

CITY OF URBANA

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - Monday, March 13, 2017 - 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, March 13, 2017, in the Council Chambers of the Urbana City Building.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PHYSICALLY PRESENT: Aaron Ammons; Bill Brown; Eric Jakobsson; *Michael P. Madigan; Diane Marlin; Dennis Roberts; Charles Smyth; Laurel Lunt Prussing; Phyllis Clark

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE: None

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Brandon Boys; William Gray; Vince Gustafson; Jacob McCoy; Mike Monson; Brian Nightlinger; Joel Sanders; Craig Shonkwiler; James Simon; Scott Tess; Elizabeth Tyler

OTHERS PRESENTE: Carolyn Baxley; Bethany Britton; Bruce Butler; Matt Cho; Perry Cline; Jeff Cunningham; Darrel Foste; Scott Glassman; Marcus Harris; Caitlin Lill; Dan Maloney; Alice Novak; Gina Pagliuso; Chris Stohr; Rev. Dr. Evelyn B. Underwood; Bishop King James Underwood; Members of the Media

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

There being a quorum, Chair Brown called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Alderman Ammons made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on February 27, 2017. Alderman Smyth seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Bishop King James and Rev. Dr. Evelyn B. Underwood did not wish to speak, but asked that their position be entered into the record regarding the Dr. Ellis Subdivision sewer issues.

Bethany Britten and Perry Cline addressed the committee in support of the First Followers reentry program. Both residents gave their personal testimonies of how they became peer mentors at First Followers reentry program.

Marcus Harris and Gina Pagliuso addressed the committee with concerns about the proposed renovation of the Urbana Landmark Hotel project and finance sources.

Alice Novak, Dan Maloney, Chris Stohr addressed the committee in support of remodeling the Urbana Landmark Hotel, but advised to proceed with caution.

Jeff Cunningham addressed the committee in opposition of saving the Landmark hotel.

Matt Cho did not wish to speak, but asked that his position in support of the Urbana Landmark Hotel be entered into the record.

Carolyn Baxley addressed the committee in support of renovating the Urbana Landmark Hotel.

Alderwoman Marlin read a letter on behalf of constituent Mark Netter expressing his concerns about the Urbana Landmark Hotel.

Alderman Roberts said that he received six letters from constituents. Four of the residents were in favor of remodeling the Urbana Landmark Hotel and two had questions.

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

a. Urbana Landmark Hotel

Community Development Director Elizabeth Tyler introduced Dionis Rodriguez of Crimson Rock Capital and Bill Walsh of Walsh Associates. Ms. Tyler also explained that there is interest in this project and negotiations are still pending regarding the financial commitment from all parties involved. The purpose of the presentation was to show the interest and projected vision for the 90 year old hotel and restructure proposal.

Mr. Rodriguez and Mr. Walsh gave a PowerPoint presentation considering the possibility of a transformation project for the Urbana Landmark Hotel. Turning the hotel into a Tapestry Collection by Hilton Hotel would require a product improvement plan assessment from the Hilton Brand. Mr. Rodriguez and Mr. Walsh explained that the idea is to preserve as much of the current structure as possible. Discussion ensued.

Alderman Brown relinquished the chair to Alderman Roberts from 8:20-8:28pm to join discussion.

b. First Followers Reentry Program

Alderman Ammons introduced speakers James Kilgore and Marlon Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Kilgore gave a PowerPoint presentation about a research project overseen by First Followers dealing with reentry transitions while incarcerated. After completing the research project, the group created a list of recommendations. Those recommendations were as follows:

- Provide transitional housing for those returning home from prison.
- Provide support programs for families who have loved ones who are or have been incarcerated.
- Conduct a public education campaign aimed at de-stigmatizing people with a felony conviction.
- Encourage employers to provide access to employment
- Allocate funding for workforce and entrepreneurship training.
- Incorporate behavioral health (substance abuse & mental health) into all aspects of reentry programming.

Research Team: Tammy Bond, Grover Brown-Bey, Perry Cline, Charles Davidson, Tamika Davis, Cassandis Hunt, James Kilgore, Khayriyah

Mitchell, Anthony Minor, Marlon Mitchell, Malik Mustafa, Leah Q. Peoples and Kevin Williams. Discussion ensued.

c. Guaranteed Energy Savings Project

Environmental Sustainability Manager Scott Tess and Public Facilities Supervisor Vince Gustafson gave a PowerPoint presentation about a guaranteed energy service project. It is a capital improvement project that staff is pursuing to reduce utility bill expenditures by improving city facilities without using capital improvement funds. Discussion ensued.

6. STAFF REPORT

Environmental Sustainability Manager Scott Tess gave an update about the annual municipal electric aggregation report. Some of the highlights were:

Urbana led a county-wide solar bulk purchase program. Solar power updates will be posted on the website at solarurbanachampaign.com sometime this week.

Community Development Manager Brandon Boys presented the February Business & Development report. Some of the highlights and announcements were as follows:

- Strawberry Fields owner Mohammad Al-Heeti will consolidate World Harvest Foods into Strawberry Fields's offering and maintain the popular café. Mrs. Al-Heeti will utilize both names for the consolidated businesses.
- O'Reilly Auto Parts submitted a minor subdivision plat for a new O'Reilly Auto Parts store to be located at 1806 and 1808 S. Philo Rd.
- Bluebird Boutique, a women's clothing store, has signed a lease for the city owned property located downtown at 212 W. Green Street.
- The first ever Think Urbana promotion, a homebuilders breakfast held at Eastland Suites, was a success.
- The 2017 Realtor Bus Tour sponsored by the Atkins group will take place April 13, from 8:30am - 2:00pm.
- UBA will be sponsoring a World's Shortest St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 17, 6:00pm-6:30pm.

Chief of Staff Mike Monson added that six new foundations are being dug at Stone Creek for new homes.

After all presentations Alderman Brown called for a five minute recess at 8:38pm.

- 7. Resolution No. 2017-03-017R:** A Resolution of Support to Plan and Create a Public Greenway and Bike and Pedestrian Multi-Use Pathway along the Boneyard Creek Corridor from the University of Illinois Campus to Downtown Urbana.

Alderman Dennis Roberts and property owner Mr. Darrel Foste gave a PowerPoint presentation concerning the failing structure of the Boneyard Creek from Strawberry Fields going westward toward campus. Alderman Roberts introduced a resolution of support to plan and create a public Greenway, Bike and Pedestrian Multi-Use Pathway along the Boneyard Creek Corridor from the University of Illinois Campus to Downtown Urbana. Alderman Roberts and Mr. Darrel Foste have reached out to other agencies for support with this project and are asking the city to do the same and support the cause by passing this resolution of support. Discussion ensued.

After presentation and discussion, Alderwoman Marlin made a motion to send Resolution No. 2017-03-017R to council with recommendation for approval. Alderman Ammons seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.

8. **Ordinance No. 2017-03-013:** An Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory to the City of Urbana (2912 E. Main Street / Urbana & Champaign Sanitary District)

Community Development Elizabeth Tyler presented Ordinance No. 2017-03-013 with recommendation for approval. Ms. Tyler said that this is the annexation for Urbana & Champaign Sanitary District. The annexation agreement was approved two weeks ago. No further discussion.

Alderman Smyth made a motion to send Ordinance No. 2017-03-013 to council with recommendation for approval. Alderman Ammons seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.

9. **Resolution No. 2017-03-013R:** A Resolution Certifying a Community Housing Development Organization for the Urbana Home Consortium (Habitat February 2017)

Community Development Elizabeth Tyler presented Resolution No. 2017-03-013R with recommendation for approval. This resolution is to certify Habitat for Humanity of Champaign County as a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) in order to be eligible to receive funding.

After presentation Alderwoman Marlin made a motion to send Resolution No. 2017-03-013R to council with recommendation for approval. Alderman Smyth seconded. No discussion. Motion carried by voice vote.

10. **Resolution No. 2017-03-014R:** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Urbana Home Consortium Community Housing Development Organization Agreement (Habitat CHDO Developer FY 2016-2017)

Community Development Elizabeth Tyler presented Resolution No. 2017-03-013R with recommendation for approval. This resolution is to enter into agreement with Habitat for Humanity to receive funds. The proposed amount is \$96,180.90 to assist with creating three new single-family units. Two of those units are located in Urbana.

1212 Hill, Urbana
1408 Hill, Urbana
709 Tawney Ct., Champaign.

Alderman Smyth made a motion to send Resolution No. 2017-03-014R to council with recommendation for approval. Alderman Roberts seconded. No discussion. Motion carried by voice vote.

11. **Resolution No. 2017-03-015R:** Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement between City of Urbana, Champaign County Forest Preserve District, and Urbana Park District Regarding Kickapoo Rail Trail (Agreement to study regarding connectivity of Kickapoo Rail Trail to Weaver Park and surrounding area)

Public Works Director William Gray presented Resolution No. 2017-03-015R with recommendation for approval. This agreement is to study the connectivity of Kickapoo Rail Trail to Weaver Park and surrounding area. The agreement will be beneficial to all of the parties involved including the City of Urbana, Park District and the Forest Preserve.

After presentation Mr. Gray and Ms. Katelyn Wells from the park district addressed questions and concerns from committee.

Alderman Smyth made a motion to send Resolution No. 2017-03-15R to council with recommendation for approval. Alderman Ammons seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.

12. **Resolution No. 2017-03-016R:** Resolution for Improvement by Municipality under the Illinois Highway Code (N. Lincoln Avenue Resurfacing Project)

Assistant City Engineer Craig Shonkwiler and Civil Engineer Jacob McCoy presented Resolution No. 2017-03-016R with recommendation for approval.

Mr. Shonkwiler gave a PowerPoint presentation to show the designed project by Mr. McCoy the manager for the resurfacing project. Resurfacing is needed for Lincoln Avenue from South Killarney to north of Saline Court. This project will include resurfacing the existing pavement surface, pavement patching, and the installation of ADA sidewalk at all intersection corner.

After presentation Alderwoman Marlin made a motion to send Resolution No. 2017-03-016R to council with recommendation for approval. Alderman Jakobsson seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.

11. **Adjournment**

There being no further business before the committee, Chair Brown declared the meeting adjourned at 10:22pm.

Wendy M. Hundley
Recording Secretary

*This meeting was taped.

**This meeting was broadcast on cable television.

Minutes Approved: March 27, 2017