

**CITY OF URBANA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - SEPTEMBER 10, 2007 - 7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 400 S. VINE STREET, URBANA, IL**

The City Council Committee Of The Whole of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, September 10, 2007 in the Council Chambers of the Urbana City Building.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT: Dennis Roberts (Chair); Lynne C. Barnes; Brandon Bowersox; Danielle Chynoweth; Robert E. Lewis; Charlie Smyth; Heather Stevenson; Laurel Lunt Prussing; Phyllis Clark

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE: None

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Ronald O'Neal, Jr.; Kent Jepsen; William Gray; Elizabeth Tyler; Thomas Carrino; Robert Myers

OTHERS PRESENT: Barry Suits; Grant O'Neil; Michael Little; Christopher Alix; Ilona Matkovszki; Robert Dunn; Dannie Otto; Frances Turquette; Alice Novak; Chris Stohr; Lisa Treul; Sophia Lewis; Betsey Cronan; Brian Adams; Bernadine Stake; Linda Lorenz; Lois Steinberg; Sonia Newmark; Howard Guenther; Members of the Media

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Roberts called the meeting of the Committee Of The Whole to order at 7:07 p.m.

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT

There were no additions to the agenda.

Mayor Prussing informed the Committee of some correspondence she received:

- a. Champaign County → The County is putting together a committee for Lincoln's bicentennial in 2009. They are asking the Cities of Champaign and Urbana to appoint 5 people. Anyone interested should contact the Mayor's office.
- b. Wesley United Methodist Church → They are requesting a program to recycle fluorescent light bulbs.
- c. C-U Mass Transit District → MTD sent a letter expressing their support of Carle Foundation Hospital's expansion.
- d. Civilian Review Board → Received an application from Mayor Gerald Schweighart. (Note: General correspondence; not an eligible candidate.)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

August 13, 2007 - Ms Barnes made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held August 13, 2007. Mr. Smyth seconded. The motion carried by voice vote.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Robert Dunn, 1910 S. Race St., addressed the Committee with concerns he had regarding content shown on the Urbana Public TV channel.

The following people addressed the Committee in support of historic preservation and the Joseph Royer architecture brochure:

Dannie Otto, 405 W. Illinois; Alice Novak, 601 W. Delaware;
Chris Stohr, 405 E. High; and Lisa Treul, 714 W. Iowa.

Frances Turquette, 914 W. Clark (Champaign), also addressed the Committee in support of the Joseph Royer brochure and district concept, and entered a letter into the record. (See attached.)

Committee Member Input

Mr. Smyth publicly thanked the Urbana and University of Illinois Police Departments for their efforts on "Matt's Ride", an event that took place last weekend to commemorate the passing of Matt Wilhelm¹ that occurred last year.

5. **PRESENTATION BY ILLINOIS AMERICAN WATER - NEW FACILITY**

Illinois American Water Corporation representatives, Barry Suits (Network Operations Manager) and Grant O'Neil gave a presentation on the new water facility and reviewed rate changes. (See attached.)

This item did not warrant Council action.

6. **PRESENTATION BY SANITARY DISTRICT - FACILITY PLAN UPDATE**

Representatives of the Urbana & Champaign Sanitary District, Michael Little (Executive Director) and Christopher Alix (Board Chair), gave a presentation on the facility plan update. (See attached.)

This item did not warrant Council action.

Before proceeding with the next item on the agenda, Chair Roberts called for a brief recess. There were no objections. The Committee recessed at 9:16 p.m.

The Committee resumed its order of business at 9:20 p.m. at which time Chair Roberts asked Ms Barnes to take the Chair, and he presented the next item of business.

7. **DISCUSSION: BROCHURE ON THE ARCHITECTURE OF JOSEPH ROYER**

Mr. Dennis Roberts (507 E. Green) and Ms Ilona Matkovszki (412 W. Elm, Architect/Archeologist) presented this item. (See attached brochure.) During their research they discovered there were approximately 13

¹ Matt Wilhelm was a University of Illinois graduate and avid biker who was killed by a distracted teenage driver in September 2006, who left the roadway while downloading cell phone ring tones, hitting Matt.

historic homes designed by Mr. Joseph Royer² in the Downtown Urbana area. With this in mind, they decided to create a brochure that would describe these homes and could also be used as a cultural and economic tool that would draw attention to Urbana. It is proposed that the buildings not be part of the Historic Preservation District, but instead an architectural district: "The Joseph W. Royer Architectural and Art District."

Following debate, Mr. Bowersox made a motion to direct staff to:

- 1) work with the Historic Preservation Commission to improve the wording and content of the brochure, avoiding the use of "historic" or "district" terminology, in collaboration with the preparers;
- 2) apply for a grant from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency to help fund production of the proposed brochure; and
- 3) approve future funding for marking historical buildings or building sites in the district, such as the Royer office sites and the perimeter of the district at logical approaches.

Mr. Smyth seconded. Debate ensued.

Ms Chynoweth suggested adding something about the arts to the motion. Mayor Prussing concurred and also suggested that this be tied in with Urbana's birthday celebration. Mr. Lewis made a friendly amendment that the motion also indicate that the Council accepts the idea. There were no objections to any of the amendments.

The motion carried, as amended.

Before continuing with the next order of business, Chair Pro Tem Barnes noted that Mr. Allen Strong was present in the audience and, due to the lateness in the hour, called for a motion to change the order of the agenda to hear the presentation of item #16 next. The motion was made by Mr. Smyth and seconded by Ms Chynoweth, and carried by a voice vote.

Mr. Roberts resumed the Chair at 9:52 p.m.

Chair Roberts noted that there were members of the audience who had completed public input cards to address the topic of historic preservation and the Joseph Royer District (and brochure). Public input was acknowledged at this time.

The following people addressed the Committee in support of the Joseph Royer brochure on architecture and historic preservation incentives (and demolition delay):

Sophia Lewis; Betsey Cronan, 305 W. High; Brian Adams, 412 W. Elm; Bernadine Stake, 304 W. Iowa; and Linda Lorenz, 409 W. High.

² Joseph Royer was a native of Urbana and an architect between the late 19th and mid-20th century. His building designs in Urbana date back to 1898.

The following people did not wish to speak, but submitted public input cards requesting that their position be entered into the record in support of the Joseph Royer brochure on architecture, historic preservation incentives, and demolition review:

Lois Steinberg, 306 W. Nevada; Sonia Newmark, 706 W. Iowa; and Howard Guenther, 714 W. Iowa.

16. **ORDINANCE NO. 2007-09-104: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SECOND AMENDMENT TO REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH ALLEN STRONG (395 N. RACE STREET)**

Thomas Carrino (Economic Development Coordinator) presented the staff report. Mr. Allen Strong was available to answer questions.

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

Ms Barnes made a motion to postpone agenda items #8 and #9 until the next Committee meeting. Ms Chynoweth seconded. Following debate, the motion carried by voice vote. These items will appear on the September 24, 2007 Committee Of The Whole agenda.

8. **DISCUSSION: HISTORIC PRESERVATION INCENTIVES**

[Postponed to September 24, 2007.]

9. **DISCUSSION: DEMOLITION REVIEW FOR PROTECTING HISTORIC RESOURCES**

[Postponed to September 24, 2007.]

10. **TRAFFIC STUDY REPORT**

Michael Bily (Police Chief) presented the staff report assisted by Anthony Cobb (Interim Assistant Police Chief). (See attached.) The Urbana Police Department will have diversity training in October.

This item did not warrant Council action at this time.

11. **ORDINANCE NO. 2007-09-106: AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE ANNUAL BUDGET ORDINANCE (WINDOWS WORKSHOP GRANT)**

Ms Chynoweth and Mr. Bowersox recused themselves due to a potential conflict of interest.

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

12. **ORDINANCE NO. 2007-09-107: AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE ANNUAL BUDGET ORDINANCE (RECYCLING COORDINATOR)**

This item, along with items 13, 14 and 15, were acted on in omnibus fashion.

Mr. Smyth made a motion to send these items to Council with a recommendation for approval. Mr. Lewis seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

13. **ORDINANCE NO. 2007-09-108: AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE ANNUAL BUDGET ORDINANCE (SPECIAL CENSUS COSTS)**

[Sent to Council with a recommendation for approval.]

14. **ORDINANCE NO. 2007-09-103: AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE ANNUAL BUDGET ORDINANCE (UNIVERSITY AVENUE CORRIDOR STUDY)**

[Sent to Council with a recommendation for approval.]

15. **ORDINANCE NO. 2007-09-105: AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE ANNUAL BUDGET ORDINANCE (EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT COSTS - CITY CLERK SECRETARY)**

[Sent to Council with a recommendation for approval.]

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Roberts declared the meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Deborah J. Roberts
Recording Secretary

This meeting was taped.

This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

Minutes Approved: September 24, 2007*

*See correction sheet attached.

CORRECTIONS TO MINUTES SEPTEMBER 10, 2007

At a regular meeting of the Urbana City Council's Committee Of The Whole held Monday, September 24, 2007, the following correction was made to the minutes of September 10, 2007:

Page 5, Ms Chynoweth's amendment to motion - Correct to read as follows: "Ms Chynoweth suggested adding **connecting the Royer District to the current arts program initiative.**"

This correction pertains to original debate in the minutes of September 10, 2007.

By attaching this correction sheet, the minutes of September 10, 2007 are hereby corrected to read as stated herein.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah J. Roberts
Recording Secretary