

: OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS :**: OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS :**

Council Chambers, Peoria, Illinois, April 8, 2003, a Regular Meeting of the City Council was held this date at 6:16 P.M., at City Hall, Council Chambers, 419 Fulton Street, Mayor David P. Ransburg presiding.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed the following Council Members present: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11; Absent: None.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Ransburg requested a moment of silent prayer and he asked everyone to remember the U.S. and Coalition Troops in the Persian Gulf Region and the families of soldiers who have died, and then he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.

PROCLAMATION: CENTRAL ILLINOIS SUPPORTS OUR TROOPS DAY – April 27, 2003

PROCLAMATION: ILLINOIS BALLET COMPANY: ROCK BALLET DAY – April 11, 2003

PROCLAMATION: NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE DAYS – April 11-13, 2003

PROCLAMATION: THE GREAT AMERICAN CLEAN UP DAY – April 26, 2003

PROCLAMATION: NATIONAL ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH – April, 2003

MINUTES

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting and Executive Sessions held on March 25, 2003; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11;

Nays: None.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS**NEW BUSINESS**

(03-175) Communication from Council Member Nichting Requesting Approval of a RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CENTRAL ILLINOIS CITIZENS SERVING IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES.

Council Member Turner announced American Legion Post No. 979, 4501 S. Airport Road, Bartonville, Illinois, would be holding a benefit fish fry on May 10, 2003, from 2:00 – 8:00 P.M. for the families of two Peoria Area Marines who had died in Iraq during the past week.

Council Member Nichting read the following Resolution supporting Central Illinois Citizens serving in The United States Armed Forces:

**“RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CENTRAL ILLINOIS CITIZENS
SERVING IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES**

“RESOLVED

“WHEREAS, hundreds of Central Illinois citizens are protecting and preserving the right of freedom by serving in the United States Armed Forces in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom; and

“WHEREAS, the American Legion Peoria Post #2 is sponsoring the Central Illinois Supports Our Troops Rally on April 27, 2003, at 2:00 p.m., at Liberty Park; and the American Red Cross will hold a blood drive from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., in the former River Station Restaurant Building;

“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, THAT:

“Section 1. The City Council hereby supports the men and women of Central Illinois serving in the military and participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, including the eight City of Peoria employees currently on active duty.

“Section 2. The Mayor has proclaimed Sunday, April 27, 2003, as Central Illinois Supports Our Troops Day in Peoria, Illinois.

“Section 3. The City of Peoria calls upon all citizens to participate in activities and ceremonies designed to show support and appreciation for our troops.

**“PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, THIS 8th
DAY OF APRIL, 2003.**

“APPROVED:

/s/ David P. Ransburg
Mayor

“ATTEST:

/s/ Mary L. Haynes
City Clerk

“EXAMINED AND APPROVED:

/s/ Randall P. Ray
Corporation Counsel”

Member Nichting moved to approve the Resolution supporting Central Illinois Citizens serving in The United States Armed Forces; seconded by Council Member Turner.

RESOLUTION NO. 03-175 was approved by viva voce vote.

REQUEST TO MOVED AGENDA ITEM

Council Member Thetford moved to bring Unfinished Business Item No. 03-105 forward to be discussed at this time; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11;

Nays: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(03-105) Communication from Council Member Gale Thetford and Council Member John Morris Regarding “WELCOME TO PEORIA” SIGNAGE, and Presentation from ARTSPARTNERS. (New Communication).

Council Member Thetford moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to Ms. Suzette Boulais; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Ransburg granted Privilege of the Floor to Ms. Suzette Boulais.

Ms. Suzette Boulais, 1620 W. Barker, Executive Director of ArtsPartners of Central Illinois, stated she was very eager to take on the challenge of bringing artsy and creative signage into the eleven entry ways into the City of Peoria. She said several concepts had already been developed to be presented to the Council for approval.

Council Member Thetford moved to receive and file the communication regarding “Welcome to Peoria” Signage; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11;

Nays: None.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE, for City of Peoria, with Recommendations as Outlined:

- (03-176) NOTICE OF SUIT on Behalf of JAMES E. BODTKE, JR. and RUBY BODTKE Alleging the City did not Meet its Obligation of a Development and Annexation Agreement.**
- (03-177) TAG DAY REQUEST by the KIWANIS CLUB of SOUTH-WEST PEORIA to Hold Their ANNUAL PEANUT FUNDRAISER to Collect Donations on SEPTEMBER 25, 26 and 27, 2003. (Dates are Open.)**
- (03-178) * BIDS for the Installation of STREET ORNAMENTAL IRON FENCING in the 500-600 BLOCKS of S.W. WATER STREET, Recommending the Low Bid of KELLEY ORNAMENTAL IRON, LLC , in the Amount of \$39,750.00.**
- (03-179) Communication from Information Systems Director Requesting Authorization to PURCHASE NETWORK COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT as Outlined, in the Total Amount of \$40,239.75.**

- (03-180) **Communication from Director of Public Works Requesting Approval for a SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE of TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROL EQUIPMENT from TRAFFIC CONTROL CORP., in the Amount of \$30,465.00.**
- (03-181) **PAYMENT ESTIMATE FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: PHASE I CONSTRUCTION FOR CHARTER OAK ROAD EXTENSION (Roadway embankment construction along Charter Oak Road and along Big Hollow Road – North, construction of a dual box culvert to carry the proposed Charter Oak Road roadway extension over a Big Hollow Creek tributary, staged construction of a two-span railroad bridge/roadway underpass carrying the existing UPRR dual mainline trackage over the proposed Charter Oak Road roadway extension.) FREESEN, INC. – PAY ESTIMATE #5 - \$259,139.80; TOTAL AUTHORIZATION APPROVED: \$259,139.80. (For Information Only)**
- (03-182) **Communication from Director of Inspections and Finance Director/Comptroller Requesting Authorization for the City Manager to Execute TWO-YEAR WEED AND LITTER ABATEMENT CONTRACTS with HULSE'S LAWNCARE, and CB ENTERPRISES, and to use Other Backup Contractors, as Outlined.**
- (03-183) **Communication from Finance Director/Comptroller with RESOLUTION NO. 03-183 Authorizing NAMED BANKS to HONOR CHECKS, DRAFTS, ETC. of the City of Peoria and Authorizing the Interim City Manager, City Treasurer and the Finance Director/Comptroller to ACCEPT and RELEASE SECURITIES for SAFEKEEPING Held by a Third Party, and Repealing Resolution No. 01-299.**
- (03-184) **Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with**
* **ORDINANCE Replacing Ordinance No. 15,393 Approving the PRIVATE STREETS, PRIVATE STREET NAMES and PRIVATE STREET MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT for WALNUTBEND DRIVE and APPLEWOOD LANE at TRAILCREEK ESTATES CONDOMINIUM, a Multi-Family Residential Development Located to the North of Victoria Villas.**
- (03-185) **Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with**
* **ORDINANCE Approving the PRIVATE STREET, PRIVATE STREET NAME, and PRIVATE STREET MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT for COMMERCE DRIVE at COMMERCE SUBDIVISION, a Commercial Development Located South of Illinois Route 6 and West of Knoxville Avenue off of Lindbergh Drive.**
- (03-186) **Communication from Police Chief and Director of Human Resources Requesting**
* **Authorization for the City Manager to Enter into an AGREEMENT with RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES to Perform the ADMINISTRATION of the POLICE SERGEANT and POLICE LIEUTENANT PROMOTIONAL EXAMINATIONS for the City of Peoria.**
- (03-187) **REPORTS:**
- A. **Communication from Finance Director/Comptroller Regarding the JANUARY 2003 REVENUE AND OPERATING EXPENDITURE REPORT, and the JANUARY 2003 ACTIVE CIP PROJECTS FINANCIAL REPORT, UNAUDITED.**
- B. **PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY FINANCIAL REPORT–February, 2003.**
- C. **PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY STATISTICAL REPORT–February, 2003.**

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the Consent Agenda items as outlined in the Council communications; seconded by Council Member Morris.

Council Member Sandberg requested Item No. 03-178 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Thetford requested Item Nos. 03-184 and 03-185 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Spears requested Item No. 03-186 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Item Nos. 03-176 through 03-187 (excluding Item Nos. 03-178, 03-184, 03-185 and 03-186. which was removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion) were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11;

Nays: None.

(03-178) BIDS for the Installation of STREET ORNAMENTAL IRON FENCING in the
* **500-600 BLOCKS of S.W. WATER STREET, Recommending the Low Bid of**
KELLEY ORNAMENTAL IRON, LLC , in the Amount of \$39,750.00.

Council Member Sandberg said he would be abstaining from voting on this item due to his providing professional services.

Council Member Nichting moved to approve bids for the installation of street ornamental iron fencing in the 500-600 blocks of S.W. Water Street, recommending the low bid of Kelley Ornamental Iron, LLC, in the amount of \$39,750.00; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 10;

Nays: None.

Abstention: Sandberg – 1.

(03-184) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with
* **ORDINANCE Replacing Ordinance No. 15,393 Approving the PRIVATE**
STREETS, PRIVATE STREET NAMES and PRIVATE STREET
MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT for WALNUTBEND DRIVE and APPLEWOOD
LANE at TRAILCREEK ESTATES CONDOMINIUM, a Multi-Family Residential
Development Located to the North of Victoria Villas.

Council Member Thetford moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to Mr. Tom Edwards; seconded by Council Member Morris.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Ransburg granted Privilege of the Floor to Mr. Tom Edwards.

Mr. Tom Edwards, 2702 N. Peoria Avenue, expressed concern regarding the storm sewers and sanitary sewers in the new subdivision development and the impact these sewers would have on storm water routes in other subdivisions in the area. He suggested the City provide some type of water retention wall to prevent the excess water from draining into the already overloaded creeks in the area.

Council Member Nichting moved to adopt the Ordinance replacing Ordinance No. 15,393 approving the Private Streets, Private Street Names and Private Street Maintenance Agreements for Walnutbend Drive and Applewood Lane at Trailcreek Estates Condominium, a multi-family residential development located to the north of Victoria Villas; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Motion to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 15,455, replacing Ordinance No. 15,393, approving the Private Streets, Private Street Names and Private Street Maintenance Agreements for Walnutbend Drive and Applewood Lane at Trailcreek Estates Condominium, a multi-family residential development located to the north of Victoria Villas was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11;

Nays: None.

(03-185) **Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with**
* **ORDINANCE Approving the PRIVATE STREET, PRIVATE STREET NAME,**
 and PRIVATE STREET MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT for COMMERCE
 DRIVE at COMMERCE SUBDIVISION, a Commercial Development Located
 South of Illinois Route 6 and West of Knoxville Avenue off of Lindbergh Drive.

Council Member Thetford moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to Mr. Tom Edwards; seconded by Council Member Morris.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Ransburg granted Privilege of the Floor to Mr. Tom Edwards.

Mr. Tom Edwards, 2702 N. Peoria Avenue, expressed concern regarding impact of excess water from the new subdivisions sewer system overflowing into drainage sewers in current subdivisions in the same area. He said this was an industrial subdivision and he suggested some type of retention pond to prevent excess drainage from flowing into Peoria Lake.

Council Member Nichting moved to adopt the Ordinance approving the Private Streets, Private Street Names and Private Street Maintenance Agreement for Commerce Drive at Commerce Subdivision, a commercial development located south of Illinois Route 6 and West of Knoxville Avenue off of Lindbergh Drive; seconded by Council Member Turner;

ORDINANCE NO. 15,456 was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11;

Nays: None.

(03-186) **Communication from Police Chief and Director of Human Resources Requesting**
* **Authorization for the City Manager to Enter into an AGREEMENT with**
 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES to Perform the ADMINISTRATION
 of the POLICE SERGEANT and POLICE LIEUTENANT PROMOTIONAL
 EXAMINATIONS for the City of Peoria.

Following clarification from Director of Human Resources Pat Parsons regarding how the proposal fees were estimated, Council Member Spears moved to approve the agreement with Resource Management Associates to perform the administration of the Police Sergeant and Police Lieutenant promotional examinations for the City of Peoria; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11;

Nays: None.

(03-188) Communication from ESDA Director Requesting Authorization for the City of Peoria to Enter into a MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT with the TRI-COUNTY TERRORISM RESPONSE COALITION.

In discussion with ESDA Director Kay Harmon, Council Member Grayeb determined this was the first Mutual Aid Agreement the City of Peoria has had with Tazewell and Woodford Counties and having this coalition of counties working together would provide better access for funding opportunities in the future.

Council Member Grayeb moved to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement with the Tri-County Terrorism Response Coalition; seconded by Council Member Morris.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11;

Nays: None.

(03-189) Communication from Corporation Counsel Requesting Authorization for the City Manager to Enter Into an INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT with EDWARD ROSE COMPANY, L.L.C., Regarding TRAFFIC SIGNALS at IL ROUTE 40 and RAVINSWOOD/RICHMAR ROAD (PRAIRIE LAKES DEVELOPMENT).

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the Intersection Improvement Agreement with Edward Rose Company, L.L.C., regarding traffic signals at IL Route 40 and Ravinswood/Richmar Road (Prairie Lakes Development); seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11;

Nays: None.

(03-190) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with Recommendation from the Planning Commission to APPROVE and Recommendation from Staff to DENY a RESOLUTION Approving the PRELIMINARY PLAT of MEDINA CROSSING SUBDIVISION, an Industrial Development Located North of IL Route 6 and West of IL Route 29, along N. State Street.

Council Member Nichting moved to defer this item for four weeks, until the May 6, 2003, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Motion to defer this item until May 6, 2003, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11;

Nays: None.

(03-191) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with ORDINANCE Approving the FINAL PLAN of 1606-08 W. TIFFANY COURT, a Multi-Family Development Located North of Teton Drive and East of University Street, with Condition.

Council Member Nichting moved to adopt the Ordinance approving the Final Plan of 1606-08 W. Tiffany Court, a multi-family development located North of Teton Drive and East of University Street, with Condition; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Motion to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 15,457 approving the Final Plan of 1606-08 W. Tiffany Court, a Multi-Family Development Located North of Teton Drive and East of University Street, with Condition, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11;

Nays: None.

(03-192) Communication from Director of Public Works Requesting Approval of a SIDEWALK CAFÉ and SIDEWALK VENDOR LICENSE to Begin Operation at 7:00 A.M. for CAFÉ LATTE – 112 S.W. JEFFERSON AVENUE.

Council Member Gulley moved to approve a Sidewalk Café and Sidewalk Vendor License to begin operation at 7:00 A.M. for Café Latte located at 112 S.W. Jefferson Avenue; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11;

Nays: None.

(03-193) Communication from Director of Public Works Requesting Council Consideration of a SIDEWALK CAFÉ for SONOMA CUCINA ITALIAN GRILL – 456 FULTON STREET, with Recommendation that Approval of a Sidewalk Café at this Address be Conditioned upon the Business Agreeing to Indemnify and Hold Harmless the City of Peoria from any Claims arising from the Sidewalk Café.

Council Member Gulley expressed concern regarding the amount of available walk space between the sidewalk and the curb that would remain following installation of tables and decorative roping. He said the proposed drawing noted there would be a five-foot area that would be open and there were parking meters in this area that would cause an obstruction to handicapped people. He recommended removing the decorative standards which would allow food to be served, but he said that might then prevent the establishment from selling liquor. He said if the decorative standards were moved back, it would then allow 5-1/2 ft. walkway space.

Council Member Turner inquired how this location differed from Sulleys, which was located on Adams Street. He said there was more foot traffic at Sulleys and he said he felt the Fulton Street location would be less of a problem.

Council Member Nichting moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to Mr. Steve Shaw; seconded by Council Member Gulley.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Ransburg granted Privilege of the Floor to Mr. Steve Shaw.

Mr. Steve Shaw, 5913 Roxbury Lane, General Manager of Sonoma Cucina Italian Grill, said it was his understanding there had to be a separated area in order to serve liquor and that was the reason for the roping and standards. He said if they moved the standards next to the tables, it would give them five feet and six inches of walkways between the planters and the outside of the tables.

Council Member Sandberg said there had always been a requirement regarding enclosures in an area where alcohol was served and he inquired if there was any way, in the downtown area only, to allow for sidewalk cafes to serve alcohol without the enclosure concept. He further inquired if this was a State law or did the City have the authority to act on this issue. He said the decorative planters along with the City's competing ordinances seemed to create the existing problem.

Council Member Spears inquired if the meters could be removed which would allow for the five feet of space required.

Council Member Gulley moved to approve a Sidewalk Café for Sonoma Cucina Italian Grill, 456 Fulton Street, with the condition that the decorative standards be removed to allow necessary footage; seconded by Council Member Sandberg.

Corporation Council Randy Ray quoted Sub-Section 3-A, regarding sidewalk restaurants. He said it stated it was the responsibility of the owner to assure that alcohol was served to those who were seated at tables, and the only people who could have alcohol not at the tables were the waiters. He said it was the beer gardens that required barriers, and there was nothing in the sidewalk subdivision that specifically required a barrier.

Council Member Grayeb encouraged the Council to apply this same analysis in reaching an agreement regarding the concerns of push cart owners.

Council Member Gulley moved to approve a Sidewalk Café for Sonoma Cucina Italian Grill located at 456 Fulton Street with recommendation that approval of a sidewalk café at this address be conditioned upon the business agreeing to indemnify and hold harmless the City of Peoria from any claims arising from the sidewalk café, with the Condition that the decorative standards be removed to allow for the necessary footage; seconded by Council Member Sandberg.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11;

Nays: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**(03-140) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management
Recommending Adoption of an ORDINANCE Rezoning Property Located at 812-814 N.E. JEFFERSON and 309, 311, 313, 315, 317 MORGAN STREET from the Present Class P-1 (Parking) District and R-6 (Multi-Family Residential) District to a Class C-1 (General Commercial) District.**

Following a brief explanation regarding the previous deferral, Council Member Gulley moved to adopt the Ordinance rezoning property located at 812-814 N.E. Jefferson and 309, 311, 313, 315, 317 Morgan Street from the present Class P-1 (Parking) District and R-6 (Multi-Family Residential) District to a Class C-1 (General Commercial) District; seconded by Council Member Morris.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,458 was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11;

Nays: None.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMENTS REGARDING THE FIRE AT FRANK'S AUTOMOTIVE

Council Member Thetford stated there was a fire at Frank's Automotive over the week-end and she wanted to reassure the Council and the public, as well as the residents in the area of the fire, that this was not a hazardous material fire. She said there was some concern that the reverse 911 system was not implemented immediately and she requested Fire Chief Modglin to explain the procedure.

Fire Chief Roy Modglin said there were no hazardous materials involved in the fire. He said there was a lot of black smoke coming from the tar roof and automobile tires in the building which caused some concern. Chief Modglin said he had received phone calls from dispatch asking to initiate the community messaging system, and after conferring with fire chiefs who were on the scene, he determined there was no need to initiate the system if it wasn't absolutely necessary.

GRAND OPENING RECEPTION AT FLANAGAN HOUSE

Council Member Thetford distributed pamphlets to the Council regarding the "Ready at the Bell" Exhibit of Peoria Fire Department artifacts and memorabilia which opened Friday, April 4, 2003 at Flanagan House Museum located at 942 N.E. Glen Oak. She thanked members of the Peoria Historical Society and the Fire Department for their support in setting up the exhibit and she encouraged the public to attend.

COMMENTS REGARDING THE AT-LARGE ELECTION

Council Member Turner congratulated the newly re-elected Council Members, and he said he was looking forward to working with the new Interim City Manager.

COMMENTS FROM THE NEW INTERIM CITY MANAGER

Interim City Manager Bern Ewert said he felt it was important for him to focus on the specific tasks that were set out by City Council. He said he felt training was a priority in order to reduce costs and at the same time identify the necessary funds for staff training to get started on Phase I of the Activity Based Cost System. He explained he had scheduled training programs for City employees to help realign our training dollars with the City Council's priorities.

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING GOVERNOR BLAGOJEVICH'S BUDGET ADDRESS

City Clerk Mary Haynes said copies of the Legislative Bulletin from the Illinois Municipal League #12 had been distributed to the City Council. She pointed out that Governor Blagojevich's Budget Address was scheduled for April 9th and would be televised at 12:00 noon. She said the League was asking the citizens to contact their representatives and senators to remind them how difficult unfunded mandates were in this serious budget time for municipalities and to keep the municipal share of the State shared income tax at 1/10th. She added this was a very critical item and she encouraged the public to call their state legislators.

CITIZEN REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

(03-194) REQUEST from CITIZENS to Address the CITY COUNCIL Regarding VARIOUS ISSUES.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Ransburg granted Privilege of the Floor to those who wished to address the Council.

Mr. John Michael LaHood Bashara, expressed concern regarding his Eminent Domain case with the City regarding the Midtown Plaza Shopping Center, which was still pending and set for trial in the courts on April 28, 2003. He requested assistance from the City Council regarding this matter.

Council Member Sandberg requested a briefing regarding this case to be discussed in Executive Session at a later date.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was determined that an Executive Session was not needed.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Nichting moved to adjourn the Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by viva voce vote.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Mary L. Haynes, MMC
City Clerk of Peoria, Illinois

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