

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

Council Chambers, Peoria, Illinois, October 14, 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 (arrived at 6:17 P.M.), Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 11; Absent: None.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Ransburg requested a moment of silent prayer and then he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.

PROCLAMATION: GOSPEL JUBILEE DAY – OCTOBER 19, 2003

PROCLAMATION: HEAD START AWARENESS MONTH – OCTOBER, 2003

MINUTES

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on October 7, 2003, as printed; 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 – CITY OF PEORIA

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

- (03-591) * **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 #13: \$268,065.42; TOTAL AUTHORIZATION APPROVED: \$268,065.42, with Recommendation to Receive and File. (For Information Only)**
- (03-592) **Communication from Acting Director of Public Works Requesting Authorization to PURCHASE THREE DUMP TRUCKS Recommending the Low Bid of DAVE GILL TRUCKS in the Amount of \$240,085.00; ONE TANDEM AXLE DUMP TRUCK, Recommending the Low Bid of DAVE GILL TRUCKS in the Amount of \$83,945.00; And SNOWPLOWS, Recommending the Low Bid of KOENIG BODY COMPANY in the Amount of \$34,368.00.**

- (03-593) **Communication from Acting Director of Public Works Recommending Approval of ADDITIONAL CITY PARTICIPATION in the Total Amount of \$17,375.47 for the Final Construction Costs for SUMMERSHADE CIRCLE RECONSTRUCTION with CULLINAN PROPERTIES, LTD.**
- (03-594) **Communication from Interim Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting the Authorization for Budget Reallocation and Extension of the CHDO OPERATING CONTRACT With PEORIA CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY (PCCEO), until MARCH 31, 2004.**
- (03-595) **APPOINTMENT and REAPPOINTMENTS by Mayor David P. Ransburg to the PEORIA HOUSING AUTHORITY, with Recommendation to Concur:**

APPOINTMENT:

Carl K. Cannon (Voting)

Term Expires 11/17/06

REAPPOINTMENTS:

Richard W. Zuckerman (Voting)

Term Expires 11/17/06

Duane F. Heward (Voting)

Term Expires 11/17/06

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

Council Member Nichting requested Item 03-591 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Item Nos. 03-591 through 03-595 (excluding 03-591 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.

- (03-591) **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.) FREESSEN, INC. – PAY ESTIMATE #13: \$268,065.42; TOTAL AUTHORIZATION APPROVED: \$268,065.42, with Recommendation to Receive and File. (For Information Only)**
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Council Member Nichting stated there were comments published in the newspaper recently regarding the completion date for this project. He said there seemed to be some misunderstanding as to what type of work would be completed within that time and he requested clarification regarding the current status of the project.

Acting Director of Public Works Gene Hewitt said there had been some miscommunication between the City and the newspaper reporter, and a correction was printed the following day. He said following completion of work on the rail bridge, there would be approximately four-to-six weeks remaining to complete phase I and move on to the second phase of the contract, which would be completion of the total balance of the project.

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the payment estimate for public improvement project – phase I construction for Charter Oak Road Extension; 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.

(03-596) Communication from Interim Director of Planning and Growth Management Regarding a PRESENTATION by TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION Regarding ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR INVENTORY, with Recommendation to Receive and File the Communication. (For Information Only)

Mayor Ransburg welcomed Ms. Hala Ahmed from the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission.

Ms. Hala A. Ahmed, a Planner from the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, gave a brief slide presentation regarding the Environmental Corridor Inventory. She said this was a project conducted at the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission using funds from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources through their Conservation 2000 Program. Ms. Ahmed stated back in October of 2002, a grant in the amount of \$95,525.00 had been transferred to the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission from Peoria County for research and study regarding the project. She added the goal of this project was mainly to identify high quality natural areas in all of Peoria County and parts of Tazewell County, map these sites, and develop land use recommendations and guidelines for the use of these sites.

Ms. Ahmed invited the Council to attend the regional committee meetings and requested permission to work with City Staff in developing the final product, which would be a map and guidelines or recommendations incorporated with the planning initiatives of the City of Peoria and other municipalities in the study area.

Council Member Spears inquired if the purpose of the plan was to stop some of the erosion into the Illinois River.

Ms. Ahmed stated erosion was one of the areas being researched, but the plan was not an erosion control ordinance per se, but a recommendation regarding the location of the areas and what could be done to improve or correct any problem areas.

Council Member Spears inquired if this plan was for Peoria County alone. He referred to a map indicating East Peoria as also being a study site.

Ms. Ahmed said applications from Peoria County and Fondulac Park in Tazewell County were filed simultaneously, and since the two projects were similar, it was suggested that one application be submitted to study both areas. She said essentially, there were two different grants joined together.

Council Member Spears said he felt if the City was going to move forward with a plan to prevent further erosion into the Illinois River, it was important that Woodford County be included in future grants, because of its proximity to Peoria Lake.

Council Member Nichting moved to receive and file the presentation by Tri-County Regional Planning Commission regarding Environmental Corridor Inventory; 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.

- (03-597) **Communication from Council Member W. Eric Turner Requesting Approval to Schedule an EXECUTIVE SESSION on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2003, at 5:30 P.M., to be Held at BRADLEY UNIVERSITY'S CATERPILLAR GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTER at 834 DURYEA, PEORIA, 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.**

Council Member Turner moved to approve the request to schedule an Executive Session on Thursday, October 16, 2003, at 5:30 P.M., to be Held at Bradley University's Caterpillar Global Communications Center at 834 Duryea, Peoria, 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; 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.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- (03-555) **Communication from Interim Director of Planning and Growth Management with Recommendation from the Historic Preservation Commission to DENY and Recommendation from the City Staff to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending CHAPTER 16 of the Code of the City of Peoria Relating to the INCREASE of APPLICATION FEES.**

Following a brief explanation, Council Member Teplitz moved to defer this item for three months until the January 6, 2004, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Morris.

In discussion with Interim City Manager Steve Van Winkle, Council Member Nichting determined the the impact of these fee increases would be minimal and deferral of this item would not have an impact on the budget

Motion to defer this item until January 6, 2004, was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

- (03-375) **Communication from Interim City Manager Regarding BUDGET RELATED REPORT BACKS on the Following Items, with Recommendation to Receive and File. (Refer to 03-333 & 03-558)**

- A. **Communication from Interim Director of Planning and Growth Management with REPORT BACK Regarding the PROCESS and COST/BENEFIT of CONDUCTING a SPECIAL CENSUS. (For Information Only)**

A replacement communication regarding this item was distributed to all members of the City Council.

Council Member Grayeb requested an explanation from Staff regarding what this process would mean potentially in terms of future budgets.

Neighborhood Development Planner Ross Black explained that basically, a special census process allowed municipalities to compute their additional population since the last census, in this case, the 2000 census. He said the City would select areas in the City where there had been a population increase and do a partial census only in these areas. He said the additional population from these areas would then be added to the total City population, and therefore, the per capita calculation used by the state would provide additional revenue. Mr. Black added, at this point the City was projecting a population increase of approximately 3,600, just in the areas looked at on a preliminary basis, and at the current per capita rate of \$96.10 per person, it would add up to \$349,000.00 annually. He said over a six-year period, because it would be valid from the point it was certified through the next census, the amount would be approximately \$1.9 million. Mr. Black further explained, of that amount, a certain percentage was restricted. He said the percentage that came from the motor fuel tax was restricted to certain activities, and on an annual basis, the restricted funds would be about \$104,000.00, and the unrestricted funds would be about \$244,000.00.

Council Member Grayeb inquired if the City's recommendation was to re-canvass large sections of the City or just selected sections.

Mr. Black explained that on a preliminary basis, the City had identified ten or eleven rather compact areas, mostly in the north side of the City in Growth Cell I. He said there were some areas in the southern part of the City, namely the Riverwest Development, that was not occupied during the 2000 census, and now had become Lutheran Homes, which started this process initially. He said there were some other potential locations, but the more compact areas selected would generally lower the cost the Census Bureau would charge the City for the activity.

Council Member Spears inquired if only State money had been received, or was there any Federal money involved.

Mr. Black stated there might be a minor modification of the funds received from HUD because population was part of that calculation, but it would be only a small portion. He said the Census Bureau looked more at income levels and poverty rate, so generally, the advantage of doing a special census was the state per capita revenue.

In discussion with Mr. Black regarding the population increase at Riverwest, Council Member Spears determined for each additional person in that area, the City would receive the per capita from the State, so there would be no distinction made on what type of revenue or where in the City the new population was.

Mayor Ransburg pointed out in order to qualify for Federal money, there would need to be a certain income class only. He said there were certain census tracts that qualified for that type of per capita, and the State's funding was for total capita.

Mr. Black explained if the City received additional funds from HUD in CDBG or HOME funds, then these funds would have to be used for CDBG or HOME eligible activities. He said the per capita money, with the exception of the motor fuel tax, could be used for any purpose.

Council Member Spears said he felt there was other potential of some money coming back from the Federal government, and with that, he moved to direct Staff to move forward with the most economical way to do a Special Census as soon as possible; seconded by Council Member Thetford.

Council Member Morris explained in previous years, the Council commissioned a Special Census that determined an estimated population of 35,000. He said the City received new revenue and built their expense budget to meet that new revenue. He said, then came the 2000 full census, and the City actually lost 500 people from the 1990 count, and for about a three-year period the City rode with the new revenue, but then came the reality that there were fewer people. He said while there were tracts in the City that had experienced growth, the City should not assume that indicated a full growth of the City's total population,

and then five or six years later, when we have the 2010 Census, and the City had grown their expense budget to accommodate this Special Census, the City might potentially find themselves in a similar situation. He said his concern was in net real growth by the 2010 full census in our community and that should be our number one target.

Council Member Sandberg said the City needed to understand they were not measuring growth, but shift. He said the City could then find themselves in a financial situation based on the fallacy that we were truly experiencing "expansion of population." He said he felt there would be a rude awakening if the community continued to shift, which would put our costs in different areas, without true growth.

Council Member Thetford said she felt the City would be looking at additional revenue to the conservative tune of approximately \$2 million over a five-year period. She added the City needed to be careful not to budget beyond the period they would potentially be receiving this money. She said a majority of the money was used for infrastructure and capital improvement projects, such as sidewalks, and not operations. She said she felt the City needed to dedicate money to one-time projects and not depend on the funds from an operations perspective.

Council Member Spears said the City needed to manage and control the funds, and he believed this was one way the City could begin to close the budget gap. He said this would bring up an interesting point at the next census as to why the City was growing if the population was not growing, which would then set the debate of why not put the money into the infrastructure of the inner city rather than the infrastructure of sewer lines going out farther from the City, and possibly try to recapture the people to move into the City and the downtown area.

Motion to direct Staff to move forward with the most economical way to do a Special Census as soon as possible, and receive and file the report back regarding the process and cost/benefit of conducting a special census was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

B. Communication from Human Resources Director with REPORT BACK Regarding 2003 VACANCIES. (For Information Only)

Council Member Nichting moved to receive and file the report back regarding the 2003 Vacancies; 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.

C. Communication from Finance Director/Comptroller with REPORT BACK Regarding ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND (IMRF) ANNUAL OBLIGATION. (For Information Only)

Council Member Nichting moved to receive and file the report back regarding the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) Annual Obligation; 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.

D. Communication from Interim City Manager with ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Regarding FUNDING POSITIONS With CAPITAL FUNDS.

Council Member Nichting moved to receive and file the additional information regarding Funding Positions with Capital Funds; 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.

NEW BUSINESS

It was determined there were no items to be brought forward under New Business.

CITIZEN REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

(03-598) 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.

Ms. Levitta Ricca, 711 S. Greenlawn, gave a brief summary regarding a trip to the Regional Neighborhood Conference held in Evansville, Indiana, she and thirteen neighborhood representatives had attended, along with nine City Staff people. She said the theme this year was "Encouraging the Next Generation", and she described various topics and programs that were discussed at the conference. She encouraged the Council to support the City's Weed and Seed Programs.

Mr. Tom Edwards, 2702 N. Peoria, distributed literature regarding Peoria Lake. He expressed concern regarding the amount of soil that had been washed out of the lake, and he referred to a study by the Army Corps of Engineers and a graph describing the overall deepening trend of both the upper and lower sections of Peoria Lake.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was determined an Executive Session was not needed.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Approved by viva voce vote.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:13 P.M.

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

