



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
September 13, 2004

Committee Members Present:

Danielle Chynoweth, James Hayes, Milton Otto, Esther Patt, Joseph Whelan, and Ruth Wyman – 6.

Committee Members Absent:

Laura Huth – 1.

Staff Members Present:

Police Chief Eddie Adair, Phyllis Clark, Bob Grewe, Steve Holz, Libby Tyler, Mayor Satterthwaite, and Bruce Walden

Others Present:

Dr. Umesh Thakkar, Pat Hanton, Laura Huth, Bob Kary, Gabe Omo Sagie and Members of the Media

Meeting Location:

Urbana City Council Chambers

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

Additions to the Agenda and Staff Report

There were none.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Ms. Patt moved to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2004 meeting of the Committee of the Whole. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whelan and carried by a voice vote.

Public Input

Dr. Umesh Thakkar, 300 South Goodwin, #209, addressed the Committee to express his views on at-large council seats and ethics and conflicts of interest.

Pat Hanton, Laura Huth, and Bob Kary were present representing Habitat for Humanity of Champaign and Piatt Counties. Ms. Huth read the following statement into the record:

“13 September 2004

As you all know, I am a member of the Urbana City Council, a position I have held for nearly 8 years. As you all likely also know, I recently accepted the position of Executive Director at Habitat for Humanity of Champaign & Piatt Counties – I joined the staff in early January. Over the last 12 years Habitat has been doing work in the community, they have occasionally used city or HOME Consortium monies to prep lots for building home for low income families in our community. However, in all of 2003, no monies were awarded to Habitat from either HOME or CDBG funds (none were requested). Also, no lot approvals were voted on either in 2003 for Habitat. I should also note that to date during my tenure at Habitat, the organization has also not accepted any monies or properties from the City of Urbana or from the Consortium.

Earlier this year, it was brought to the city’s attention and to my attention that a waiver or exception from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department was needed due to a potential appearance of a conflict of interest situation. We did not realize that recusals and vote abstentions do not meet HUD requirements, although these are procedures acceptable under state law. HUD regulations require that I disclose this potential conflict to all participating Consortium members publicly in order to apply for and receive this waiver with HUD, and that is what I am here before you tonight to do.

Habitat for Humanity is actively seeking to move forward to address this issue and we appreciate your time. I would respectfully request that a copy of this communication be reflected in this body’s minutes.

Laura Huth”

Gabe Omo Sagie, 2409 N. High Cross, addressed the Committee regarding ethics and conflict of interest.

Grants Management Division:

Ordinance No. 2004-09-121: An Ordinance Approving A City Of Urbana Community Development Block Grant Program Agreement (Historic East Urbana Neighborhood Association (Heuna) Project No. 04-05 01); Ordinance No. 2004-09-122: An Ordinance Approving A City Of Urbana Neighborhood Organization Grant Program Agreement (United Citizens And Neighbors (UCAN) Project No. 04-05 02); Ordinance No. 2004-09-123: An Ordinance Approving A City Of Urbana

Neighborhood Organization Grant Program Agreement (Ecological Construction Laboratory) Project No. 04-05 03); and Ordinance No. 2004-09-124: An Ordinance Approving A City Of Urbana Neighborhood Organization Grant Program Agreement (Eads Street Development Corporation) Project No. 04-05 04)

Grants Management Division Manager Bob Grewe presented staff report on the above-mentioned ordinances. On May 3, 2004, Council passed Resolution No. 2004-04-006R approving the City of Urbana and Urbana HOME Consortium Annual Action Plan (AAP) FY 2004-2005. Funding and project descriptions for the Neighborhood Organization Grants (NOG) are included in the AAP.

The Historic East Urbana Neighborhood Organization NOG Agreement is the only agreement funded with Community Development (CDBG) Funds. The agreements for United Citizens and Neighbors, Ecological Construction Laboratory and Eads Street Development Corporation are funded with Neighborhood Improvement Funds and Community Development Sink Funds. These agreements do not contain the terms and conditions associated with the Community Development Block Grant Program.

The City of Urbana Community Development Commission recommended approval of these Agreements and staff concurs.

Ms. Patt moved by omnibus motion to forward **Ordinance No. 2004-09-121: An Ordinance Approving A City Of Urbana Community Development Block Grant Program Agreement (Historic East Urbana Neighborhood Association (Heuna) Project No. 04-05 01); Ordinance No. 2004-09-122: An Ordinance Approving A City Of Urbana Neighborhood Organization Grant Program Agreement (United Citizens And Neighbors (UCAN) Project No. 04-05 02); Ordinance No. 2004-09-123: An Ordinance Approving A City Of Urbana Neighborhood Organization Grant Program Agreement (Ecological Construction Laboratory) Project No. 04-05 03); and Ordinance No. 2004-09-124: An Ordinance Approving A City Of Urbana Neighborhood Organization Grant Program Agreement (Eads Street Development Corporation) Project No. 04-05 04)** to Council with a recommendation of approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes. Following debate, the motion carried by a voice vote.

Resolution No. 2004-09-019: A Resolution Revising Establishing Procedures for Approval of Annexation Agreements For the Purpose of Sanitary Sewer Connection

Chief Administrative Officer Bruce Walden and Community Development Director Libby Tyler presented staff report. In 1993, the City Council passed Resolution No. 9394-13 which provided that the Sanitary District could be advised that the city would not object to the connection of a sewer if the city received a legal petition for annexation or an annexation agreement in the form generally satisfactory to the City. Situations have arisen where a sanitary sewer connection is needed sooner than this procedure allows. To meet this problem, it is proposed that a new Section 3 be added to the policy that allows for the sanitary sewer connection upon a determination by the Chicago Administrative Officer that a public health hazard exists and the city has received the legal annexation paperwork.

Ms. Hayes moved to forward **Resolution No. 2004-09-019: A Resolution Revising Establishing Procedures for Approval of Annexation Agreements For the Purpose of Sanitary Sewer**

Connection to Council with a recommendation of approval. The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Patt and carried by a voice vote.

Ordinance No. 2004-09-125: An Ordinance Amending Section 1-18 of the Code of Ordinances (Pay-by-Mail Schedule Cleanup; Animal Ordinance, Garbage Containers Required, Taxicab Ordinance)

City Attorney Steve Holz presented staff report. This ordinance is the minimum fine schedule for pay-by-mail violation to clean up a few matters that were omitted by oversight in the most recent amendment to the pay-by-mail schedule and recent taxicab ordinance amendments.

Ms. Chynoweth moved to forward **Ordinance No. 2004-09-125: An Ordinance Amending Section 1-18 of the Code of Ordinances (Pay-by-Mail Schedule Cleanup; Animal Ordinance, Garbage Containers Required, Taxicab Ordinance)**. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whelan and carried by a voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further debate, Chair Wyman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Taylor Recording Secretary

*This meeting was taped.

* *This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

MINUTES APPROVED: Minutes approve September 27, 2004, as amended

AMENDMENT TO THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2004 MINUTES

Ms. Wyman requested to amend the September 13, 2004 minutes on page 3, 5th paragraph, last sentence to add "Ms. Chynoweth abstained due to a conflict of interest." Following "The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayes." There were no objections. The minutes were approved as amended.