a probable cause to forward a complaint to the Urbana Human Relations Commission for its consideration; meaning at the time that there is a complaint, perhaps the Council should be informed of the transgression and whether or not it is deemed worthy of consideration.
- . Secondly, the motion would include special consideration of improving the screening process for prospective members of the Commission. That is to say, if someone is not going to be here for a long period of time, that they might not gain the experience that they would need to proceed with these various complaints; or if they have no background in dealing with matters of social consequence, they might be better serving the City in some other capacity.
- . Possibly including some provision that will preclude the expense of individuals involved having to go to court for redress.
- . Finally, for allowing (a defendant) the right to petition the Council for a hearing. That is to say if the person feels that before they go to a court there is some reason for questioning the conclusion of the Commission, that they should have the right to come to the Council and say 'this is what I think' and present their concern."

Chair Otto seconded for the purpose of discussion. Debate ensued.

Following debate, Mr. Whelan withdrew his motion.

13. **CLOSED SESSION: PENDING LITIGATION**

Ms Wyman made a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation. Ms Chynoweth seconded.

Ms Patt recused herself due to conflict of interest.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Chynoweth - Aye	Otto - Aye
Hayes - Aye	Whelan - Aye
Huth - Aye	Wyman - Aye

Motion carried by roll call vote (6-aye:0-nay). The Committee went into closed session at 10:10 p.m.

The Committee Of The Whole resumed its regular session at 10:55 p.m. All members were present, with exception of Ms Patt.

The meeting resumed with a brief debate of the issue of pending litigation presented in closed session. Following debate, Ms Wyman moved to direct the Special City Attorney, Dave Krchak, to appeal to the Illinois Supreme Court the decision of the Circuit Court and the Appellate Court in the Rhodes case. Ms Chynoweth seconded.

Mr. Whelan requested a roll call vote on the motion. The vote was as follows:

Chynoweth - Aye	Otto - Aye
Hayes - Aye	Whelan - Nay
Huth - Aye	Wyman - Aye

The motion carried by roll call vote (5-aye:1-nay).

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Otto declared the meeting adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

Deborah J. Roberts
Recording Secretary

*This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

Minutes Approved: June 24, 2002