

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

Council Chambers, Peoria, Illinois, December 10, 2002, a Regular Meeting of the City Council and Town Board was held this date at 6:17 P.M., at City Hall, 419 Fulton Street, Mayor David P. Ransburg presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call showed the following Council Members present: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 10; Absent: Spears – 1.

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.**

PROCLAMATION: HAROLD CHURCH – PRESIDENT, KELLY SEED & HARDWARE COMPANY

Council Member Spears arrived at 6:20 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS Regarding MUSEUM GRANTS and AMEREN ACQUISITION of CILCO**

Mayor Ransburg noted it was announced this week that Lakeview Museum was awarded a \$1.3 million grant and the Peoria Zoological Society received \$500,000 from the Illinois Public Museum Capital Grants Program. He also stated he met with the CEO and COO of Ameren and learned that the required debt restructuring with AES would be accomplished by December 15, 2002 and thus Ameren should be able to acquire CILCO no later than the first of the year. Mayor Ransburg expressed confidence that Ameren would be a good operator and a good corporate citizen.

**MINUTES**

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting and Executive Sessions held on December 3, 2002, 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****(02-799) PUBLIC HEARING Regarding the PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY INCREASE for the City of Peoria for 2002 (for Fiscal Year 2003).**

Council Member Nichting moved to open the Public Hearing; 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.

The Public Hearing opened at 6:27 p.m.

Following a third call for public comments and after Mayor Ransburg determined that no one wished to address the issue, Council Member Nichting moved to close the Public Hearing; 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.

The Public Hearing closed at 6:28 p.m.

#### CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE.

- (02-800) **PAYMENT ESTIMATE FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: US ROUTE 150 and ILLINOIS ROUTE 91 (Widening, overlay and reconstruction of US Route 150 from Trigger/Koerner Road to Frostwood Parkway, and Illinois Route 91 from US Route 150 to the north.) R. A CULLINAN & SON, INC. – PAY ESTIMATE #9: \$2,065,065.90; TOTAL AUTHORIZATION APPROVED: \$2,065,065.90. (For Information Only)**
- (02-801) **PAYMENT ESTIMATE FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: W. BARKER AVENUE ORNAMENTAL STREET LIGHTING IMPROVEMENT (Western Ave. to Duryea Place) (Installation of City-standard ornamental street lighting system along with all necessary adjustments & appurtenances.) OBERLANDER ELECTRIC – PAY ESTIMATE #3 & FINAL: \$40,318.17; TOTAL AUTHORIZATION APPROVED: \$40,318.17. (For Information Only)**
- (02-802) **REQUEST TO APPROVE REPROGRAMMING OF CDBG FUNDS & FINAL PAYMENT ESTIMATE FOR N. E. PERRY AVENUE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: N.E. PERRY AVENUE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (Abington Street to Springdale Cemetery)(Removing existing curb, sidewalk, and other areas shown in the plans and constructing p.c.c. base course widening, combination curb and gutter, combination curb and sidewalk, sidewalk and driveway pavement, aggregate shoulder, a 1.5" bituminous overlay over existing and widened pavement, city standard inlets, manholes & storm sewer.) R. A. CULLINAN & SON, INC.- PAY ESTIMATE #5 & FINAL: \$13,760.25; TOTAL AUTHORIZATION APPROVED: \$13,760.25, as Outlined. (For Information Only)**
- (02-803) **Communication from Finance Director/Comptroller Regarding 2002 ENCUMBRANCES.**
- (02-804) **Communication from Fire Chief Requesting Authorization for a SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE NECESSARY PARTS TO REPAIR the BREATHING AIR SYSTEM, in the Amount of \$7,400.00.**
- (02-805) **Communication from Management Co-Chair and Labor Co-Chairs of the Joint Labor/Management Health Care Committee Requesting Approval for the City Manager to Execute a ONE-YEAR STOP LOSS INSURANCE CONTRACT through EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CORPORATION with RISK ASSESSMENT STRATEGIES for the Year 2003.**
- (02-806) **Communication from Director of Public Works Requesting Concurrence in the Sanitary District's Award of the 2003 CONTRACT for REPAIR AND MODIFICATION of VARIOUS SANITARY SEWERS to WIEGAND & STORRER, INC., as Outlined.**

- (02-807) Communication from Director of Public Works Requesting Concurrence in the Sanitary District's Award of the FARGO RUN SEWER IMPROVEMENT – PHASE II CONTRACT to J. C. DILLON, INC., in the Amount of \$547,394.00.
- (02-808) \* Communication from Director of Public Works and Director of Economic Development Requesting Authorization to SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATIONS, in the Total Amount of \$400,000, to UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S (USEPA) NATIONAL BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT, REVOLVING LOAN FUND and CLEAN-UP GRANTS PROGRAM for year 2003.
- (02-809) Communication from Director of Economic Development with RESOLUTION NO. 02-809 CERTIFYING that the REVOLVING LOAN FUND Meets the REQUIREMENTS of the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION.
- (02-810) Communication from Director of Public Works with MFT RESOLUTION 02-810, in the Amount of \$25,000, for PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING for the WISCONSIN AVENUE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (Forrest Hill to Paris).
- (02-811) \*\* Communication from Corporation Counsel with ORDINANCE Amending CHAPTERS 1 and 15 of the Code of the City of Peoria Relating to INCREASING the FINE for NOISE VIOLATIONS to \$200.00.
- (02-812) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with ORDINANCE NO. 15,399 Amending CHAPTER 16 of the Code of the City of Peoria Relating to the CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS PROCESS for HISTORIC DISTRICT AND LANDMARK PROPERTIES.
- (02-813) \*\*\* Communication from Finance Director/Comptroller with ORDINANCE Amending the BUDGET for Fiscal Year 2002 Relating to POLICE GRANTS, MID-TOWN PLAZA PROJECT OVERRUN, STORM SEWER OUTFALL PROJECT, I-74 SEWER RECONSTRUCTION and RELOCATION, AND LIBRARY GRANTS.
- (02-814) Communication from Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of the Following:
- A. RESOLUTION NO. 02-814 Pertaining to APPOINTMENTS AND TERMS of the RIVERFRONT BUSINESS DISTRICT COMMISSION so the Commission Returns to Properly Staggered Terms;
- B. APPOINTMENTS and REAPPOINTMENTS, on Behalf of Mayor David P. Ransburg, to the RIVERFRONT BUSINESS DISTRICT COMMISSION as Follows:
- APPOINTMENT:
- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| William F. Springer | Term to be Determined. |
|---------------------|------------------------|
- REAPPOINTMENTS:
- |                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Nicholas R. Owens (Voting)   | Term to be Determined. |
| Diana Hall (Voting)          | Term to be Determined. |
| William M. Shay (Voting)     | Term to be Determined. |
| Michael R. Wiesehan (Voting) | Term to be Determined. |

(02-815) Communication from Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of the Following:

A. RESOLUTION NO. 02-815 Pertaining to APPOINTMENTS AND TERMS OF the HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION so the Commission Returns to Properly Staggered Terms;

B. APPOINTMENTS, on Behalf of Mayor David P. Ransburg, to the HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION as Follows:

Dr. Tony Cazzato (Voting)

Term Expires 6/30/05

Paul G. Masick (Voting)

Term Expires 6/30/04

(02-816) APPOINTMENT by Mayor David P. Ransburg to the ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE DISABLED:

Todd Browning (Voting)

Term Expires 6/30/03

(02-817) APPOINTMENT and REAPPOINTMENT by Mayor David P. Ransburg to the PEORIA HOUSING AUTHORITY:

John W. Williams (Voting)

Term Expires 11/17/05

Aurthur Mae Perkins (Voting)

Term Expires 11/17/05

(02-818) APPOINTMENTS by Mayor David P. Ransburg to the WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD:

Donna Beck

Term Expires 7/1/04

C. E. (Chris) Glynn

Term Expires 7/1/04

Susan L. Kraus

Term Expires 7/1/03

Dr. Kay E. Royster

Term Expires 7/1/03

(02-819) REAPPOINTMENT by Mayor David P. Ransburg to the GREATER PEORIA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Mike Stessman (Voting)

Term Expires 6/30/06

(02-820) Communication from Director of Public Works Regarding QUOTES for SUPPORT EQUIPMENT for 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 SNOW SEASONS. (For Information Only)

(02-821) Communication from Director of Economic Development Regarding 613-615 N.E. JEFFERSON STREET. (For Information Only)

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

Council Member Nichting requested that Item No. 02-808 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Gulley requested that Item No. 02-811 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Sandberg requested that Item No. 02-813 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Item Nos. 02-800 through 02-821, excluding Item Nos. 02-808, 02-811 and 02-813 (which were 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.

**(02-808)      Communication from Director of Public Works and Director of Economic  
\*      Development Requesting Authorization to SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATIONS, in  
the Total Amount of \$400,000, to UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION AGENCY'S (USEPA) NATIONAL BROWNFIELDS  
ASSESSMENT, REVOLVING LOAN FUND and CLEAN-UP GRANTS  
PROGRAM for year 2003.**

Council Member Nichting requested that staff evaluate the feasibility of a land swap between the property already owned by the City on Darst Street and the park property in Southtown, similar to the exchange of riverfront property several years ago which allowed construction of the Riverplex project.

Council Member Nichting moved to authorize submittal of grant applications totaling \$400,000 to the USEPA National Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund and Clean-up Grants Program, conditioned upon determining the feasibility of a land swap between City-owned property on Darst Street and park property in Southtown; 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.

**(02-811)      Communication from Corporation Counsel with ORDINANCE Amending  
\*\*      CHAPTERS 1 and 15 of the Code of the City of Peoria Relating to INCREASING  
the FINE for NOISE VIOLATIONS to \$200.00.**

Council Member Gulley said he did not object to raising the fine to \$200.00, but was not convinced that a higher fine would solve the noise problem. He said he was also concerned that tickets be issued fairly and not just to a particular population based on the type of vehicle they were driving.

In discussion, Corporation Counsel Randy Ray clarified there was already a \$200.00 fine for cars on the public way. He said this amendment would affect other noise complaints, usually from neighbors who had been disturbed, with tickets issued at the discretion of the Police Officer, often after repeated warnings.

In further discussion, Police Chief John Stenson said that in addition to the ordinance, they had a written procedure followed by the Police Officers as well as the Dispatch Center. He said that complaints about noise from a residence usually came through the Dispatch Center and therefore were electronically documented, including name of the complainant and that a warning was issued. He said the court system further provided protection against misuse of Police authority, as well as assurance of due process.

In further discussion, City Manager Michael McKnight pointed out that the noise had to be heard by the Officer at a distance of 50 feet or more. Chief Stenson added that a citizen could also sign a complaint if the citizen heard the noise at the required distance but the responding Officer did not.

In discussion with Council Member Sandberg regarding whether an analysis had been made to determine if the fines covered the cost of prosecution and served as a deterrent, Corporation Counsel Randy Ray responded that no actual study had been done. He pointed out there was a difference between a fine and a fee. He explained a fee was intended to recover costs, whereas a minimum fine could be established by a Home Rule municipality and the Courts were required to enforce it. He said the Officer's time and the City prosecutor's time could be included in setting the amount of a fine.

In further discussion with Council Member Sandberg, Corporation Counsel Randy Ray said that public service work would be the most readily available avenue for non-monetary punishment, and that Home Rule entities could seek a jail sentence as well.

Police Chief John Stenson pointed out there was an option for citizens to pay any municipal ordinance violation notice up to two weeks before the scheduled court date, thus reducing Officer overtime and a prosecutor's time in court.

Council Member Grayeb explained he had asked for this increase to be brought forward because a \$75.00 fine had not proven to be a deterrent, nor was this amount sufficient to cover costs of prosecution. He asserted that creating a noise violation in one's neighborhood was just as egregious as creating a moving sound violation in a vehicle. He said it was important to send the message that people show respect for their neighbors and be responsible for their conduct. He stated people could still enjoy their music without it being heard 50 feet away and that neighborhood residents should not have to tolerate chronic disturbances.

Council Member Gulley noted it was important not only for citizens to be aware they could report this type of noise problem to the Police Department, but also for violators to know they would be ticketed.

Council Member Gulley moved to adopt the Ordinance Amending Chapters 1 and 15 of the Code of the City of Peoria Relating to Increasing the Fine for Noise Violations to \$200; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

In discussion with Council Member Spears regarding whether this amendment could potentially affect festivals held on the Riverfront and on public streets, Corporation Counsel Randy Ray acknowledged this was possible and said it could be looked into.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,400 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

**(02-813) Communication from Finance Director/Comptroller with ORDINANCE Amending  
\*\*\* the BUDGET for Fiscal Year 2002 Relating to POLICE GRANTS, MID-TOWN  
PLAZA PROJECT OVERRUN, STORM SEWER OUTFALL PROJECT, I-74  
SEWER RECONSTRUCTION and RELOCATION, AND LIBRARY GRANTS.**

Council Member Sandberg requested the ordinances be divided; no objection was heard. He then moved to adopt the Ordinance Amending the Budget for FY2002 Relating to Police Grants, Storm Sewer Outfall Project, I-74 Sewer Reconstruction and Relocation, and Library Grants, as amended, deleting Mid-Town Plaza Project Overrun in the amount of \$39,236; seconded by Council Member Morris.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,401, as amended, was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

Council Member Thetford moved to adopt the Ordinance Amending the Budget for FY2002 Relating to Mid-Town Plaza Project Overrun; seconded by Council Member Teplitz.

In discussion with Council Member Sandberg, Public Works Director Steve Van Winkle explained there were two changes to the original awarded contract: 1) the undercutting of bad soil near the Nebraska intersection cost an extra \$11,230, and 2) it was the State's requirement to change out the traffic signals at Richmond rather than simply modify them, as called for in the plans. He said the City picked up roughly \$40,000 of those costs, while the State reimbursed \$8,000 and the developer contributed \$11,950. He explained this change was not known when the communication and ordinance were prepared, so the amount out of fund balance was over-stated by \$11,950 and should be \$19,286 rather than \$31,236.

Council Member Thetford amended her motion to reflect use of \$19,286 from fund balance rather than \$31,236, as explained by Director Van Winkle.

In discussion with Council Member Sandberg regarding the advisability of incurring additional cost for new traffic signals at the Richmond intersection, Director Van Winkle said neither the State nor the City could substantiate elimination of the signals based on traffic volume. He said the upgrade benefited the neighborhood on the west side of Knoxville by allowing easier access onto Knoxville and was relatively well spaced with the Knoxville signals both north and south of Richmond.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,402, as amended, was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Sandberg – 1.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **(02-755) 2003 PRELIMINARY BUDGET DOCUMENTS and INFORMATION:**

##### **A. Communication from City Manager Regarding DEFICIT REDUCTION PLAN for 2003 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET.**

City Manager Michael McKnight distributed a replacement Deficit Reduction Plan communication. He said the plan he had submitted fully recognized that any balancing act would have to take place in the area already affected by early retirements. In order not to hinder the snow removal program, he suggested that any restructuring discussions be delayed until the meetings planned to commence in February, since the Public Works Department would be most impacted by right-sizing/downsizing.

City Manager McKnight referred to the reconciliation shown on the back of his communication and stated the net effect would be 30 positions left unfilled in order to realize \$15,000 in fund balance. He said the budget was balanced and made sense for what had to be done to the organization, and took into consideration the time of year with potential snow-fighting needs.

Finance Director/Comptroller Ellie Hogan distributed 1) the tax levy ordinance which locked the rate at \$1.2649, and 2) a packet containing the budget resolution based on the City Manager's recommendation along with schedules of expenditures by department and object, revenues, proposed capital budget, and debt service requirements for FY2003.

Council Member Grayeb moved to approve the replacement Deficit Reduction Plan for the 2003 Fiscal Year Budget; seconded by Council Member Teplitz.

In discussion with Council Member Nichting regarding assumptions made about early retirements, City Manager McKnight stated that Human Resources Director Patrick Parsons sized the necessary savings to determine an average salary, based on the pool of eligible employees. He said an additional 18 positions would have to remain unfilled to realize the required \$381,000 in savings, and acknowledged this plan did not address the reserve requirement of an ordinance adopted earlier this year.

Director Parsons explained that to under-state the estimated savings, they assumed employees retiring under ERI would leave later rather than earlier in the 12-month period, and then projected the average savings due to a vacancy at approximately 4.9 months. He confirmed that if additional lay-offs were required next year, there would be a cost factor for unemployment benefits which would be discussed with the Council.

Council Member Nichting distributed a substitute Right Size Restructuring (RSR) Plan and moved to approve it; seconded by Council Member Sandberg.

Council Member Nichting explained this Plan would reduce the overall workforce while protecting basic essential services and provided the efficiencies to accomplish same.

Council Member Turner stated this plan did not include any detailed explanation of the proposed changes or equivalent savings and it had more to do with special agendas than with right-sizing government to efficiently provide services and be accountable to our constituency. He said it was short-sighted to cut the only remaining City function which could attract revenue and to allow only fire and police functions, with every other element reduced to answering phones.

Council Member Sandberg explained this plan suggested restructuring based on services the City provided in 1992 and took into consideration where growth had occurred and opportunities for cross-training, perhaps combining related functions under a Regulatory Development Department to expedite the process for developers and builders.

In addressing the proposed reduction of 16 positions in ESDA, Council Member Sandberg pointed out that all operating costs for ESDA county-wide were funded by the City (except for a small rebate), even after the 9-1-1 telephone tax was imposed. He added that some of this tax money was used to purchase voting machines last year.

Council Member Sandberg continued their objective was to reduce operating costs by approximately \$1.2 million and to allocate a portion of that amount to programs. He said it made no sense to retain staff and eliminate programs.

Council Member Morris stated that while he could not support this proposal, it illustrated that making the three largest departments (70% of employees) untouchable would decimate the remainder of City services, many of which also impacted public safety, quality of life and neighborhoods.

Council Member Grayeb stated this plan would undermine stability in the older neighborhoods as well as seriously reduce our ability to respond to any terrorist attack or mass act of violence.

In discussion with Council Member Spears regarding the increase in ESDA positions between 1992 and 2002, ESDA Director Kay Harmon explained the Dispatch Center was still under the Police Department in 1992, and there were also five Police Sergeants serving as supervisors. She said civilian supervisors (who also acted as relief Dispatchers) and a manager were added when the dispatch function was transferred to ESDA. She pointed out that 5.2 people were needed to man one position 24/7, not including vacation, sick leave, etc.

Further discussion occurred between Council Member Spears and Police Chief John Stenson regarding Police supervisory staffing levels and responsibilities following transfer of the Dispatch Center to ESDA. In regard to what was funded through the E-9-1-1 tax, Chief Stenson clarified that "voting" equipment did not refer to voting machines used in elections, but rather equipment located in Communications which interfaced with Dispatch Center computers. He said the E-9-1-1 tax paid for all the equipment in each dispatch center in Peoria County (Bartonville, Chillicothe and Peoria Heights in addition to Peoria).

Council Member Ardis said that while the practicality of attempting to start right-sizing in the final quarter of the fiscal year was questionable, this proposal demonstrated there were other areas to consider for reductions, particularly if the Council's intent was to leave public safety intact, as seemed to be the desire of most citizens. He stated he would likely be unable to vote in favor of either of the proposals brought forward since sufficient time had not been devoted to the overall budget process.

Council Member Nichting pointed out there had been a 57% increase in staffing levels since 1992 in the departments classified as "other." He expressed concern that the Public Works Department, whose staffing levels have remained flat, would be most impacted by early retirements. He stated it would be premature to begin discussing the restructuring of this Department in February, before it was known which positions would be vacated through early retirements.

Public Works Director Steve Van Winkle said he anticipated his department would lose 11-12 positions, or approximately 38% of the 30 positions to be left unfilled. He added if Public Works had to absorb an even greater loss, coupled with the 17 positions already lost this year, the impact could be devastating.



Council Member Spears said that although there were significant problems with this proposal, it was a move in the right direction towards cross-training and accomplishing reductions without sacrificing basic services.

Motion to approve the Right Size Restructuring (RSR) Plan was DEFEATED by roll call vote.

Yeas: Nichting, Sandberg, Spears – 3;

Nays: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 8;

Returning to discussion of the original motion to adopt the City Manager's Replacement Deficit Reduction Plan, Council Member Thetford said the Council needed to begin discussing for next year which programs and services were essential and then prioritizing those based on available funding. She said she had received a very comprehensive letter from Code Enforcement Inspector Carol Wagley outlining services which were a component of public safety provided by her department. She suggested it would be helpful to consider this as the Council began discussions in February, as there were likely a number of services and programs provided by the City of which Council Members were unaware.

In discussion with Council Member Sandberg, Finance Director/Comptroller Ellie Hogan clarified that a \$2 million capital transfer in 2004 was part of the City Manager's Deficit Reduction Plan and that there would be 30 fewer positions at the end of 2003 than at the beginning. Council Member Sandberg pointed out the budget document should not be the result of who retired throughout the year, but rather should reflect the Council's priorities and available dollars for the upcoming year.

Council Member Morris stated he would support this budget, despite the fact there was nothing appealing about it, because the Council was required to approve a budget. He pointed out it was not actually an annual budget, but rather about a three-week bridge. In discussion, City Manager McKnight affirmed that this budget was nothing more than stop-gap, and that if nothing was done at the beginning of 2003 to ensure compliance in the 2004 budget (i.e. right-size), it was very possible that additional lay-offs would be inevitable. He emphasized a substantial reduction in expenditures was required.

Motion to approve the Replacement Deficit Reduction Plan for the 2003 Fiscal Year Budget was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 7;

Nays: Ardis, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears – 4.

### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

#### **(02-822) Communication from the City Manager with RESOLUTION ADOPTING the 2003 BUDGET for the CITY OF PEORIA.**

Clerk's Note: Revised document was distributed earlier in the meeting.

Council Member Grayeb moved to approve the Resolution Adopting the 2003 Budget for the City of Peoria; seconded by Council Member Turner.

RESOLUTION NO. 02-822 was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 7;

Nays: Ardis, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears – 4.

#### **(02-823) Communication from Finance Director/Comptroller with ORDINANCE LEVYING TAXES for FISCAL YEAR 2003 for MUNICIPAL PURPOSES for the City of Peoria.**

Council Member Grayeb moved to adopt the Ordinance Levying Taxes for Fiscal Year 2003 for Municipal Purposes for the City of Peoria; seconded by Council Member Turner.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,403 was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg-9;

Nays: Ardis, Sandberg – 2.

Clerk's Note: See page 25889 for reconsideration of this item.

**(02-824) Communication from Finance Director/Comptroller Recommending Adoption of the Following:**

In discussion with Council Member Sandberg, Finance Director/Comptroller Ellie Hogan confirmed that approximately \$27,000 was still outstanding on the Special Service Area assessment due the City.

**A. ORDINANCE LEVYING a TAX for FISCAL YEAR 2003 for the WEAVERRIDGE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA PARCEL A – GOLF COURSE;**

Council Member Nichting moved to adopt the Ordinance Levying a Tax for Fiscal Year 2003 for the WeaverRidge Special Service Area Parcel A—Golf Course; seconded by Council Member Morris.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,404 was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Sandberg – 1.

**B. ORDINANCE LEVYING a TAX for FISCAL YEAR 2003 for the WEAVERRIDGE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA PARCEL D;**

Council Member Nichting moved to adopt the Ordinance Levying a Tax for Fiscal Year 2003 for the WeaverRidge Special Service Area Parcel D; seconded by Council Member Morris.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,405 was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Sandberg – 1.

**C. ORDINANCE LEVYING a TAX for FISCAL YEAR 2003 for the WEAVERRIDGE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA PARCEL E;**

Council Member Nichting moved to adopt the Ordinance Levying a Tax for Fiscal Year 2003 for the WeaverRidge Special Service Area Parcel E; seconded by Council Member Morris.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,406 was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Sandberg – 1.

**D. ORDINANCE LEVYING a TAX for FISCAL YEAR 2003 for the WEAVERRIDGE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA LOW DENSITY, MEDIUM DENSITY, HIGH DENSITY AND SUBDIVIDED PARCEL F.**

Council Member Nichting moved to adopt the Ordinance Levying a Tax for Fiscal Year 2003 for the WeaverRidge Special Service Area Low-Density, Medium-Density, High-Density and Subdivided Parcel F; seconded by Council Member Morris.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,407 was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Sandberg – 1.

- (02-825) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with  
ORDINANCE LEVYING a TAX for the Fiscal Year 2003 for the EAST BLUFF  
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES SPECIAL SERVICE AREA, and with  
a Request to Receive and File the East Bluff NHS Annual Report.**

Clerk's Note: A revised (complete) annual report was distributed earlier in the meeting.

Council Member Thetford moved to adopt the Ordinance Levying a Tax for the Fiscal Year 2003 for the East Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services Special Service Area and to receive and file the revised East Bluff NHS Annual Report; seconded by Council Member Teplitz.

Council Member Sandberg confirmed with Planning & Growth Management Director Wayne Anthony that the East Bluff NHS was current in repayment of the smaller of two loans from the City.

Motion to adopt ORDINANCE 15,408 Levying a Tax for the Fiscal Year 2003 for the East Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services Special Service Area and to receive and file revised the East Bluff NHS Annual Report was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

- (02-823) REQUEST for RECONSIDERATION of ORDINANCE NO. 15,403 Regarding  
\*\*\*\*\* LEVYING TAXES for FISCAL YEAR 2003 for MUNICIPAL PURPOSES for the  
City of Peoria.**

Council Member Nichting moved to reconsider Item No. 02-823, Ordinance No. 15,403, Levying Taxes for Fiscal Year 2003 for Municipal Purposes for the City of Peoria; seconded by Council Member Morris.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Grayeb – 1.

Council Member Morris moved to adopt the Ordinance Levying Taxes for Fiscal Year 2003 for Municipal Purposes for the City of Peoria; seconded by Council Member Teplitz.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,409 was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Gulley, Morris, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 8;

Nays: Ardis, Nichting, Sandberg – 3.

#### **PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – TOWN OF THE CITY OF PEORIA**

- (02-826) Communication from the Town Officials Budget Committee with ORDINANCE  
LEVYING and ASSESSING TAXES for the Fiscal Year Beginning April 1, 2002  
and Ending March 31, 2003, of the Town of the City of Peoria, Peoria County and  
State of Illinois for the TOWN GENERAL FUND and I.M.R.F. FUND, in the  
Amount of \$639,139.00.**

Trustee Nichting moved to adopt the Ordinance Levying and Assessing Taxes for the Fiscal Year Beginning April 1, 2002 and Ending March 31, 2003, of the Town of the City of Peoria, Peoria County and State of Illinois for the Town General Fund and I.M.R.F. Fund, in the Amount of \$639,139.00; seconded by Trustee Grayeb.

ORDINANCE NO. T-02-02 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

**(02-827) Communication from the Town Officials Budget Committee with ORDINANCE LEVYING and ASSESSING TAXES for the Fiscal Year Beginning April 1, 2002 and Ending March 31, 2003, for the GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND of the Town of the City of Peoria, Peoria County and State of Illinois, in the Amount of \$1,035,716.00.**

Trustee Nichting moved to adopt the Ordinance Levying and Assessing Taxes for the Fiscal Year Beginning April 1, 2002 and Ending March 31, 2003, for the General Assistance Fund of the Town of the City of Peoria, Peoria County and State of Illinois, in the Amount of \$1,035,716.00; seconded by Trustee Grayeb.

ORDINANCE NO. T-02-03 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**(02-471) Request for Discussion of POLICE DEPARTMENT OVERTIME and OTHER EXPENDITURES for SPECIAL EVENTS**

Council Member Ardis requested to discuss at next week's meeting the money spent by the City on special events and formulation of a policy addressing this.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**(02-828) Request for SURVEY of COMPARABLE CITIES Regarding BUDGET SIZE, STAFFING LEVELS and SERVICES Delivered (Ref. Item No 02-755)**

Council Member Turner requested that in conjunction with the restructuring meetings to commence in February, each department contact cities of comparable size regarding budget size, staffing levels and services delivered.

#### **Status of VISION 2020 Initiative**

In discussion with Council Member Nichting about where this process would be when the February restructuring meetings commenced, Mayor Ransburg stated the intent was to finish the plans the Council had worked on the past few months and to use those as a basis for looking at the services the City provided, how they could be more cost-effective, etc.

**(02-808) SOUTHTOWN/DARST STREET LAND SWAP**

Council Member Nichting reiterated his request from earlier in the meeting that the City Manager look into the feasibility of swapping the Darst Street property, located in the flood plain, for park land in Southtown in order to promote further economic development in Southtown.

**CITIZEN REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL****(02-829) 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.

Floyd Nolan, 1322 N. Machin, expressed concern about reducing Code Enforcement. He said this was one of the most valuable tools the older neighborhoods had. He suggested the City give away vacant lots to eliminate mowing costs.

Carol Wagley, 1515 N. Dechman, stated she was frustrated as both a citizen and a City employee. She said she did not wish to have fire or police services reduced, but there were also other important City services that needed to be maintained. She expressed concern that the issue of City employee lay-offs had been repeatedly postponed, creating a very stressful situation for the employees and instability for business owners concerned about their investment. She said the downturn in the economy did not negate the reason the City workforce was expanded in earlier years

Lavetta Ricca, 711 S. Greenlawn, said Peoria was a good place to live and raise a family, and she has heard visitors to Peoria remark about how great Peoria was and the friendliness of our citizens. She expressed concern that shortly after paying a facilitator over \$40,000 for the recent Neighborhood Summit, the Council voted not to provide the funding to mail information to neighborhood residents which was needed to carry out their programs. She said she and her neighbors did not want to lose any police officers or firefighters or any more inspectors. She said the Inspections Department was the key to keeping neighborhoods a decent place to live and that it was important for people to feel safe on the streets, especially Downtown. She asked the Council to do its best in keeping Peoria a great place.

Kay Harmon, 2915 N. Renwood, said she was speaking as a citizen and taxpayer rather than as a City employee and wished to clarify some statements made earlier regarding the Emergency Telephone System Board for Peoria County. She said this Board, appointed by the Peoria County Board, was the recipients and trustees of the surcharge paid by telephone customers. She said that prior to the enhanced 9-1-1 system, the City of Peoria fully funded the basic 9-1-1 system, including salaries, computers, telephone lines, and network charges. She said this also included the voting system, which was actually a voting repeater system, with ten repeaters located throughout the City to select and rebroadcast transmissions on the PREP radio frequencies for police officers. She emphasized this tax was not used to buy voting machines for the Election Commission.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION****(02-830) Consideration of a Motion for the City Council to go into EXECUTIVE SESSION to Discuss 2(c)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent.**

Council Member Turner moved to go into Executive Session to Discuss 2(c)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent; 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.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Approved by viva voce vote.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

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

smg