

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
AUGUST 26, 2002
7:30 P.M.

Committee Members Present:

Danielle Chynoweth, James H. Hayes, Jr., Laura Huth, Milton Otto, Esther Patt,
Joseph A. Whelan, Jr., and Ruth Wyman

Committee Members Absent:

None

Staff Members Present:

Police Chief Adair, City Clerk Phyllis Clark, Comptroller Ronald Eldridge, Public Works Director
William Gray, Economic Development Specialist Kathy Larson, Assistant to Public Works Director
Barbara Stiehl, Community Development Director Elizabeth Tyler, City Attorney Jack Waaler, Chief
Administrative Officer Bruce Walden and Mayor Satterthwaite

Others Present:

Andrea Antulov, Sharon Irish, and Members of the Media

Meeting Location:

City Council Chambers, 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, Illinois.

There being a quorum, Chair Huth called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda and Staff Report

There were none.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Ms. Wyman moved to approve the August 12, 2002 minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms.
Patt and carried by a voice vote.

Public Input

Andrea Antulov, 810 North Busey, addressed the Committee regarding City records being available at the Urbana Free Library and a problem with the Arbor Division.

Sharon Irish, 608 W. Iowa, addressed the Committee in support of the motion to direct the Public Works Director to issue a permit to move the house located at 201 East Washington Street to 721 South Broadway Avenue.

Ordinance No. 2002-08-098: An Ordinance Amending Schedule H of Section 23-93 of the Urbana Local Traffic Code Requiring Stop Signs at Certain Intersections (Bermuda Drive at Florida Avenue, Smith Road at Florida Avenue, Abercorn Street at Florida Avenue, Ogelthorpe Avenue at Florida Avenue, Montgomery Street at Florida Avenue, Michigan Avenue at Greenridge Drive, Castlerock Drive at Stone Creek Boulevard, St. Andrews Road at Stone Creek Boulevard, St. Andrews Road at Amber Lane, Stricker Lane at Stone Creek Boulevard, Landis Farm at Airport Road, Grange Drive at George Huff Drive, Boudreau Drive at George Huff Drive, Burlison Drive at George Huff Drive)

Public Works Director Bill Gray presented staff report. The ordinance is for the placement of stop signs at several locations. The stop signs are required due to the new street construction in several subdivisions. The new streets and house construction in the areas will increase the amount of traffic on the minor streets that intersect with various collector and arterial streets. These stop signs are needed and warranted under Section 2B-05 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

Mr. Gray stated that the stop sign at Michigan Avenue at Greenridge Drive should be removed from the ordinance.

Ms. Wyman moved to forward the ordinance to Council with a recommendation for approval. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Otto and carried by a voice vote.

Motion to Direct Public Works Director to Issue a Permit to move the House Located at 201 East Washington Street to 721 South Broadway Avenue

Mr. Gray presented staff report. The house at 201 East Washington Street is located on property Owned by the Urbana School District. Jan Kalmar and Sharon Irish plan to purchase the structure and the property at 721 South Broadway Avenue, demolish the structure at 721 South Broadway and move the house from 201 East Washington Street to that property. City ordinance requires City Council approval, by motion, for houses moved within the corporate limits of the City. The City Arborist has identified the tree conflicts and recommended suggestions to best preserve the urban forest along the route of the move. Staff recommends approval.

Following debate, Ms. Chynoweth **moved to Direct Public Works Director to Issue a Permit to move the House Located at 201 East Washington Street to 721 South Broadway Avenue.** The motion was seconded by Mr. Whelan and carried by a voice vote.

Ordinance No. 2002-08-099: An Ordinance Amending the Simplified Municipal Telecommunications Tax Rate

Comptroller Ronald Eldridge presented staff report. The City of Urbana currently has a 5% Telecommunications tax. This tax is collected from 135 companies providing telephone service in the city limits of Urbana. The City also imposes a franchise fee on Ameritech and other companies (based on flat charge per telephone line). Both the telecommunications tax and the franchise fee are remitted directly to the City by the telephone companies.

In 2001, the State of Illinois passed new legislation which allowed cities the option of converting their telephone company franchise fee to a new Infrastructure Maintenance Fee (I.M.F.) At that time Champaign and Urbana did not enact the new I.M.F. to replace their franchise fee.

Staff is now recommending that the City impose the new simplified telecommunications tax at a rate of 6% to replace the current 5% telecommunications tax and the franchise fee. The Illinois Department of Revenue will be administering collection and distribution to the individual cities.

Following debate, Ms. Wyman moved for forward **Ordinance No. 2002-08-099: An Ordinance Amending the Simplified Municipal Telecommunications Tax Rate** to Council with a recommendation for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes and carried by a voice vote.

Resolution No. 2002-08-027R: A Resolution Determining the Amounts of Money Necessary to Be Raised By the Tax Levy (2002)

Mr. Eldridge presented staff report. This resolution sets the maximum amount of the tax levy. The actual levy ordinance is approved as a separate action later and Council can reduce the levy amount at that time, if desired. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

Following debate, Ms. Wyman moved to forward the resolution to Council with a recommendation for adoption. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt and carried by a voice vote.

Ordinance No. 2002-08-100: An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Affordable Housing Program Grant)

Community Development Director Elizabeth Tyler presented staff report. This ordinance amends the annual budget in order to utilize funding made available through the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) Affordable Housing Program for FY 2002-2003. Approval of the ordinance will allow the City to utilize \$29,000 from the FHLB of Chicago for owner-occupied rehabilitation and \$31,000 from the FHLB of Indianapolis for access and paint/siding grant programs. Approval of the ordinance provides an additional \$60,000 for housing rehabilitation programs.

Following debate, Ms. Wyman moved to forward **Ordinance No. 2002-08-100: An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Affordable Housing Program Grant)** to Council with a recommendation for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patt and carried by a voice vote.

Discussion: TIF Redevelopment Grant Loan

Chief Administrative Officer Bruce Walden stated that discussion of a proposed revamping of the current Downtown Façade Loan Program to two new TIF Redevelopment Incentive Programs (for Downtown and for North Cunningham) has been initiated with the goals of implementing relevant plans, increasing the level of incentives available, and promoting and encouraging more business to take part in the program. Mr. Walden reviewed summaries of the proposal and data analysis of the revised program.

Following debate, Ms. Wyman moved to forward the recommendation for the TIF Redevelopment Grant Loan program to Council for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Chynoweth and carried by a voice vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee; Chair Huth declared the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Taylor
Recording Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED: September 9, 2002