

**CITY OF URBANA**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - February 27, 2012 - 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, February 27, 2012 in the Council Chambers of the Urbana City Building.

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

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE:** Eric Jakobsson

**ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mike Monson; Richard Surles; William Gray; Elizabeth Tyler; Jen Gonzalez; Lisa Bralts; Joseph Smith; Thomas Carrino; Curt Borman

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Gary Cziko; Michael Lopez; Don Greely; Audrey Ishii; Carl Stewart; Melodye Rosales; Dorothea Smith; Jennifer Buoy; Kerrie Lee Dunn; Victoria Roistrick; Glenna Tharp; Beckee Hardy; Paula Vaneier; Judith Hadley Ravencroft; Linda Lopez; Marya Burke; Barbara M. Pritchard; Rebecca Harly; Eric Trusner; Kim Martinie; Sheila Dodd; Members of the Media

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

Chair Marlin 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 was no additions to the agenda.

**Staff Report**

**a. *Market at the Square 2011 Annual Report***

Lisa Bralts (Market at the Square Director/Economic Development Specialist) gave the report. Additional information was provided by Tom Carrino. The market ran for a total of 27 weeks in 2011. There was increased vendor space, new participants, relocation of community organizations, and grant money awarded to double the dollar amount of LINK transactions. Staff is expecting a strong 2012 season. Goals for the next year include appointment of an advisory board; relocation of community groups and city and partnership booths, inclusion of music and other entertainment, implementing the cottage food regulations and boosting marketing efforts. Discussion followed. Mr. Smyth asked if a year-round market might be considered in the future. Ms. Bralts said staff was already working on the possibility of a year-round market.

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

**February 13, 2012** - Mr. Smyth made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held February 13, 2012. Mr. Lewis seconded. The motion was approved by voice vote.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Don Greeley and Dorothea Smith spoke to the Committee in opposition to roundabouts.

Carl Stewart representing Champaign County Bikes and Audrey Ishii spoke to Committee in favor of roundabouts.

Melodye Rosales spoke in opposition of having the federal courthouse named for James R. Burgess Jr.

The following citizens did not speak to Committee, but asked that their position against roundabouts be entered into the record: Jennifer Buoy; Kerrie Lee Dunn; Victoria Roistrick; Glenna Tharp.

5. ***Resolution No. 2012-01-005R: Resolution Supporting the Naming of the United States Courthouse in Urbana, Illinois after James R. Burgess, Jr.***

This item was postponed from the February 13, 2012 Committee meeting. Additional research found five other federal courthouses which have been renamed. The federal legislature must pass a bill to rename the courthouse.

Mr. Smyth made a motion to send to Council for approval. Mr. Lewis seconded and the motion carried by a voice vote.

6. ***Resolution No. 2012-02-010R: A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of a Request to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for an Exception to the HOME Investment Partnerships ("HOME") Program Conflict of Interest Provision***

Jennifer Gonzalez (HOME Grant Coordinator) gave the staff report. The conflict involves Sheila Dodd, Executive Director for Habitat for Humanity of Champaign County, who formerly worked for the City of Champaign, which is a member of the Urbana HOME Consortium and Subrecipient of HOME funding. According to federal guidelines (24 CFR 92.356), she may not hold any contractual interest regarding HOME activities for one year after her tenure with the City of Champaign. The Habitat oversees the Champaign County Neighborhood Alliance for Habitat which is a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) certified by the Urbana Home Consortium. Neighborhood Alliance is currently under two contracts with the Consortium for HOME allocations of CHDO funds. In order to move forward with the contracts, the City is requesting exception to the provision and must publically disclose the nature of the conflict as part of the exception process. Discussion followed.

Mr. Bowersox made a motion to send to Council for approval. Mr. Smyth seconded and the motion carried by a voice vote.

7. ***Ordinance No. 2012-02-011: An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Multi-Family Recycling)***

William Gray (Public Works Director) gave the staff report. Staff is requesting a budget amendment in the amount of \$40,000 for multifamily U-Cycle contractual collection. The current contractor is Community Resource, Incorporated. Recent review has shown a calculation error for 2010 pricing. The approved budget for \$135,600 will need to be

amended. Corrected costs are \$169,980 which is still less than other proposals received. Discussion followed.

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

8. ***Ordinance No. 2012-02-015: An Ordinance Approving a Second Amendment to an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Champaign, the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois, and the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission for the Review of Signal Clearance Intervals (Targeted Intersections in the Champaign-Urbana Area)***

William Gray (Public Works Director) gave the staff report. Current timing of yellow clearance and red change intervals was established in 1998. Need has been identified to update the procedures and develop a policy for the whole community. Funds have been allocated from the Highway Safety Improvement Program to review and re-time signal clearance and change intervals at 25 locations in Champaign and Urbana. CUUAT's staff has made recommendations for retiming changes to intersections at Vine and Main Streets, Vine and Illinois Streets, and Philo Road and Florida Avenue. The agreement is a revision to extend the contract time to 30 days after completion of retiming of an additional 20 intersections or by June 30, 2013, whichever comes first. There is no increase in fees or expenses for the City.

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

9. ***Ordinance No. 2012-02-020: An Ordinance Amending Schedule J of Section 23-172 of the Urbana Local Traffic Code Establishing Curb Loading Zones on Certain Streets (Oregon Street)***

William Gray (Public Works Director) gave the staff report. The ordinance is a recommendation from Traffic Commission for the removal of the curb loading zone at the intersection of Oregon Street and Gregory Place. JSM Management no longer needs the loading zone. Discussion followed.

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

10. ***Green Street and Goodwin Avenue Intersection Improvement:***

These items were handled together in omnibus fashion.

- a. ***Resolution No. 2012-02-011R: A Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Local Agency Agreement for Federal Participation with the Illinois Department of Transportation (South Goodwin Avenue and West Green Street Intersection Improvement)***

William Gray (Public Works Director) gave the staff report. The City was awarded a Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Program grant, which was sponsored by Congressman Tim Johnson, for improvements to the intersection of Goodwin Avenue and Green Street. The grant provides 80% federal funding up to \$707,000 and requires a local match of 20% up to \$177,000 to make up the total project costs of \$884,000. The local share can come from the State Motor Fuel Tax revenues if approved. Discussion followed.

Mr. Smyth made a motion to send Resolution Nos. 2012-02-011R, 2012-02-012R, 2012-02-013R and Ordinance No. 2012-02-022 to Council for approval in omnibus fashion. Mr. Bowersox seconded and the motion carried by a voice vote.

- b. ***Resolution No. 2012-02-012R: A Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement for Federal Participation with the Illinois Department of Transportation (South Goodwin Avenue and West Green Street Intersection Improvement)***

This item was handled in omnibus fashion with Resolution Nos. 2012-02-011R and 2012-02-013R and Ordinance No. 2012-02-022.

- c. ***Ordinance No. 2012-02-022: An Ordinance Revising the Annual Budget Ordinance (Green Street/Goodwin Avenue Improvement)***

This item was handled in omnibus fashion with Resolution Nos. 2012-02-011R and 2012-02-012R and 2012-02-013R.

- d. ***Resolution No. 2012-02-013R: Resolution for Improvement by Municipality Under the Illinois Highway Code (Green Street/Goodwin Avenue Intersection Improvement)***

This item was handled in omnibus fashion with Resolution Nos. 2012-02-011R and 2012-02-012R and Ordinance No. 2012-02-022.

11. ***Discussion: Roundabouts***

William Gray (Public Works Director) gave an update. At the August 22, 2011 Committee meeting, options were presented by Mark Linters of Ourston Roundabout Engineering for the intersections at Race Street and Windsor Road and Philo Road and Florida Avenue. Roundabouts were considered for each location. The studies were done at the request of the City Council to meet the goals and objectives for sustainability in public infrastructure improvements. There was quite a bit of public input from the visually impaired and disabled citizens. As a result, Council asked staff to research options to accommodate the visually impaired and disabled citizens at roundabouts.

The option for consideration at Philo Road and Florida Avenue is to modernize the intersection with new traffic signal equipment and constructing it to conform to the latest FHWA and IDOT safety standards and guidelines for vehicles, pedestrians and bicycles at a cost of \$200,000 or instead construct a roundabout which could help with traffic congestion and improve safety at a cost of \$850,000.

The option for Race Street and Windsor Road is to install the traffic signals in 2013 at a cost of \$210,000, add pavement reconstruction at a cost of \$240,000 for a total of \$450,000 or construct a roundabout at a cost of \$1,440,000 which would include pedestrian signal enhancements for the visually impaired. Discussion followed.

The following citizens spoke in opposition to roundabouts: Beckee Hardy; Paula Vaneier; Judith Hadley Ravencroft; Linda Lopez; Barbara M. Pritchard; Rebecca Harly; Eric Trusner; Kim Martinie.

Gary Cziko and Marya Burke spoke in favor of roundabouts.

Michael Lopez spoke in favor of roundabouts and asked that his written comments be entered into the record. He has traveled extensively and driven through roundabouts in seven countries, as well as bicycled in three. He does not find any difference between a four-way stop and a roundabout for pedestrians. He finds bicycling to be easier to negotiate in a roundabout. His children ride with no difficulty as well. He would also like to see blinking signals at intersections during most times, especially at rush times.

Ms. Stevenson left the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Mr. Bowersox made a motion to direct staff to replace the traffic signals at Florida and Philo intersection; postpone signal placement and continue with stop signs at Windsor and Race to allow more time for staff to study and consider roundabouts at future intersections and having staff develop criteria for consideration. Mr. Smyth seconded.

A friendly amendment by Mr. Smyth was made to the language to include a road diet with a single lane roundabout in the last sentence.

Mr. Lewis felt the education and training of disabled pedestrians was important and consideration should be given to the ADA regulations in any plan.

Ms. Marlin asked for a friendly amendment to the language to include guidelines to filter intersections that would be good candidates and to work with the disabled community to address their concerns and meet their accessibility needs.

There were no objections to the friendly amendments.

The motion to direct staff -

1. At Florida and Philo, to proceed with traffic signal repairs as planned (no roundabout);
2. At Windsor and Race, to postpone signalization (continue using stop signs) and explore the feasibility, pros and cons of a road diet and consider a single lane roundabout in the segment between Lincoln and Philo along with the options for funding roadway construction;
3. City staff will continue to investigate what other communities are doing in developing a policy statement or guidelines to assist staff in selecting intersections that may warrant further study for the installation of a roundabout.
4. City staff to work with the disability community to help meet their concerns and needs in compliance with the ADA.

was approved by a roll call vote.

12. **Ordinance No. 2012-02-021: Ordinance Amending Urbana City Code Sections 3-43 and 3-48 (Liquor Code Changes)**

Curt Borman (Acting City Attorney) gave the staff report. The proposed amendment would change two sections of the alcoholic liquor section of the City code. It will authorize the City Council to designate the number of annual liquor licenses the City will issue (not including temporary licenses) which will eliminate the current practice of establishing limits for some licenses based on population. It will also define local procedural rules and due process rights in liquor control cases. Discussion followed.

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

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Chair Marlin declared the meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

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Joan M. Ryan  
Recording Secretary

This meeting was taped.  
This meeting was broadcast on cable television.  
Minutes Approved: March 12, 2012