

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

Council Chambers, Peoria, Illinois, July 22, 2003, a Regular Meeting of the City Council was held this date at 6:15 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, then he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.**

PROCLAMATION: CENTRAL ILLINOIS BANJO CLUB DAYS – July 30 thru August 1, 2003

PROCLAMATION: WEEK-TV ANCHOR TOM McINTYRE 30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY - July 22, 2003

**COMMENTS Regarding VIOLENT WIND and RAIN STORM of JULY 21, 2003**

Mayor Ransburg commended Ameren-CILCO, Waste Management, Peoria Park District and the City of Peoria Staff for their efforts in restoring power to the community and performing clean-up efforts following the violent wind and rain storm which occurred early in the morning on July 21, 2003.

Council Member Thetford reported that there was still a power outage on Vine Street and she requested that power be restored as quickly as possible.

Council Member Teplitz said she talked with Ameren-CILCO Representative Neal Johnson regarding citizens' concerns that they had been unable to get through to Ameren-CILCO. She said Mr. Johnson indicated that phone and trunk lines were damaged because of the storm, so this caused additional problems.

**MINUTES**

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council and Executive Session Meetings held on July 15, 2003, as printed; 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.

**PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OF PEORIA**

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

**(03-418) BIDS for ELECTRICAL SHOP MATERIAL, Recommending the Purchase of Various Electrical Materials Totaling \$34,077.78 from Vendors as Outlined.**

(03-419) Communication from Director of Public Works Requesting Approval of an OFFER, in the Amount of \$955.00, from the ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION to PURCHASE a PERMANENT EASEMENT and a TEMPORARY EASEMENT (Located at the Swirl Concentrator) for the INTERSTATE 74 RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT, and Requesting Approval of a CORPORATE RESOLUTION NO. 03-419 Authorizing the City Manager to Sign Necessary Documents.

(03-420) Communication from Interim Finance Director/Comptroller Regarding SERIES 2003A GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT, with Recommendation to Receive and File.

(03-421) APPLICATION for CLASS "H" TEMPORARY OUTDOOR LIQUOR LICENSE for the KIRK EDWARDS FOUNDATION to Hold a Benefit on Sunday, August 17, 2003, with Recommendation to Approve.

(03-422) Communication from Mayor David P. Ransburg Recommending Approval of a RESOLUTION NO. 03-422 Pertaining to the APPOINTMENTS and REAPPOINTMENTS to the MUNICIPAL BAND COMMISSION:

APPOINTMENTS:

Mr. James F. Foley (Voting)	Term to be Determined
Ms. Carole B. Hill (Voting)	Term to be Determined

REAPPOINTMENTS:

Ms. Mary Kathleen Conner (Voting)	Term to be Determined
Ms. Lesley Matuszak (Voting)	Term to be Determined
Mr. Gregory A. Potts (Voting)	Term to be Determined
Mr. Lee Wenger (Voting)	Term to be Determined

(03-423) Communication from Mayor David P. Ransburg Recommending Approval of a RESOLUTION NO. 03-423 Pertaining to the APPOINTMENTS and REAPPOINTMENTS to the ZONING COMMISSION:

APPOINTMENTS:

Ms. Joyce K. Banks (Voting)	Term to be Determined
Ms. Patricia Sterling Polk (Voting)	Term to be Determined

REAPPOINTMENTS:

Mr. Gregory A. Hunziker (Voting)	Term to be Determined
Mr. James F. Brooks (Voting)	Term Expires 6/30/06
Mr. Curt Davis (Voting)	Term to be Determined
Mr. Richard M. Unes (Voting)	Term Expires 6/30/06

(03-424) APPOINTMENTS and REAPPOINTMENT by Mayor David P. Ransburg to the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

APPOINTMENTS:

Ms. Ernestine Jackson (Voting)	Term Expires 6/30/06
Mr. Wayne W. Nowlan (Voting)	Term Expires 6/30/06

REAPPOINTMENT

Mr. Charles Bobbitt (Voting)	Term Expires 6/30/05
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**(03-425) REPORTS:****1. TOWN OF THE CITY OF PEORIA FINANCIAL REPORT – Period Ending 6/30/03.**

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

Item Nos. 03-418 through 03-425 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.

**(03-426) Communication from Interim Finance Director/Comptroller Recommending ACCEPTANCE of BIDS for the SALE of \$4,110,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS SERIES 2003A AND Adoption of an ORDINANCE Providing for the Issuance of \$4,110,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, Series 2003A, of the City of Peoria, for the Purpose of Paying for Certain Corporate Capital Costs, and Providing for the Levy and Collection of a Direct Annual Tax for the Payment of Principal and Interest on Said Bonds.**

Interim Finance Director/Comptroller Jim Scroggins distributed a copy of a replacement Ordinance and a copy of the bids to all members of the City Council.

Ms. Barbara L. Chevalier, Vice President of Speer Financial, Inc., reported that bids for interest rates were received from A. G. Edwards & Sons, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri, at 4.4519% and Wachovia Bank, National Association, Charlotte, North Carolina, at 4.4908%.

Ms. Chevalier stated that A. G. Edwards & Sons, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri, at 4.4519% was the low bid and it was her recommendation that the bid be accepted. She referred to the last several sales that had been conducted and she said this was the lowest bid the City had received in some time. She further reported that the rating from Moody's Investor Service was Aa3 and Standard and Poor's rating was AA.

Council Member Grayeb moved to accept the low bid of A. G. Edwards & Sons, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri, at 4.4519% for the sale of \$4,110,000 General Obligation Bonds Series 2003A; 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.

Council Member Grayeb moved to adopt the replacement Ordinance providing for the issuance of \$4,110,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2003A, of the City of Peoria, for the purpose of paying for certain corporate capital costs, and providing for the levy and collection of a direct annual tax for the payment of principal and interest on said bonds; seconded by Council Member Turner.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,501 was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

**(03-427) Communication from Interim Director of Planning and Growth Management  
Recommending Adoption of an ORDINANCE Amending APPENDIX B of the Code  
of the City of Peoria for TEXT AMENDMENT Relating to Eliminating the  
Requirements for Parking in the B-1 CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT.**

Following a brief explanation by Interim Director of Planning and Growth Management Pat Landes, Council Member Sandberg expressed concern that minimum width and depth of parking spaces favored new development. He pointed out that existing older parking decks had columns which made it impossible to meet the 8½ foot minimum.

Interim City Manager Bern Ewert said he felt it would be appropriate for the Staff to report back regarding this issue. He requested that Council Member Sandberg give him a tour of older parking deck examples. He said he would be glad to review this situation and find a way to resolve the issue.

Council Member Gulley said he felt the points made by Council Member Sandberg could be addressed and brought back to amend the proposed Ordinance. Interim City Manager Ewert said his intent was to take the requirements off downtown businesses to facilitate development. He recommended that the proposed Ordinance be approved and then Staff could come back with an appropriate amendment.

Council Member Gulley moved to adopt the Ordinance amending Appendix B of the Code of the City of Peoria for text amendment relating to eliminating the requirements for parking in the B-1 Central Business District; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Council Member Sandberg moved for a substitute motion to adopt the Ordinance amending Appendix B of the Code of the City of Peoria for text amendment relating to eliminating the requirements for parking in the B-1 Central Business District, as amended, by deleting the second sentence, "However, if parking is provided, other than the number of spaces, all other standards apply." in Section 1, paragraph (2); seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Council Member Sandberg said if the proposed Ordinance was adopted, any changes would have to go back through the Public Hearing process so he did not feel anything could be done in the next two to three weeks.

Interim Director of Planning and Growth Management Pat Landes stated she felt some thought needed to be given to handicap parking. She said, if that sentence was removed, she needed to know from Legal Counsel if handicap parking requirements had to be met since it was more than a local Ordinance. She added, by eliminating the sentence, there would also be no size requirement, no service requirement, no lighting requirement, and no handicap parking requirement.

Council Member Teplitz said she felt the proposed Ordinance was an excellent first step but she felt there might be some refinements that would be appropriate. She said she would support only the original motion and she looked forward to a multiplicity of suggested amendments in the future after there was an opportunity for review.

In discussion with Council Member Spears, Corporation Counsel Randy Ray clarified that ADA requirements would still apply and those without required spaces by the City would still need to comply with ADA. He said the City may be in a position where it needed to clarify their law that ADA standards applied to these spaces. He said a better approach at this time would be not to strike the language in the proposed Ordinance but change the sentence in Section 1 (2) to read "However, if parking is provided, ADA standards still apply."

Council Member Ardis suggested that this item be deferred until after full discussion could be held.

Interim Director of Planning and Growth Management Pat Landes suggested a substitute motion to adopt the proposed Ordinance, with the exception of the second sentence of Section 1, paragraph (2), and direct the Staff to report back in three weeks so no one would have a question on what the impact would be.

Council Member Sandberg withdrew his substitute motion.

Council Member Morris moved for a substitute motion to adopt the Ordinance amending Appendix B of the Code of the City of Peoria for text amendment relating to eliminating the requirements for parking in the B-1 Central Business District, as amended, by deleting the second sentence "However, if parking is provided, ADA standards still apply." in Section 1, paragraph (2), and direct Staff to report back in three weeks at the August 12, 2003, Regular City Council Meeting regarding the impact of deleting the sentence; seconded by Council Member Turner.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,502, as amended, by deleting the second sentence "However, if parking is provided, ADA standards still apply." in Section 1, paragraph (2), and direct Staff to report back in three weeks at the August 12, 2003, Regular City Council Meeting regarding the impact of deleting the sentence was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

**(03-428) Communication from Interim Director of Planning and Growth Management Recommending Approval of an ORDINANCE Rezoning Property Located at 736 S. W. WASHINGTON STREET from the Present Class I-2 (Railroad/Warehouse Industrial) District to a Class B-1 (Central Business) District.**

Council Member Sandberg said he would abstain from voting and discussion due to a professional relationship with the Petitioner regarding this project.

Council Member Gulley moved to adopt the Ordinance rezoning property located at 736 S.W. Washington Street from the Present Class I-2 (Railroad/Warehouse Industrial) District to a Class B-1 (Central Business District); seconded by Council Member Teplitz.

Motion to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 15,503 was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None;

Abstention: Sandberg - 1

**(03-429) Communication from Interim Director of Planning and Growth Management with Staff Recommendation to Approve and Zoning Commission Recommendation to DENY the ORDINANCE Rezoning Property Located in an Area Bordered by the 700 BLOCK of the WEST SIDE of MAIN STREET, 100 BLOCK of the NORTH SIDE of W. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DRIVE, 700 BLOCK of the EAST SIDE of KUMPF BOULEVARD, and the 100 BLOCK of the SOUTH SIDE of S. W. GLENDALE AVENUE; the 700-800 BLOCKS of the EAST SIDE of MAIN STREET, the SOUTH SIDE of the 100 BLOCK of N.E. GLOBE, the 700-800 BLOCKS of the WEST SIDE of HAMILTON BOULEVARD, and the 100 BLOCK of the NORTH SIDE of N.E. PERRY; 700 and Part of the 800 BLOCK of the EAST SIDE of HAMILTON BOULEVARD, the 200 BLOCK of the NORTH SIDE of N. E. PERRY, and the 700-800 BLOCKS of FAYETTE from the Present Class C-2 (Large Scale Commercial) District to a Class B-1 (Central Business) District.**

Following a brief comment, Council Member Gulley moved to adopt the Ordinance rezoning property located in an area bordered by the 700 Block of the West Side of Main Street, 100 Block of the North Side of W. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, 700 Block of the East Side of Kumpf Boulevard and the 100 Block of the South Side of S.W. Glendale Avenue, the 700-800 Blocks of the East Side of Main Street, the South Side of the 100 Block of N.E. Globe, the 700-800 Blocks of the West Side of Hamilton Boulevard, and the 100 Block of the North Side of N.E. Perry, 700 and Part of the 800 Block of the East Side of Hamilton Boulevard, the 200 Block of the North Side of N.E. Perry, and the 700-800 Blocks of Fayette from the Present Class C-2 (Large Scale Commercial) District to a Class B-1 (Central Business) District; seconded by Council Member Morris.

Motion to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 15,504 was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

**(03-430) Communication from Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of a RESOLUTION INCREASING PARKING RATES at CITY-OWNED PARKING FACILITIES. (Refer to Item No. 03-375)**

Council Member Morris moved to approve the Resolution increasing parking rates at City-owned parking facilities; seconded by Council Member Turner

RESOLUTION NO. 03-430 was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

**(03-431) Communication from Interim Director of Planning and Growth Management with Recommendation to INITIATE a BAN on ROOF TOP SIGNS by Directing Staff to PROCESS TEXT CHANGES for PUBLIC HEARING by the ZONING COMMISSION, Including an ALTERNATIVE INTEGRAL ROOF SIGN, and ESTABLISHING a MORATORIUM on the ISSUANCE OF PERMITS for ROOF TOP SIGNS to Accommodate Public Hearing Process by the Zoning Commission. (Refer to Item No. 03-276)**

Interim Director of Planning and Growth Management Pat Landes explained there had been a request for a Special Use for a roof top sign. She said during a 60-day moratorium placed on the issuance of building permits for roof top signs, the Staff reviewed roof top signs in the City. She said the City did not have a data base which indicated the number or locations of roof top signs. She said roof top signs were normally permitted in the B-1 District, and in the rest of the City and non-residential areas, roof top signs were a Special Use and each one was reviewed uniquely. She discussed the differences in roof top signs.

Council Member Sandberg moved to deny initiating a ban on roof top signs and directing Staff to process text changes for Public Hearing by the Zoning Commission with an alternative integral roof sign, and establishing a moratorium on the issuance of permits for roof top signs to accommodate Public Hearing process by the Zoning Commission; seconded by Council Member Nichting.

Council Member Sandberg said Special Uses came before the Council and were reviewed on a case by case basis. He said he felt the downtown area should have roof top signs, but he expressed concern that a moratorium would impact some very unique individual signs that may not be utilized.

Council Member Grayeb said he felt the Administration's proposal was government over-reach and he pointed out any roof top sign could become a safety hazard. He said he supported the motion to deny.

Motion to DENY initiating a ban on roof top signs and directing Staff to process text changes for Public Hearing by the Zoning Commission with an alternative integral roof sign, and establishing a moratorium on the issuance of permits for roof top signs to accommodate Public Hearing process by the Zoning Commission was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Turner – 8;

Nays: Teplitz, Thetford, Mayor Ransburg - 3.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- (03-276) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management Recommending Adoption of an ORDINANCE Granting a SPECIAL PERMIT for a ROOFTOP SIGN through the SPECIAL USE PROCESS in a Class I-2 (Railroad/Warehouse Industrial) District for Property Located at 120 EATON STREET, with a Request from the Petitioner to Defer until August 12, 2003.**

Council Member Gulley moved to defer this item until the August 12, 2003, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Sandberg.

Motion to defer this item until August 12, 2003, was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

- (03-354) Communication from Director of Public Works Requesting Approval to EXTEND the RESIDENTIAL REFUSE and YARDWASTE COLLECTION CONTRACT with WASTE MANAGEMENT and to EXTEND STACKED CONDOMINIUM /CITY BUILDING REFUSE COLLECTION CONTRACT with PDC SERVICES until December 31, 2009, Plus Three TWO-YEAR OPTION RENEWALS, and with Modifications as Negotiated and Described in the Council Communication, with a Communication from Director of Public Works Regarding PEORIA AREA COMMUNITIES' REFUSE COLLECTION, with Recommendation to Receive and File.**

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the extension of the Residential Refuse and Yardwaste Collection Contract with Waste Management and to extend Stacked Condominium/City Building Refuse Collection Contract with PDC Services until December 31, 2009, plus three two-year option renewals, with modifications as negotiated and described, and receive and file the communication regarding Peoria Area Communities' Refuse Collection; seconded by Council Member Ardis.

Council Member Teplitz moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to those who wished to address this issue; seconded by Council Member Turner.

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

Mr. Tom Edwards, 2702 N. Peoria, expressed concern that approval of the proposed contracts would lock the City into contracts for six years, with another six-year option, with no possibility to determine what the competition had to offer and no option to terminate the contract. He also stated there would be no recycling and the City would be tied to the lowest denominator of waste disposal, which was the landfill. He expressed concern regarding the current costs for taxpayers for garbage collection and the extra costs charged for recycling, and he pointed out that other communities paid much less for the same services. He said he felt there were better ways to handle waste disposal. He said the proposed contract should not be finalized until after the new City Manager, who was from Minnesota, which was one of the most

avantgarde areas regarding waste disposal. He said there was a great deal of new things happening in the waste management industry and he felt the new City Manager would have some new ideas. He urged the Council to defer this item for more discussion. He pointed out the current waste management agreement did not expire until May, 2004.

Ms. Donna Schwab, representing P.E.A.C.E, spoke against the City extending the current waste management agreement. She distributed a copy of a letter to all members of the Council. She said the expiration of the current contract in May, 2004, would allow enough time for the City to bid out the services, including recycling. She said it had been quite some time since bidding had occurred so the City would not know what opportunities for cost savings were available. She said the City was looking for ways to cut costs and find new revenue sources, and she suggested that the City remove the cost of garbage collection from their Budget, by allowing Waste Management to contract with each citizen and bill them directly. She said she felt there were opportunities that the City Council should review prior to extending the present contracts.

Council Member Thetford expressed concern that the extension of the proposed contract included the elimination of the monthly curbside tire collection. She said this service was vital to citizens in her District. She suggested that tire collection be included, at least, with the neighborhood clean-up programs.

Council Member Ardis expressed concern about getting good competition and good value for taxpayers. He said he spoke with PDC today regarding competitive bidding and PDC verified what was already stated in the communication that the hub/spoke concept truly offered the best dynamic for those who had control of their landfill, and it would be difficult for a competitive bid for this area. He said the representative indicated that if a new phase of the landfill opened, the City should get competitive bids at that time because the dynamics could change. He said he felt Waste Management had been a good partner. He said it was unfortunate that more people did not recycle. He said he supported the motion to extend the contracts.

In discussion with Council Member Nichting regarding additional clean-up costs following storms, Director of Public Works Steve Van Winkle said there were no limits in Waste Management's contract regarding clean-up costs following a storm. He said the City worked with Waste Management after a storm, but he estimated the City saved several thousand dollars. He said in 1990 following a storm, costs to Waste Management was close to \$500,000 and it took three months for clean-up.

Council Member Nichting pointed out the huge savings for the City which was not often taken into consideration when discussing the Waste Management contract.

Council Member Sandberg expressed concern regarding the extension of the contracts and he said he felt all options and opportunities should be reviewed. He suggested that the new City Manager be requested to come forward and be challenged to save the City money. He suggested a three-month deferral on this issue.

In discussion with Council Member Grayeb, Director Van Winkle said he felt time was critical. He said he felt Waste Management provided the best service for the best price. He said he found there was no other community that gave better service at a better price, including Madison, Wisconsin. He said this would not offer good competition because an incoming company would need to find a place to operate from, hire people, buy equipment, and the hub/spoke concept was very real in the industry. He urged the Council to approve the contract.

Director Van Winkle further stated he felt that Waste Management had negotiated in good faith and he felt it came to the Council at the proper time. He expressed concern about another deferral. He said he felt Waste Management's contract was very good and he said he felt he had done everything possible to provide comparisons so the Council would feel comfortable moving forward.



Council Member Grayeb spoke in support of the Council holding a Policy Session, which had been requested by Mr. Edwards, regarding waste disposal. He expressed concern that the meeting had not yet been scheduled. He said he would like to make a decision after holding a Policy Session. He added he did not feel a delay would be harmful at this point.

Director Van Winkle explained the Policy Session involved whether or not landscape waste should be placed in the landfill; and he explained the contract preserved the ability not to place landscape waste in the landfill by having it separated at the curb so it could be managed outside the landfill. He said this fit with the concerns of Mr. Edwards and others.

Mr. Tom Edwards, 2702 N. Peoria, said the pickup of leaves and grass could be separated from the proposed contract. He said 27% of the costs could be reduced by half if leaves and grass were collected every two weeks.

Council Member Sandberg moved for a substitute motion to defer this item until the third Tuesday of October, 2003, which would be the October 21, 2003, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Motion to defer this item until October 21, 2003, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Guley, Sandberg, Spears, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 6;

Nays: Ardis, Morris, Nichting, Teplitz, Thetford – 5.

**(03-375) Communication from Interim City Manager Regarding ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS to the CLOSING of FIRE STATION #11, Which Would Include (1) Relocating a Rescue Squad from Fire Station #13; (2) Cost Reductions from Fire Union Contract; (3) Promoting Interim Finance Director/Comptroller to Finance Director/Comptroller and Eliminating the Position of Accounting Coordinator; (4) Consolidating ESDA Department with Peoria County ESDA Operations; (5) Developing Alternatives to the Existing Operation and Maintenance Structure of the Gateway Building; (6) Consolidating City Treasurer's Office with the Finance Department; (7) Exploring Use of Alternative Fire Service Delivery Methods (Quints); and (8) Continuing Discussions for an On-Going Contractual Agreement with AMT, with a Request that the Council Take Whatever Action it Deems Appropriate as Outlined.**

Assistant City Manager Alan Pennington gave a brief overview of Item No. 1 regarding relocating a rescue squad from Station #13 to Station #11 as outlined in the communication and proposed savings in the amount of \$200,000.

Interim City Manager Ewert said he did not recommend Item No. 1, as outlined by Assistant City Manager Pennington, nor did he recommend Item No. 2 regarding cost reductions from the Fire Union contract. He said he would recommend that the Council consider approving Item No. 3, which would result in a savings of \$100,000 by promoting the Interim Finance Director to the Finance Director /Comptroller position and eliminating the Accounting Coordinator position. He also discussed Item No. 4 which was a merger of the City's ESDA Department with that of Peoria County and eliminate the City's ESDA Director's position for a \$100,000 savings.

Interim City Manager Ewert said it had been suggested that the Gateway Building be paid with HRA funds and was outlined in Item No. 5 and could save \$150,000. He said Item No. 6 was the proposed consolidation of the City Treasurer's Office into the Finance Department for a savings of \$100,000. He added a referendum would be required to eliminate the elected position of City Treasurer and the citizens would make the decision. He said Item No. 7 could utilize the "Quints" system for fire service delivery

and could save staffing time and could save substantial dollars, but would not be an immediate savings. He said Item No. 8 could provide revenue in the amount of \$75,000 by negotiating a contractual agreement with AMT, which had been on-going.

Council Member Morris said in the Interim City Manager's original Budget recommendation, he warned without a control of costs, the City would be up against deficits within twelve to eighteen months from the present adoption of the Budget. He said the Interim City Manager had referred to negotiations with all the bargaining units across the Board, but now there were some ideas discussed and one was to negotiate with one of the bargaining units. He said expenditures were out-pacing the City's income and a majority of expenditures was the payroll for City employees. He said the Council needed to be disciplined in containing costs; and for the purposes of keeping Fire Station #11 open, he said he rejected all recommendations. He said he did not reject the recommendations to assist in containing future expenditure growth.

Council Member Morris moved to close Fire Station #11; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Council Member Thetford said her expectations had been that the Interim City Manager would suggest a mechanism to gain \$600,000 on an annual basis to keep Fire Station #11 open and continue fire suppression there.

Council Member Teplitz said she would remain consistent with her statements she made over recent weeks. She said, while no one wanted to face this reality, her job as a Council Member was to face reality. She said there was no painless solution to this dilemma. She said she felt the only way to fund Fire House #11 was to have a new revenue stream, but there was not enough support to move that motion forward. She said the Budget projections estimated that the City would be spending more than they were taking in until at least 2007. She said she could not support allowing Fire Station #11 to remain open.

Council Member Spears said the taxpayers took on paying a new tax in 1992, one of the biggest ever. At that time, he said, it was to expand the borders of the City with the understanding all the new revenue would help support the inner parts of the City. He said the people who resided in the area of Fire House #11 had assisted the City by paying higher taxes and now could lose their own Fire House. He pointed out these residents had helped the City build three new Fire Houses and would gain only longer response times to their own area. He said in 1992, the top 150 paid employees was a mix of union and management personnel, but the same list in 2002 showed few union people at the top and the majority were in the management group. He said he felt the City's Human Resource Department should have been merged with the County's Human Resource Department. He said the union's wages were not growing as fast as management employees' wages. He suggested that management was mismanaged and this area should be reviewed rather than closing Fire Station #11.

Council Member Nichting moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to those who wished to address the Council; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

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

Mr. Bob Manning, 126 E. Embert Place, expressed concern regarding the Council's priorities. He said that Fire Station #11 served as back up for four other Fire Stations. He said Fire Station #11 covered several schools and Buehler Home. He said the closure would knowingly raise the safety risk for children and elderly in the area. He said 36 seconds of added response time was a danger to those involved. He said the chief responsibility of the City was to provide Police and Fire services to the citizens. He said having a downtown ball stadium, a downtown RiverPlex, and adding consultants for pet projects was a luxury that could not be afforded. He urged the Council to review their priorities.

Ms. Angela Anderson, 5939 N. Prospect Road, indicated that the City Council should have more discipline in budgeting and she suggested cutting urban forestry 10%, cutting banners for special community events by 50%, cutting funding to the Municipal Band, cutting cable TV coverage of Council Meetings, cutting funding to ArtsPartners by 50%, cutting supplies by 50%, cutting Brown Bag-It, and reducing funding for computers to the City's Information Services Department which would almost fund the Fire Station. She also expressed concern regarding money spent on the attempt to purchase the water company. She said fire service was a necessity and the City should not add danger and risk to lives.

Council Member Grayeb said the motion previously passed was to direct the Interim City Manager to find a way to preserve Fire Station #11's operation to include fire rescue services and fire suppression. He said what had instead been brought to the Council, he felt, missed the mark and he urged the Council to vote against the motion to close Fire Station #11. He said he was disappointed that City management had not provided a more palatable set of suggestions, and he felt Council Members would have been criticized if each had provided their own set of solutions first. He said this was a Council-Manager form of government and he believed it was the responsibility of the City Administration to make recommendations first. He said what was provided to the Council as possible solutions did not comport with the direction given by the majority of the Council. He again urged the Council to defeat the proposed motion and allow Council Members to provide their own set of proposals. He said he felt several Council Members had already provided some information and he felt the Council could find \$600,000 to fund Fire Station #11 and comport with the resolution voted on a few weeks ago.

Council Member Turner said he felt the Council had failed to address major Budgetary issues in the recent past. He added there were difficult choices that needed to be made and many other cities were also having to make difficult choices due to budget shortfalls. He said if the City kept Fire Station #11 open, it would be a \$10 million decision for the taxpayers over the next ten years. He said there were other areas of the City that had longer response times than what had been estimated for the area of Fire Station #11, if it closed. He said Fire Station #11 had a 24-hour fully-staffed Fire Station that responded to less than one fire a week. He said the Council owed it to the citizens to look closely at the cost of keeping Fire Station #11 open. He said a four cent tax increase would only fund the fire station for one year. He added that 75% of the City's operating budget was personnel costs; and the Council could not, in good conscience, commit to future taxpayers the on-going expense of additional staff that would be needed to keep Fire Station #11 open. He said closing Fire Station #11 was not a matter of jeopardizing public safety given the City's current financial condition. He said he felt keeping Fire Station #11 open was shifting the Council's indecision and irresponsibility to the backs of taxpayers. He said closing Fire Station #11 was a difficult choice, but it was easier than raising real estate taxes.

Council Member Thetford expressed concern that if Fire Station #11 was closed, a majority of the calls would roll over to Fire Station #10 and this was why she was taking the position that Fire Station #11 needed to remain open. She said she felt there would be some alternative options provided by the Administration that should be considered.

Council Member Sandberg moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to those who wished to address this issue; seconded by Council Member Nichting.

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

Mr. Mike Nace, 3207 N. Avalon, spoke in support of using the Fire Training Center on Galena Road as a revenue stream to bring in a possible \$500,000 per year. He added that the Jockish Family owned the property where Fire Station #11 was located and, it was his understanding, that the property could only be used for a fire station. He said a family member found the contract, and if the Council voted to close the Fire house, it would be gone forever because the land use was only for a Fire House. He urged the Council to table this issue and review this situation further.

Council Member Sandberg said when a fire occurred any place in the community, because the City had three-person companies rather than four-person companies, it was a domino effect. He said the City Manager's recommendation was something he could have considered if each company was made up of four people. He said the citizens had made it clear to him that they wanted Fire Station #11 to remain open.

Motion to close Fire Station #11 was DEFEATED by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Morris, Teplitz, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 5;

Nays: Ardis, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford - 6.

Council Member Thetford moved to eliminate the Accounting Coordinator position in the Finance Department and promote the Interim Finance Director to the position of Finance Director/Comptroller for a savings of \$100,000; seconded by Council Member Teplitz.

Council Member Ardis expressed concern that a Finance Director/Comptroller would be selected prior to a new City Manager being hired. He questioned the appropriateness of this action and he said he would support the elimination of the position without naming a new Department Head.

Council Member Thetford explained her motion pertained to both actions and she would not separate the two actions. She said her motion encompassed the entire recommendation No. 3 by the Interim City Manager.

Interim City Manager Ewert indicated this was an unusual recommendation and was not the recommendation he made initially, but because of the need to find the \$600,000 to fund Fire Station #11, it required this recommendation. He said he felt Interim Finance Director Jim Scroggins had done an exceptional job and he hoped the Council would support the recommendation.

Council Member Sandberg said he felt there could be a savings of \$100,000 in the Finance Department, but he did not feel this was the manner in which to proceed. He said an organization should be built around a service, not build an organization around any one person.

In discussion with Council Member Spears regarding the legality of opening up the position of Finance Director/Comptroller and then naming a person to the position in this manner, Corporation Counsel Randy Ray explained he did not feel the City could be successfully sued any time there was an advertisement for a position. He said there was always a chance the position would not be filled and no one who was an applicant had a property interest in the position. He said there was a system of posting and complying with all EEOC regulations, which were important, but he said he did not feel the City would be susceptible to a suit in giving a promotion from within in this instance.

Council Member Turner said he would support the motion because Interim Finance Director/Comptroller Jim Scroggins had supplied the Council with needed information and because of his abilities in the present position.

Motion to accept the Interim City Manager's recommendation to eliminate the Accounting Coordinator position in the Finance Department and promote the Interim Finance Director to the position of Finance Director/Comptroller for a savings of \$100,000 was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Nichting, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner – 6;

Nays: Gulley, Morris, Sandberg, Spears, Mayor Ransburg - 5.

Council Member Thetford moved to accept recommendation No. 5 to develop alternatives to the existing operation and maintenance structure of the Gateway Building to include discussions with the Peoria Park District and Peoria Civic Center for an estimated savings of \$150,000; seconded by Council Member Teplitz.

In discussion with Council Member Grayeb, Interim City Manager Ewert explained his recommendation that the cost of the Gateway Building be covered by HRA funds rather than general revenues which would remove the cost from the General Fund budget.

In further discussion with Council Member Grayeb, Assistant City Manager Alan Pennington said he had talked with the General Manager of the Peoria Civic Center and the Executive Director of the Park District to alert them that this was an issue that would be discussed by the Council as a proposal. He added the recommendation would require the City to enter into discussion with both entities. He said the City had a contract with the Park District that had a notice provision, and the Civic Center indicated there was an interest in discussing the issue and alternatives.

Council Member Grayeb urged the Council not to approve this motion at this meeting, but hold the issue in abeyance until discussions were completed, and he added there might be some statutory reasons for a delay. He stated he felt the idea was a good one, but he felt there were some power considerations and possible legal issues that had not yet been explored. He urged the Council to use caution. He suggested that the motion could be conditioned upon and subject to no statutory prohibitions and subsequent only to complete discussion with the affected entities.

Council Member Thetford said the Gateway Building and the uses of the building clearly fit within the scope of what the HRA taxes were intended to support. She said the Park District operated the building at the pleasure of the City. She said she would amend her motion that it be subject to no statutory requirements regarding the use of the HRA funds, or contractual issues.

Council Member Teplitz said these recommendations would be considered for further discussion and were not a total commitment. She said she would look forward to the report regarding this issue.

Council Member Spears indicated that if the City really wanted to be rid of the cost of the Gateway Building, the City could sell it to the private sector.

Council Member Morris said he felt this was a desperate attempt to pay for the Fire Station #11 budget. He expressed concern that, in order to pay for Station #11, HRA taxes would be considered for use. He said he would not support the motion. He said he felt the Council was beginning to further fan out the HRA tax revenue.

Following further discussion, Council Member Nichting moved for a substitute motion to defer this item until July 29, 2003, Regular City Council Meeting so further discussion could be held and a report could be brought back to the City Council; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Motion to defer this item until July 29, 2003, was DEFEATED by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg – 3.

Nays: Ardis, Gulley, Morris, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 8.

Motion to accept recommendation No. 5 to develop alternatives to the existing operation and maintenance structure of the Gateway Building to include discussions with the Peoria Park District and Peoria Civic Center for an estimated savings of \$150,000, subject to no statutory requirements regarding the use of the HRA funds, or contractual issues, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford – 8;

Nays: Morris, Turner, Mayor Ransburg - 3.

Council Member Thetford moved to accept recommendation No. 8 to resurrect discussions with Advanced Medical Transport to a point of resolution regarding an on-going contractual agreement for \$75,000; seconded by Council Member Teplitz.

Council Member Spears said he felt \$75,000 should be a beginning point in negotiations.

Council Member Sandberg referred to a report that addressed the actual costs of providing this service, and he requested that the report be used as a reference point in initiating negotiations.

Motion to accept recommendation No. 8 to resurrect discussions with Advanced Medical Transport to a point of resolution regarding an on-going contractual agreement for \$75,000 was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford – 8;

Nays: Morris, Turner, Mayor Ransburg - 3.

Interim City Manager Ewert referred to possible savings in fire service delivery by exploring the use of “Quints” (combination pumper/aerial) and determine if this apparatus would be appropriate for use by the Peoria Fire Department. He said this item did not need direction from the Council at this time, but he estimated the savings may be \$100,000 plus. He said he would like to discuss this idea further and come back to the Council.

In discussion with Council Member Thetford, Fire Chief Roy Modglin explained the “Quints” concept and how it would serve the community. He said there was a possibility of doing some combinations and coming up with two or three personnel positions savings. He said a more complete review needed to be made.

Council Member Nichting said he assumed the report would include the costs of any equipment that would need to be purchased.

Council Member Thetford said she would not be making a motion to consolidate the combining of the City’s ESDA Department with the operations of Peoria County. She said she did not feel it would be in the best interest of the City.

Council Member Thetford said she did not support the consolidation of the City Treasurer’s office and the Finance Department. She said the elected position of the City Treasurer served as a needed check and balance with respect to the City’s overall finances. She referred to the Bond that was on the Agenda earlier in the meeting, and she said the City Treasurer had provided advice on that issue.

No objections were heard and the Council did not support this recommendation.

City Treasurer Mary Ulrich distributed a copy of a letter from State Treasurer Judy Baar Topinka speaking in support of keeping the City Treasurer’s Office and the Finance Department totally separate, and maintaining the elected position of the City Treasurer.

Council Member Thetford said she would like to see more across the board reductions in City Departments to finish the approximate \$175,000 needed toward the \$600,000 for Fire Station #11. She said she did not feel that reductions should just be made by the Fire Department, but should be made by all bargaining units and in the non-bargaining unit. She suggested getting \$100,000 in concession from all the bargaining units and \$75,000 from the non-bargaining unit.

Interim City Manager Ewert said he felt there was approximately \$125,000 needed, rather than \$175,000, assuming that all the other issues worked out. He explained that the “Quints” could work out to be \$150,000 rather than \$100,000. He said the reopening of four contracts could be very complicated, and he said he had attempted to avoid that exercise.

Council Member Thetford moved to direct the City Manager to bring back a proposal regarding fire service delivery that could potentially save the City from \$100,000 to \$150,000, and bring back recommendations on across the board cost reductions from both union and non-union in the amount \$125,000 to \$175,000, whichever was necessary; seconded by Council Member Ardis.

Council Member Morris indicated that, if the Council made a policy decision to keep Fire Station #11 open, they should not make the employees of the Fire Department bargaining unit pay for the policy decision alone. He said he opposed the use of savings from bargaining units for this one specific purpose.

Council Member Grayeb discussed the suggestion that the Fire Training Station on Galena Road could be developed into a world class national training center, and he said there was some discussion about those students being housed in the shuttered Fire Station #17. He said he felt if this was properly marketed, approximately \$400,000 per year could be coming into the City's revenue stream. He suggested that information be requested from the Fire Department and allow them to develop such a facility. He said he felt the time was opportune at this time.

In discussion with Council Member Thetford, Council Member Grayeb agreed that these issues should be kept separate from the motion on the Floor.

Council Member Ardis distributed a copy of suggestions he had regarding an alternative budget proposal to all members of the City Council.

Council Member Spears suggested that the Interim City Manager use information in the alternative budget proposal provided by Council Member Ardis when making further funding recommendations.

Interim City Manager Ewert said it was brought to his attention several months ago that through a different form of accounting, the City could allow for training at the academy so revenues received would fund the program expenses, pay instructors, and a certain percentage would come back into the City's General Fund. He said the accounting changes had been made and, because this would be a new program, estimates were conservative. He said there would be no way to anticipate that the program would bring \$400,000 in revenue in the coming year.

Motion to direct the City Manager to bring back a proposal regarding fire service delivery that could potentially save the City from \$100,000 to \$150,000, and bring back recommendations on across the board cost reductions from both union and non-union in the amount \$125,000 to \$175,000, whichever was necessary was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford – 6;

Nays: Gulley, Morris, Teplitz, Turner, Mayor Ransburg - 5.

Council Member Grayeb said the storm events of the past few days and the days since September 11, 2001, have caused him to review the recommendations regarding the ESDA Department. He suggested that the County relinquish their ESDA operation and give it to the City since the City was charged with the responsibility of the protection of the citizens. He said he would never vote to relinquish control of ESDA and he felt ESDA was a core function and an integral part of public safety. He questioned if the ESDA Department had any input regarding the recommendation.

Interim City Manager Ewert said he had talked with the ESDA Department on Thursday of last week and he planned to discuss this issue with the County Administrator.

Council Member Sandberg said while he felt there could be savings either way, he felt the County ESDA Department should be the coordinating agency of a event, and he felt the County be more of a regional facility rather than just the City. He said the citizens of Peoria already paid for two-thirds of the County ESDA Department now, and he pointed out they should be held accountable to the citizens of Peoria for the standards of their services. He said he supported the elimination of redundancy.

Council Member Spears said he agreed with Council Member Sandberg's comments and he said he felt the City needed to hold the County to higher standards and, if the City entered into an agreement, they would need to meet the standards set by the City.

Only two objections were heard so the majority of the Council did not support this recommendation.

Council Member Thetford moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to City Treasurer Mary Ulrich and anyone else who wished to address this issue; seconded by Council Member Sandberg.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Ransburg granted Privilege of the Floor to City Treasurer Mary Ulrich and anyone else who wished to address this issue.

City Treasurer Mary Ulrich read a statement as follows: "After 22 years of serving the citizens of Peoria as City Treasurer, I have grave concerns in eliminating the position of an elected City Treasurer. Since I will soon be retiring, I can address this issue, not as a self-serving elected official, but out of concern for the welfare of our city's finances and citizens.

"I believe that this office, as a separate entity from the Finance Department, should not be eliminated but given broader access to the financial information that is stored and available on the AS400 computer system. After the installation of the AS400 in 1990, the Treasurer was left with very limited access to the financial programs and was not allowed to view the financial condition or the budget information of the city. During the budget sessions last fall, numbers were constantly changing. The City Manager made the budget available for the Council to review at the November 12, 2002 meeting. He proposed a \$96 million budget and reported a net gross deficit of \$4.7 million. On November 19, 2002 additional information was provided to the Council, as well as on November 26, 2002 and again on December 3, 2002, each time the figures changed. In the past two days, I have studied all of this documentation, but it was difficult to determine as to how and why the numbers kept changing. As the City Treasurer, concerned citizens asked me how these numbers could change. However, I could not reply, due to limited access of this privileged information. Even when our Interim City Manager was hired, he was told that we had a shortfall of \$4 million dollars and he later discovered that it was actually a \$6 million figure. The citizens of Peoria need an independent elected Treasurer with full access to the AS400 financial and budget records to provide true checks and balances to these sliding numbers.

"Currently, we have a good system in place for the checks and balances of each and every deposit made in the Treasurer's office. All deposits, by statute, must be made within 24 hours of receipt. All payments must come into the Treasurer's Office. A daily record, which compares the receipts to all deposit slips, is submitted to the Finance Department.

"Even the Treasurer of the State of Illinois has written you this evening, supporting keeping the elected treasurer position for proper checks and balances.... And that letter is on your desk.

"There are many more reasons that the Treasurer should have autonomy, for one "good government" and I would be glad to sit down and discuss other reasons with you as a governing body. But my message to our citizens, whom all of us serve, You need the checks and balances your elected Treasurer provides!"

Council Member Nichting requested that these comments be a part of the permanent record. No objections were heard.

Dr. Camille Gibson, former City Council Member, spoke in support of City Treasurer Mary Ulrich and retaining the elected position of the City Treasurer separate from the Finance Department. She said City Treasurer Ulrich was a true public servant and a model for all to follow. She said her scope went beyond her support of the City Treasurer. She said she realized the difficult decision being made by the Council,



but she felt unless some things changed, the Council may have to go through this process again in the near future. She said government did not have the incentive to run like a business because there was no profit motive, and it was most unlikely that any governing body would reform itself. She said unless there was an evaluation on an objective basis of the structure of the organization and of the administration and how services were delivered, the Council would be doing this from now on and nothing would change. She suggested the Council use the good talent of professionals in the community that have expertise in this field to perform this task. She added that an expensive consultant should not be used. She said the budgetary process should be reviewed in a holistic manner. She said the problem was much larger than finding an additional \$600,000.

In discussion with Mayor Ransburg, City Clerk Mary Haynes indicated that from the motions and comments that had been made, it would seem that this item would be satisfied because when the Interim City Manager brought back his recommendations, the Fire Station #11 issue would be closed.

Council Member Ardis referred to his handout for alternative Budget suggestions and he urged the Interim City Manager to consider his suggestions and he said he felt the real estate tax mechanism should be used as a revenue stream as opposed to a flat garbage tax.

Council Member Nichting moved to direct the Interim City Manager to report back regarding a possible wage freeze for non-union employees and the elimination of longevity pay, and a breakdown of longevity between union and non-union employees; seconded by Council Member Sandberg.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Mayor Ransburg - 1.

Council Member Turner requested that the report back include the impact of compression between non-bargaining unit employees and union employees. He said the Council would need to know the impact because it would affect the hiring of professional employees.

Council Member Ardis moved that alternative budget proposal for 2003-04 he distributed to the Council be considered as alternatives by the Interim City Manager; seconded by Council Member Sandberg.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner – 9;

Nays: Teplitz, Mayor Ransburg - 2.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **COMMENTS Regarding the MUNICIPAL BAND at O'BRIEN FIELD**

Council Member Thetford thanked Council Member Turner for co-sponsoring the Municipal Band at O'Brien Field event. She said the event was successful and she thanked Information Officer Alma Brown for her coordinating efforts.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT Regarding a BASEBALL GAME between PEORIA COUNTY and TAZEWEILL COUNTY**

Council Member Thetford said there was a Peoria County versus Tazewell County baseball game scheduled for Friday night, July 25, 2003, prior to the Peoria Chiefs game. She said some Council Members would be participating and she urged citizens to attend.

**CITIZEN REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

No citizen came forward to address the Council.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**(03-432) Consideration of a Motion for the City Council to go into EXECUTIVE SESSION to Discuss 2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity; 2(c)(5) The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body; and 2(c)(6) The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body.**

Council Member Nichting moved that the City Council go into Executive Session to Discuss 2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity; 2(c)(5) The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body; and 2(c)(6) The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body; 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.

**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 9:50 P.M.

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

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