

**CITY OF URBANA**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - October 24, 2011 - 7:00 P.M.**

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

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The City Council Committee of the Whole of the City of Urbana, Illinois, met in regular session Monday, October 24, 2011 in the Council Chambers of the Urbana City Building.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT:** Dennis Roberts (Chair); Brandon Bowersox; Eric Jakobsson; Robert E. Lewis; Diane Marlin; Charlie Smyth; Laurel Lunt Prussing; Phyllis D. Clark

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE:** None

**ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT:** Heather Stevenson

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mike Monson; Anthony Cobb; William Gray; Michelle Brooks; Tom Carrino; Elizabeth Tyler; Ronald Eldridge; Lisa Bralts; Jolinda Ross

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Garvin Weitzel; Carol McKusick; Members of the Media

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

Chair Roberts called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 7:11 p.m.

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

There was none.

**Staff Report**

Assistant Chief Cobb gave a short presentation of service calls to the North Lincoln gas stations. Discussion followed. It was the consensus of the Committee that more detailed information would be needed from Staff regarding the type of calls, concentration in certain areas and frequency before and after the license application.

Mr. Smyth announced the County-wide electronics recycling day on Saturday, October 29, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at 3202 N. Apollo Drive, Champaign.

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

**October 10, 2011** - Mr. Smyth made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held October 10, 2011. Mr. Lewis seconded. The minutes of October 10, 2011 meeting were approved by voice vote.

**4. PUBLIC INPUT**

Carol McKusick spoke to the Committee regarding her concerns with the Boneyard - Segment 3 plans.

**5. Resolution No. 2011-10-036R: A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement for a Class C Retail Liquor License (1501 North Lincoln Avenue/Circle K Store #1234)**

Michelle Brooks (Assistant City Attorney) was available for questions. Garvin Weitzel, Regional Director of Operations for Circle K answered questions. This is an agreement to authorize an additional liquor

license to Mac's Convenience Stores, LLC doing business as a Circle K Store at 1501 N. Lincoln Avenue. A public hearing was held earlier in the evening for citizens to respond to the proposed additional license. It was determined that there would be no adverse affect to the City by this additional license. The license will be valid for the current year and will need to be renewed on a yearly basis unless the Council determines it is not in the public interest. Discussion followed. It was the consensus of Committee that more statistical information would be needed to review this item sufficiently.

Mr. Lewis made a motion to postpone definitely to the next Committee meeting to allow Staff additional time to review statistics. Mr. Jakobsson seconded. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

6. **Ordinance No. 2011-10-116: An Ordinance Redistricting Wards of the City of Urbana, Illinois (2011)**

Mayor Prussing gave the staff update. The City is required to re-draw the seven wards based on equal population in each ward. The revised ward map was presented for review with the proposed new boundaries based on the census taken in 2010. Ward 6 is 1,768 over the standard of 5,912; Ward 4 is 1,063 under; Ward 7 is 479 under and Ward 5 is 303 under populated. The new map meets the required legal standards of equal population, no more than recommended deviation plus or minus from the 5,912 allowable; compact and contiguous, and no under-representation of minorities. A public hearing was held earlier in the evening to allow for citizen input on this map. Discussion followed.

Mr. Smyth made a motion to postpone definitely to the next Committee meeting. Ms. Marlin seconded. The motion passed by a voice vote.

7. **Ordinance No. 2011-10-117: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 15, Article IV of the Urbana Code of Ordinances (Aggravated Public Nuisance-Revisions)**

Michelle Brooks (Assistant City Attorney) gave the staff report. Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk, answered questions. Pursuant to the Performance Review Provision contained in the Aggravated Public Nuisance Ordinance (Chapter 15, Article IV, Division Three), staff is submitting the report. The Police Department has been successful in working in cooperation with property owners and developing plans for remediation. The numbers of incidents have been greatly reduced. However, one property owner has not been cooperating at an informal level and Legal has been notified and a formal process was begun. An abatement agreement was entered into with the property owner. Staff also recommends Council re-authorize the ordinance. Discussion followed.

Ms. Marlin made a motion to send to Council for approval. Mr. Bowersox seconded. The motion passed by a voice vote.

8. **Resolution No. 2011-10-038R: A Resolution Accepting Urbana's Market at the Square Strategic Plan**

Robert Myers (Planning Manager) introduced Lisa Bralts (Market at the Square Director) who gave the staff report. Tom Carrino (Economic Development Manager) provided more information. The presentation went over the plans, goals and strategies which, if approved, would be the guiding document for policy and planning decisions in the future. An open house was held earlier in the year in July for public comments

regarding this plan. A presentation was given to the Council in August. The Plan Commission reviewed and discussed the draft plan during their meeting on October 6, 2011. They advised caution in making too many changes as the Market is successful as it is at this time. Staff recommends approval of the plan. Discussion followed. Mr. Jakobsson recommended including additional advisory board members from the arts, community groups, and performers.

Ms. Marlin made a motion to send to Council for approval. Mr. Smyth seconded. The motion passed by a voice vote.

9. **Resolution No. 2011-10-034R: A Resolution to Amend the City of Urbana ICMA Retirement Corporation, Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plan #300515, to Permit Loans**

Ron Eldridge (Comptroller) gave the staff report. The City has sponsored a Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plan as an additional source of retirement savings for employees. This plan is an entirely voluntary elective for City employees. Approximately 1/3 of employees participate and there are no City contributions. This amendment would allow a loan provision for employees from their own accounts. Employees can have one outstanding loan at a time; minimum loan amount is \$1,000; maximum loan amount is \$5,000 or ½ of employee balance whichever is less; employee chooses amount of time to pay off the loan, but no more than 5 years; employee can pay loan off early at any time without any penalties or interest; repayment will be through automatic payroll deduction; if employee terminates employment, he will be required to continue to make payments directly; interest rate will be prime rate plus ½% (currently 3.75%); if employee dies or becomes delinquent, a taxable distribution is reported to IRS requiring taxes and 10% penalty to be paid by employee. Discussion followed.

Mr. Smyth made a motion to send to Council for approval. Mr. Lewis seconded. The motion passed by a voice vote.

10. **Ordinance No. 2011-10-114: Annual Tax Levy Ordinance of the City of Urbana, Illinois, for the Year Beginning July 1, 2011 and Ending June 30, 2012**

Ron Eldridge (Comptroller) presented the staff report and went over the City/s 2011 property tax levy ordinances and resolution. The documents need to be filed with the County Clerk no later than the second Tuesday in December. The ordinances and resolution have been prepared to maintain the same levy rate of 1.2942 which is the same as Champaign. The levy means a homeowner would pay on average .0.3% less than last year; it would capture property tax on new development; the total amount of property taxes received by the City will increase from 0.7%; this rate represents a savings to the property owner since 2000 from \$1.54 to \$1.29; this tax rate is middle of tax rates for other central Illinois cities; the City only accounts for 15% of the total property tax bill as the school district receives 53%; the overall tax rate paid by the Urbana homeowners has decreased from \$8.81 to \$8.49; and the actual amount in the levy ordinance will be adjusted in March to assure the City's rate will be \$1.29.

Mr. Smyth made a motion to send this item, as well as Ordinance 2011-10-115 and Resolution 2011-10-037R to Council for approval in omnibus fashion. Mr. Jakobsson seconded. The motion passed by a voice vote.

11. **Ordinance No. 2011-10-115: An Ordinance Abating Tax Levy for \$965,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2005 (FY 2011-12)**

*This item was handled in omnibus fashion with Ordinance No. 2011-10-114 and Resolution No 2011-10-039R.*

12. **Resolution No. 2011-10-037R: A Resolution Directing the Champaign County Clerk to Abate the Tax Levy for the General Corporate Purpose for the Year Beginning July 1, 2011 and Ending June 30, 2012**

*This item was handled in omnibus fashion with Ordinance Nos. 2011-10-114 and 2011-10-115.*

13. **Resolution No. 2011-10-035R: A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement for Use of Right-Of-Way with the Stone Creek Subdivision Homeowners Association (Stone Creek Boulevard, Smith Road and Colorado Avenue)**

William Gray (Public Works Director) gave the staff report. The Stone Creek Subdivision Homeowners Association has requested permission to construct, reconstruct, use, operate, maintain, repair, inspect and remove decorative entryway signage, landscaping and street lighting within the rights-of-way of Stone Creek Blvd, Smith Road and Colorado Avenue. City Code requires a license agreement for the installation of facilities within the rights-of-way. This agreement will not have any fiscal impact on the City. Discussion followed. Committee asked that Staff provide the proposed plans for review prior to Council meeting.

Mr. Bowersox made a motion to send to Council for approval. Mr. Lewis seconded. The motion passed by a voice vote.

14. **Discussion: Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study**

William Gray (Public Works Director) stated Staff needed additional time to present this item again for consideration. Discussion followed. Mr. Smyth made a motion to postpone definitely until the next Committee meeting. Mr. Lewis seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

15. **Resolution No. 2011-10-039R: Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Agreement with the City of Champaign, Champaign County and the University of Illinois, Concerning the Provision and Administration of Metropolitan Computer-Aided Dispatch (METCAD)**

Mayor Prussing gave an overview of the item. Staff is requesting adoption of the resolution authorizing the execution of an agreement for the provision and administration of Metropolitan Computer-Aided Dispatch (METCAD) with the City of Champaign, Champaign County and the University of Illinois. There will be no fiscal impact of the new agreement. Discussion followed.

Ms. Marlin made a motion to send to Council for approval. Mr. Lewis seconded. The motion passed by a voice vote.

16. **Discussion: Ordinance No. 2011-07-096, An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Convention & Visitor's Bureau Funding - FY 2011-2012)**

Mr. Jakobsson gave a presentation of current CVB website. Mayor Prussing went over the current printed materials being used by CVB. Discussion followed.

Mr. Bowersox took the chair at 9:08 p.m. to allow Mr. Roberts to address the Committee.

Mr. Roberts took the chair back at 9:17 p.m.

Mr. Smyth asked for a straw poll to see if there was consensus to pass the ordinance and there was not enough in the affirmative.

Mayor Prussing directed Staff to devise preliminary plans on handling tourism internally and possibly working with Urbana Business Association in the future.

No further action was taken on this item.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Roberts declared the meeting adjourned at 10:14 p.m.

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Joan M. Ryan  
Recording Secretary

This meeting was taped.  
This meeting was broadcast on cable television.  
Minutes Approved: November 14, 2011