

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

Council Chambers, Peoria, Illinois, January 9, 2001, a Regular Meeting of the City Council was held this date at 6:20 P.M., at City Hall, 419 Fulton Street, Mayor Lowell G. Grieves presiding.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed the following Council Members present: Ardis, Duncan (arrived at 7:47 P.M.), Gibson, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves – 10; Absent: Morris - 1.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Grieves requested a moment of silent prayer, and then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

WORD OF THE WEEK “PROMPT”**PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.**

PRESENTATION: DISTINGUISHED BUDGET PRESENTATION AWARD FOR THE CITY OF PEORIA

PROCLAMATION: VON STEUBEN MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT JORDAN HARDIN – WINNER OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR A DRUG-FREE AMERICA CONTEST

PROCLAMATION: CATERPILLAR, INC. – COMMUNITY NOW!

MINUTES

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the Minutes of the Executive Session and the Regular City Council Meeting held on December 19, 2000, as printed, with a clarification on Page 25048, under Item No. 00-941, to reflect that Council Member Grayeb made the motion to adopt the Ordinance; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Gibson, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves– 9;

Nays: None.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS**CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE:**

(01-001) NOTICE OF LAWSUIT on Behalf of MR. JOSE CAMPOS Regarding an Employment Issue of Discrimination with the Police Department.

(01-002) NOTICE OF LAWSUIT on Behalf of MR. JOHNNY FRANKLIN Regarding a Personal Injury on the Northwest Corner of Krause/Griswold.

(01-003) NOTICE OF LAWSUIT on Behalf of MR. JAMEL BOURAZAK and MS. JOYCE BOURAZAK Alleging the Stadium TIF District to be Invalid and the Mayor Acted Illegally by Voting on and Influencing Legislation Related to the Downtown Stadium Redevelopment Project.
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- (01-004) **BIDS for SANITARY SEWER RELOCATION for the DOWNTOWN STADIUM PROJECT (PEORIA MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL STADIUM PROJECT), Requesting Concurrence with the Sanitary District's Award of the CONTRACT to the LOW BID of J. C. DILLON, INC., in the Amount of \$177,724.00.**
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- (01-005) **Communication from Fire Chief Requesting Approval of the SOLE-SOURCE PURCHASE of a PIERCE 100-FOOT AERIAL PLATFORM TRUCK and a PIERCE SABER PUMPER, in the Amount of \$796,506.00, from GLOBAL FIRE EQUIPMENT.**
- (01-006) **Communication from Information Systems Director and Finance Director/Comptroller Requesting Authorization for the PURCHASE of ETHERNET NETWORK HARDWARE, in the Amount of \$75,579.82.**
- (01-007) **Communication from Information Systems Director and Finance Director/Comptroller Requesting Authorization for the PURCHASE of a SERVER and RELATED EQUIPMENT, in the Amount of \$19,874.00.**
- (01-008) **PAYMENT ESTIMATE FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: WEST GILBERT AVENUE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (Sterling Avenue to Gale Avenue) (Removing existing curb, sidewalk, and driveway approaches; constructing combination concrete curb and sidewalk, driveway approaches, and a bituminous concrete overlay over existing roadway. Additionally, a storm sewer system will be installed.) R. A. CULLINAN & SON, INC. – Pay Estimate #3 - \$47,174.04; TOTAL AUTHORIZATION APPROVED: \$47,174.04. (For Information Only)**
- (01-009) **PAYMENT ESTIMATE FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: R. B. GARRETT AVENUE WIDENING IMPROVEMENT (Richard Allen Drive to William Kumpf Blvd.) (Widening existing pavement on Garrett Avenue to 55'; New combination concrete curb & gutter, p.c.c. drives and sidewalks; New storm sewers; Replacing existing street lights with combination ornamental/street lighting system; Widening intersection approach at Kumpf Blvd. to match existing pavement; modifying existing traffic signals for new intersection width; and Landscaping parkway with trees and sod.) R. A. CULLINAN & SON, INC. – Pay Estimate #10 - \$84,600.86; TOTAL AUTHORIZATION APPROVED: \$84,600.86. (For Information Only)**
- (01-010) **Communication from Fire Chief and Human Resources Director Requesting Authorization for the City Manager to Enter into an AGREEMENT with RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES to Perform the Administration of the FIRE BATTALION CHIEF PROMOTIONAL EXAMINATION for the City of Peoria for a Cost Not to Exceed \$32,400.00.**

- (01-011) **Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting Authorization to Enter into a CONTRACT for PROFESSIONAL SERVICES with DAILY AND ASSOCIATES, ENGINEERS, INC. for FLOOD PLAIN MAPPING in GROWTH CELL NO. 3.**

- (01-012) **Communication from Director of Public Works with MFT GENERAL MAINTENANCE RESOLUTION NO. 01-012 for 2001 CONTRACTS, MATERIAL PURCHASES AND SALT.**

(01-013) Communication from ESDA Director Regarding ACQUISITION of REAL PROPERTY Located in the FLOOD PLAIN at 7228 N. GALENA ROAD, in the Amount of \$88,100.00, as Part of the Ongoing Approved Floodplain Mitigation Project. (For Information Only)

(01-014) REPORTS:

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- A. **Communication from Finance Director/Comptroller Regarding the NOVEMBER 2000 REVENUE AND OPERATING EXPENDITURE REPORT UNAUDITED.**
- B. **PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY FINANCIAL REPORT – November 30, 2000.**
- C. **PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY STATISTICAL REPORT – November 30, 2000.**

CONSIDERATION of REPORT BACKS as Follows:

(98-837) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with
(98-1030) REPORT BACK Regarding Compliance of Special Use Conditions for 1213 E.

* **McCLURE AVENUE (Case No. ZC 98-55B), and 2210 N. E. PERRY AVENUE**
* **(Case No. ZC 98-68B).**

(00-711) Communication from Director of Public Works with REPORT BACK Regarding E.

** **FRYE AVENUE at GLEN OAK SCHOOL and PARTIAL STREET CLOSURE.**

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

Council Member Nichting requested that Item Nos. 01-003 and 01-004 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Thetford requested that Item Nos. 98-837, 98-1030 and 00-711 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Sandberg requested that Item No. 01-011 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

On behalf of Mayor Grieves, Council Member Grayeb requested that Item Nos. 01-010 and 01-014-A be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Item Nos. 01-001 through 01-014, excluding Item Nos. 01-003, 01-004, 01-010, 01-011, 01-014-A, 98-837, 98-1030, and 00-711 (which were removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion) were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.

Yeas: Ardis, Gibson, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves–9;
Nays: None.

(01-003) NOTICE OF LAWSUIT on Behalf of MR. JAMEL BOURAZAK and MS. JOYCE
* **BOURAZAK Alleging the Stadium TIF District to be Invalid and the Mayor Acted Illegally by Voting on and Influencing Legislation Related to the Downtown Stadium Redevelopment Project.**

Council Member Nichting stated he would abstain from voting due to his ownership of property in the vicinity of the Downtown Stadium Project.

Council Member Grayeb moved to receive and file the Notice of Lawsuit on behalf of Mr. Jamel Bourazak and Ms. Joyce Bourazak; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Gibson, Grayeb, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves – 8;

Nays: None;

Abstention: Nichting - 1.

**(01-004) BIDS for SANITARY SEWER RELOCATION for the DOWNTOWN STADIUM
** PROJECT (PEORIA MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL STADIUM PROJECT),
Requesting Concurrence with the Sanitary District's Award of the CONTRACT to
the LOW BID of J. C. DILLON, INC., in the Amount of \$177,724.00.**

Council Member Nichting stated he would abstain from voting due to his ownership of property in the vicinity of the Downtown Stadium Project.

Council Member Grayeb moved to concur with the Sanitary District's award of the contract to the low bidder, J. C. Dillon, Inc., in the amount of \$177,724.00 for Sanitary Sewer relocation for the Downtown Stadium Project (Peoria Minor League Baseball Stadium Project); seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Gibson, Grayeb, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves – 8;

Nays: None;

Abstention: Nichting - 1.

**(01-010) Communication from Fire Chief and Human Resources Director Requesting
*** Authorization for the City Manager to Enter into an AGREEMENT with
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES to Perform the Administration of the
FIRE BATTALION CHIEF PROMOTIONAL EXAMINATION for the City of
Peoria for a Cost Not to Exceed \$32,400.00.**

Mayor Grieves expressed concern regarding the costs involved to perform the administration of the proposed examination.

Director of Human Resources Pat Parsons explained the process that was involved in performing the examination for the approximate 30 people that would be involved in the examination.

Council Member Nichting moved to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Resource Management Associates to perform the administration of the Fire Battalion Chief Promotional Examination for a cost not to exceed \$32,400.00; seconded by Council Member Ardis.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Gibson, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves– 9;

Nays: None.

**(01-011) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting
**** Authorization to Enter into a CONTRACT for PROFESSIONAL SERVICES with
DAILY AND ASSOCIATES, ENGINEERS, INC. for FLOOD PLAIN MAPPING
in GROWTH CELL NO. 3.**

Following a brief clarification, Council Member Sandberg moved to authorize entering into a contract for Professional Services with Daily and Associates, Engineers, Inc. for Flood Plain Mapping in Growth Cell No. 3; seconded by Council Member Nichting.

In discussion with Council Member Nichting regarding a possible deterrent to growth, Director of Planning and Growth Management Wayne Anthony stated he planned to bring back a change to the Subdivision Ordinance, in the near future, to establish a fee to recapture money from developments that benefited from the studies. He also said he would pursue a FEMA grant to assist with costs.

Motion to authorize entering into a contract for Professional Services with Daily and Associates, Engineers, Inc. for Floor Plain Mapping in Growth Cell No. 3 was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Gibson, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves— 9;
Nays: None.

Council Member Duncan arrived at 7:47 P.M.

(01-014) REPORTS:

******* A. Communication from Finance Director/Comptroller Regarding the
NOVEMBER 2000 REVENUE AND OPERATING EXPENDITURE
REPORT UNAUDITED.**

Mayor Grieves pointed out and expressed concern that sales tax revenue through November, 2000, was under the projected amount for the Budget, and was lower than in 1999.

Council Member Ardis also pointed out the parking revenue line item was \$270,000 under Budget.

Council Member Ardis moved to receive and file the November 2000 Revenue and Operating Expenditure Report Unaudited; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves – 10;

Nays: None.

**(98-837) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with
(98-1030) REPORT BACK Regarding Compliance of Special Use Conditions for 1213 E.
***** McCLURE AVENUE (Case No. ZC 98-55B), and 2210 N. E. PERRY AVENUE
* (Case No. ZC 98-68B).**

Following a brief comment regarding the site plan and enforcement measures, Council Member Thetford moved to receive and file the report back regarding the compliance of the Special Use conditions for 1213 E. McClure Avenue and 2210 N. E. Perry Avenue; seconded by Council Member Gibson.

Council Member Sandberg said he provided no services as a Council Member, but he said he, as an architect, was hired to provide certain site planning.

Motion to receive and file the report back regarding the compliance of the Special Use conditions for 1213 E. McClure Avenue and 2210 N. E. Perry Avenue was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor
Grieves – 10;

Nays: None.

(00-711) Communication from Director of Public Works with REPORT BACK Regarding E. FRYE AVENUE at GLEN OAK SCHOOL and PARTIAL STREET CLOSURE.

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Following a brief comment regarding these safety measures, Council Member Thetford moved to received and file the report back regarding Frye Avenue at Glen Oak School and partial street closure; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor
Grieves – 10;

Nays: None.

(01-015) Communication from Director of Economic Development Requesting Approval of an APPLICATION for the GRANTING of DESIGNATED ZONE ORGANIZATION STATUS on Behalf of the WTVF CHANNEL 47 PROJECT for Submission to the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs.

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the application for the granting of the Designated Zone Organization status on behalf of the WTVF Channel 47 Project for submission to the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs; seconded by Council Member Duncan.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor
Grieves – 10;

Nays: None.

(01-016) Communication from Director of Economic Development with Request from the PEORIA HOUSING AUTHORITY for Assistance with the SOUTH GATEWAY PLANNING EFFORT.

Director of Economic Development Dave Dobson gave a brief overview of the communication, and he said funding for the planning effort was to have come from the Southside Streetscape activities, but this money was transferred to other activities. He suggested that unbudgeted Community Development Block Grant funds, in the amount of \$35,000, be substituted for the funding. He said these planning efforts were eligible for block grant expenditures. He said there was a private sector group that had committed another \$30,000 to the project, and he anticipated the contract amount to be in the amount of \$65,000. He said an RFQ would be needed which would lead to the selection of a provider, as opposed to PGAV being a sole source.

In discussion with Council Member Turner, Mr. Dobson explained there had been no request for this expenditure at the time the Council was in Budget discussions. He said he knew there was a potential, but the request had not come forward.

In further discussion with Council Member Sandberg, Mr. Dobson explained discussions had occurred, but there was no clear understanding what the costs would be, and it was unknown if private sector funds would be available to lend to the effort.

Council Member Sandberg moved to approve the expenditure of block grant funds, pending availability, subject to the RFQ process and notification of local design professionals who provide this work to submit their qualifications for consideration; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Grieves granted Privilege of the Floor to Mr. Roger John.

Mr. Roger John, Executive Director of the Peoria Housing Authority, discussed the support of the school district and the park district. He said the Peoria Housing Authority would be financing approximately \$130,000 for the Hope VI Project, which would assist in the Harrison Project. He said the study would review the surrounding area, and the East side of Adams Street.

In further discussion with Council Member Grayeb, Mr. John indicated that HUD would be making an announcement within the next 30 to 45 days in terms of the Hope VI process for 2001. He said application would be made and then the results would be announced in the Fall, 2001. He added it was important that the application show collaboration between the Park District, School District, the PHA, the City and others from the private sector.

Motion to approve the expenditure of block grant funds, pending availability, subject to the RFQ process and notification of local design professionals who provide this work to submit their qualifications for consideration was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves – 10;

Nays: None.

(01-017) Communication from Finance Director/Comptroller with ORDINANCE Amending the BUDGET for Fiscal Year 2001 of the City of Peoria Relating to ESDA STAR GRANT.

Council Member Nichting moved to adopt the Ordinance amending the Budget for fiscal year 2001 of the City of Peoria relating to ESDA Star Grant; seconded by Council Member Turner.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,076 was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves – 10;

Nays: None.

(01-018) Communication from ESDA Director Requesting Acknowledgement of the STAR GRANT AWARD, and Requesting Authorization to Proceed with ACQUISITION of the WEATHER RADIOS AND SUBSEQUENT GRANT CONDITIONS.

Council Member Nichting moved to acknowledge the Star Grant Award, and authorize Staff to proceed with acquisition of the weather radios and subsequent grant conditions; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves – 10;

Nays: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(00-882) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with ORDINANCE Rezoning Property Located at 1205 W. FLORENCE from the Present Class R-3 District (Single Family Residential) to a Class C-1 District (General Commercial) and Granting a SPECIAL USE for AUTO SALES, with Conditions, and with Petitions Forcing a Two-Thirds Vote.

Traffic Engineer Jim Baumann distributed a copy of a memo providing the results of the Florence Avenue Meeting that was held on January 8, 2001, and explaining the traffic calming measures to be implemented and completed administratively.

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

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

Mr. Bob Hall, Attorney representing Jim Macomb Chevrolet, discussed the basis for reconsideration of the Council on this issue. He said he felt the access points would not impact the neighborhood because it was to be set up at an angle so traffic movements were controlled. He urged the Council to support the proposed Ordinance.

In discussion with Council Member Sandberg regarding the City's intent regarding the Special Use, Director of Planning and Growth Management Wayne Anthony said the intent was to design the access permit so the City would have an opportunity to review use, or another dealership, and review the impact a new use or change of operation would have on Florence Avenue. He further referred to Condition #8 in the Ordinance and suggested that the word "may" should be changed to "shall."

Corporation Counsel Randy Ray referred to Condition #6 of the Ordinance, and he suggested the words "Jim Macomb" should be added at the end of the second line just before the word "dealership."

Ms. Shana Smith, 1204 W. Florence Avenue, expressed concern that the proposed access road would have a negative affect on the neighborhood and her property. She said her home would be located directly across the street from the access road and the traffic would destroy the peaceful quiet of the neighborhood.

Mr. Otis Smith, 1204 W. Florence Avenue, spoke against the proposed access road because he indicated he did not feel the access road would enhance the value of his property. He said he felt this would have a negative impact on the neighborhood. He urged the Council to assist the neighborhood and not allow businesses to grow into the neighborhood.

Mr. Martin Lawless, 3304 N. Isabel, expressed concern about potential traffic problems and the negative impact it would have on the neighborhood. He urged the Council to oppose the proposed access road.

Mr. Bill Beckman, 1116 W. Florence Avenue, expressed concern regarding the potential of increased traffic in the area and the number of traffic accidents in the area presently. He said he did not feel a second point of access would enhance safety in the area. He further explained how and why traffic was produced, and he urged the Council to keep their promise made many years ago to protect the neighborhood from the encroachment of business.

In discussion with Council Member Sandberg regarding Parish Avenue and keeping it a one-way street, Director of Public Works Steve Van Winkle indicated that discussions had been held with Mr. Jockisch, his representatives, and I.D.O.T. regarding this issue. He said he was not able to get them to agree to a one-way connection to Florence because there were some Federal requirements that would not allow it.

Council Member Sandberg urged City Staff to take this issue to a higher level of government to discuss the unique situation this presented and request approval of the one-way street.

Mr. Jim Staley, 3520 N. Twelve Oaks Drive, referred to his letter sent to Council and requested that they review his letter.

Ms. Jill Meints, 1010 W. Hudson, requested this issue be deferred so more neighbors could attend since many were notified that this issue would not be addressed at this meeting. She said she lived in a desirable neighborhood and she wished to keep it that way. She said she was concerned about the impact of the proposed access road. She expressed concern that neighborhood watch signs and needed stop signs had not been installed as promised. She said she was interested in a compromise with the businesses, but she was concerned about the detrimental impact this would have on the neighborhood.

Mr. Dan Shambaugh, 1201 W. Merle Lane, expressed concern about the encroachment into their neighborhood from area businesses.

Mr. Bob Hall, Attorney for Jim Macomb Chevrolet, referred to the access permit and he said he hoped if the business changed their name, that a review of the Special Use would not be necessary. He said he also hoped this would not apply to any transfer if the control of the existing dealership remained in the existing management and/or ownership. He said they would want the permit for access to continue under these conditions.

Council Member Gibson moved to adopt the Ordinance rezoning property located at 1205 W. Florence from the present Class R-3 District (Single Family Residential) to a Class C-1 District (General Commercial) and granting a Special Use for Auto sales, with conditions, and with Condition #6 to be rewritten to make the intent clear that the provision and access permit applied to the present dealership owner only, and would take into consideration a change of name or title, and in Condition #8, substitute the word "shall" for the word "may"; seconded by Council Member Thetford.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,077, as amended, was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Nichting, Spears, Thetford, Mayor Grieves – 7;

Nays: Grayeb, Sandberg, Turner - 3.

Clerk's Note: It was determined that seven affirmative votes (two-thirds vote) were needed for the Ordinance to successfully pass.

(00-953) Communication from Corporation Counsel with ORDINANCE Amending Chapter 10 of the Code of the City of Peoria Relating to CONTRACTS and the ISSUE of PERFORMANCE OF CONTRACTUAL SERVICES and/or Provision of MATERIALS by SPOUSES of COUNCIL MEMBERS, COUNCIL MEMBERS, OR OTHER MUNICIPAL OFFICERS.

Council Member Turner explained his request to direct Staff to clarify and establish an Ordinance for the Council to review that would eliminate any potential conflict caused by the spouse of any City Council Member from entering into a contract with the City of Peoria. He said he felt it was incumbent on every member of the Council not to be tied to or assume to be tied to any possible improprieties.

Corporation Counsel Randy Ray stated the proposed Ordinance was modeled after a State Statute which was binding, and which made entering into a contract a violation of these conditions a Class #4 Felony on the part of a Council Member. He said there was case law to the effect that a spouse's interest was different than the Council Member's own. He said this was utilization of the City's Home Rule authority to make the City ordinance more strict than the State would be to include a spouse's minor children. He said there were certain conditions under which both a Council Member or a spouse could still contract with the City. He said he would not recommend making it more strict for a spouse than for a Council Member. He added he found that the limited exceptions were well thought out by the Legislature and should remain in effect.

Discussion was held regarding the need for the proposed Ordinance. It was pointed out that on the first page of the proposed Ordinance, under Sec.10-110 (a), in line #15, it should read "...an interest of 1% or less in a company..." It was felt by several Council Members that the current State Statute, which addressed this issue, was sufficient.

Council Member Turner moved to remand the proposed Ordinance back to Staff for further review and investigation and bring back to Council at a later date; seconded by Council Member Ardis.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor
Grieves – 10;

Nays: None.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMENT Regarding the ANNOUNCEMENT by the GOVERNOR that the STATE OF ILLINOIS had been DECLARED a FEDERAL DISASTER AREA due to the Snow Fall in December, 2000.

Council Member Thetford said the Governor of Illinois declared the State a Federal Disaster Area due to the large amount of snow fall in December. She questioned if the Director of Public Works had any contact yet with State officials and what this would mean for the City of Peoria.

Director of Public Works Steve Van Winkle said he just learned about this, and he said he would be holding a discussion with the ESDA Director, since she was in charge in 1999, when this occurred before. He said he firmly believed that the Peoria area was included in the area that received the heaviest snow.

COMMENT Regarding the RETIREE'S NEWSLETTER

Council Member Thetford commended the Retiree's Newsletter for providing information to their members about healthcare costs savings.

Mayor Grieves commended Council Member Thetford, Council Member Spears, and Council Member Duncan for their efforts in working with the Healthcare Committee.

COMMENT Regarding the DEATH of FORMER CITY COMPTROLLER PETE BARDEZBANIAN

Council Member Thetford expressed sympathy to the family of former City Comptroller Pete Bardezbanian who passed away during the holidays.

COMMENTS Regarding the YWCA RESIDENCY PROGRAM Proposed for the WARDCLIFF AREA

Council Member Spears referred to a YWCA Residency Program proposed for the Wardcliff area. He said there were concerns by the neighborhood regarding whether or not this low income home program would reduce the value of their homes. He requested that the Director of the program meet with the neighbors so concerns could be addressed. He requested that the Director of Inspections have the apartment complex inspected to make sure it was up to Code. He further requested that the YWCA be advised of the BOCA Code and how many residents could live in the complex. He indicated he did not want any program to be a detriment to the neighborhood. He requested that Council be notified so they could also attend the neighborhood meeting.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Grieves granted Privilege of the Floor to Ms. Pam Schubach.

Ms. Pam Schubach, Director of the YWCA, said she would be glad to meet with the neighborhood to address their concerns. She clarified that this was not a homeless shelter. She said the program for Wardcliff was permanent housing and would fit within the neighborhood. She said the program was to support families with children, who would pay rent. She said the zoning was currently multi-family and she indicated all those regulations would be followed.

Council Member Grayeb requested to know if this apartment complex met the off-street parking requirements.

CITIZEN REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**(01-019) CITIZEN REQUEST to Address the CITY COUNCIL Regarding an Employee Complaint.**

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

Ms. Regina Powell, employee of the City Treasurer's Office, expressed concern regarding problems she felt she had with her supervisor.

In discussion with Mayor Grieves, City Manager Michael McKnight stated employees had a grievance procedure to follow through the union.

Several Council Members indicated they felt if the discussion needed to continue, the Council should hold the discussion in Executive Session.

Mr. McKnight suggested that the Council not set a precedent of hearing individual employee problems in Executive Session.

Ms. Powell continued and concluded her remarks.

(01-020) CITIZEN REQUEST to Address the CITY COUNCIL Regarding Snow Removal.

Ms. Mary Siders, 2801 N. E. Madison Avenue, commended the City Staff on their snow removal efforts. She added that she appreciated that the City had also started patching pot holes.

Council Member Spears suggested that Director of Public Works hold a meeting with those employees who plowed the snow, police, traffic and maybe citizens to discuss how snow removal could be improved.

Director of Public Works Steve Van Winkle said this would be addressed more through the media to provide information to the public and how they could help with parking issues, and other issues. He said their procedures and priorities would also be explained. He said the amount of snow was a problem, but the cold temperatures were an added concern.

Mr. Bryan Hinnen, 412 E. Melbourne, stated the Police had warned him to remove his parked car from its legal parking place on the street by a certain time so the street could be plowed curb to curb. He said he complied with their request, but the street had never been plowed. He said he did not feel it was right for the City to bury his car in the snow because of plowing efforts, and then be warned that the car would be towed if it was not moved.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Grayeb moved to adjourn the Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Thetford.

Approved by viva voce vote.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 9:33 P.M.

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

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