

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

Council Chambers, Peoria, Illinois, March 27, 2001, a Regular Meeting of the City Council and 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, Gibson, Grayeb, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves – 11; Absent: None.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.

PRESENTATION: CITY OF PEORIA OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED AS A WEED AND SEED SITE BY THE U.S. ATTORNEY CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS OFFICE.

PROCLAMATION: ARTS IN EDUCATION SPRING CELEBRATION MONTHS – APRIL AND MAY, 2001.

MINUTES

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the minutes of the Executive Sessions and the Regular City Council Meeting held on March 20, 2001, as outlined; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves – 11;

Nays: None.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS

(01-178) REQUEST by RIVERFRONT BUSINESS DISTRICT COMMISSION CHAIRMAN, JIM VERGON, to ADDRESS the COUNCIL.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Grieves granted Privilege of the Floor to Chairman Jim Vergon.

Mr. Jim Vergon, Riverfront Business District Commission Chairman, provided a brief update regarding the Riverfront Business District Commission for the first quarter of 2001. He said the Riverfront Business District Commission 2001 Work Plan was in the process of being implemented and projects remaining from 2000 were being completed.

Mr. Vergon discussed the main projects planned for 2001. He said that Kiku Obata & Company, Inc. had been hired to provide branding, signage and way-finding services for the Riverfront. He explained Ms. Obata's background and indicated her expertise by naming the many national projects to which she had contributed her services. He further explained that construction bids were in process for the Main Street Plaza, and a nineteen-year lease for 15,000 square feet of property abutting the soon-to-open RiverPlex for the Junior League Play Ground had been signed.

Mr. Vergon further discussed the consolidation of the Riverfront Development Office and the Economic Development Office and he said the Riverfront Commission was moving forward with the current Staff and working on that relationship.

Mr. Vergon continued by discussing their plan to hire a consultant. He said a notice to hire was posted in the newspaper and invitations were sent out to 16 firms, and a response was received by two firms. He said in reviewing projects that were near completion, he found himself lacking in history as closure of these projects were occurring. He said there were some open issues that needed finalization. He said he had requested the Commission to hire Consultant Tom Tincher for a historical basis only to assist with these closures. He said he felt this would best represent the needs of the City.

Mr. Vergon said the Riverfront Business Commission had been well attended in recent months and active members were well prepared. He said in the past month, there was a shift in the location of meetings, rather than holding every meeting at the Gateway Building. He said each month the meeting sites would change. He indicated the Riverfront Business Commission continued to thrive and they looked forward to the future.

Mayor Grieves thanked Chairman Vergon for his report.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE:

- (01-179) TAG DAY REQUEST from PETER W. SOMMER V.F.W. POST #814 Requesting Permission to Distribute POPPIES TO THE PUBLIC FOR DONATIONS on May 11 and 12, 2001. (Dates are open)
- (01-180) BIDS for FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS INSPECTION and MAINTENANCE CONTRACT, Recommending the Low Bid of PREVENTION FIRE PROTECTION, as Outlined.
- (01-181) BIDS for PEST CONTROL CONTRACT for 2001 and 2002, Recommending the
* Low Bid of AMERICAN PEST CONTROL, in the Amount of \$4,500.00 Annually.
- (01-182) Communication from Director of Public Works Recommending the Adoption of the
** RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMIT PROGRAM for the 4900 BLOCK of N. EVERTS COURT, to be Effective Monday through Saturday, Except City Holidays, between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Including the Two-Hour Parking Limit Provision.
- (01-183) Communication from Director of Economic Development with RESOLUTION Concerning the ALLOCATION of the CITY OF PEORIA 2001 PRIVATE ACTIVITY BOND VOLUME CAP, Allocating \$1,600,000 to IHDA for WeaverRidge Senior Housing, \$2,011,958 to IHDA First Time Home Buyer Program, and \$3,333,479.50 to Stern Brother & Co. for The Assist First Time Homebuyer's Down Payment Assistance.
- (01-184) APPOINTMENTS by Mayor Lowell G. Grieves to the PEORIA AREA COMMUNITY EVENTS (PACE) BOARD:

Mr. Ty E. Livingston
Ms. Michelle K. Quinn
Ms. Sibylle Zipp-LaHood

(01-185) **REPORTS:**

- A. CITY TREASURER'S REPORT – FEBRUARY, 2001.

CONSIDERATION of REPORT BACKS as follows:

(01-163) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management
***** Recommending Approval of the EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT PROGRAMS**
AND FUNDING LEVELS, as Outlined, for the Year 2001, with REPORT BACK.

(01-175) Communication from Director of Public Works Regarding MONROE STREET
****** STREETScape PROJECT – REPORT BACK.**

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

Council Member Spears requested that Item No. 01-182 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Nichting requested that Item No. 01-181 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Thetford requested that Item No. 01-163 and 01-175 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Item Nos. 01-179 through 01-185 (excluding Item Nos. 01-181, 01-182, 01-163 and 01-175 which were removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion) were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves – 11;

Nays: None.

(01-181) BIDS for PEST CONTROL CONTRACT for 2001 and 2002, Recommending the
*** Low Bid of AMERICAN PEST CONTROL, in the Amount of \$4,500.00 Annually.**

Following a brief clarification, Council Member Nichting moved to accept the low bid of American Pest Control, in the amount of \$4,500.00, for the Pest Control Contract for 2001 and 2002; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves – 11;

Nays: None.

(01-182) Communication from Director of Public Works Recommending the Adoption of the
**** RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMIT PROGRAM for the 4900 BLOCK of N.**
EVERTS COURT, to be Effective Monday through Saturday, Except City Holidays,
between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Including the Two-Hour Parking Limit Provision.

Council Member Spears moved to defer this item for one week until the April 3, 2001, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Ardis.

Motion to defer this item until April 3, 2001, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves – 11;

Nays: None.

**(01-163) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management
*** Recommending Approval of the EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANT PROGRAMS
 AND FUNDING LEVELS, as Outlined, for the Year 2001, with REPORT BACK.**

Council Member Thetford moved to defer this item for one week until the April 3, 2001, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Gibson.

Motion to defer this item until April 3, 2001, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner,
Mayor Grieves – 11;

Nays: None.

**(01-175) Communication from Director of Public Works Regarding MONROE STREET
**** STREETSCAPE PROJECT – REPORT BACK.**

Following a brief explanation by Director of Public Works Steve Van Winkle, Council Member Thetford requested that residents along Monroe Street receive the information provided in the report back.

Council Member Thetford moved to receive and file the Report Back Regarding the Monroe Street Streetscape Project; seconded by Council Member Gibson.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner,
Mayor Grieves – 11;

Nays: None.

(01-186) CITY MANAGER REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL.

Council Member Grayeb moved to receive and file the City Manager Report to City Council; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner,
Mayor Grieves – 11;

Nays: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**(01-116) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with
 Recommendation from the Zoning Commission and City Staff to DENY an
 ORDINANCE Rezoning Property Located at 2801 W. NEVADA STREET, 2300 S.
 OREGON STREET and 2734 W. WYOMING STREET from the Present Class R-4
 District (Single-Family Residential) to a Class R-6 District (Multi-Family
 Residential) and Granting a SPECIAL USE for a CHURCH to Include a DRUG
 REHABILITATION FACILITY and ASSOCIATED DAYCARE CENTER.**

Council Member Duncan stated the Petitioner wanted to withdraw this item, but he had not provided a letter as of this date. Council Member Duncan moved to defer this item for two weeks until the April 10, 2001, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Morris.

Motion to defer this item until April 10, 2001, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner,
Mayor Grieves – 11;

Nays: None.

- (01-170) **Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with ORDINANCE Rezoning Property Located at 730 S.W. JEFFERSON AVENUE (Temporary Address) from the Present Class C-2 District (Large-Scale Commercial) and a Class I-2 District (Railroad/Warehouse Industrial) to a Class B-1 District (Central Business).**

Council Member Nichting stated he would be abstaining from the vote because he owned property in the vicinity of the Downtown Stadium Project site.

Council Member Sandberg moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to Mr. Richard Clift; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Grievess granted Privilege of the Floor to Mr. Richard Clift.

Mr. Richard Clift objected to the Council's support of the proposed rezoning of 730 S. W. Jefferson Street. He indicated he felt the City failed to negotiate in good faith and had violated the State Constitution. He also spoke against the proposed TIF for the area of the ball stadium.

Council Member Duncan moved to adopt the Ordinance rezoning property located at 730 S. W. Jefferson Avenue (Temporary Address) from the present Class C-2 District (Large-Scale Commercial) and a Class I-2 District (Railroad/Warehouse Industrial) to a Class B-1 District (Central Business); seconded by Council Member Turner.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,114 was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Morris, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grievess – 10;

Nays: None;

Abstention: Nichting - 1.

- (01-174) **Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with REPORT BACK Regarding STREET RENAMING POLICY and HONORARY STREET NAMING, Evaluating THIRD STREET, S. SHERIDAN ROAD AND WESTERN AVENUE as Possible Choices for HONORING RICHARD PRYOR. (New Communication)**

Council Member Duncan moved to receive and file the report back regarding the Street Renaming Policy and Honorary Street Naming, evaluating Third Street, S. Sheridan Road and Western Avenue as possible choices for honoring Richard Pryor; seconded by Council Member Morris.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grievess – 11;

Nays: None.

*Council Member Duncan moved to direct the Staff to begin the process of changing the street name of S. Sheridan, from Persimmon to Garrett Avenue, to honor Richard Pryor; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Council Member Turner stated he supported honoring Richard Pryor, but he felt that Third Street should be renamed because of its proximity to Carver Center.

Council Member Thetford expressed concern regarding Mr. Pryor's lifestyle and indicated that she could not support honoring Mr. Pryor as a role model.

Council Member Duncan said he preferred the renaming of S. Sheridan Road because of the visibility and it intersected with several main streets. He added that the City Staff would be contacting those businesses and residents who would be affected to determine their feelings about a street name change prior to actually changing the street name. He further clarified that this proposal was for a complete name change, not just an honorary street name which was different.

In further discussion, Director of Planning and Growth Management Wayne Anthony suggested that Council Member Duncan consider amending his motion that S. Sheridan be changed from Jefferson Street to Garrett Avenue for consistency.

*Council Member Duncan agreed to amend his motion, and the seconder agreed.

Council Member Gibson indicated she could not support the proposed name change because she did not feel it was appropriate. She said she supported honoring Mr. Pryor in the proposed Riverfront museum as suggested the prior week. She added that a large majority of constituents who contacted her opposed the street renaming.

Council Member Spears expressed concern that in the past, citizens had petitioned for street name changes, and he indicated he agreed with that process. He urged citizens to petition the City for the street name change, if that was their desire.

Motion to direct the Staff to begin the process of changing the street name of S. Sheridan, from Jefferson, as amended, to Garrett Avenue, to honor Richard Pryor was DEFEATED by roll call vote.

Yeas: Duncan, Grayeb, Morris, Sandberg, Mayor Grieves - 5;

Nays: Ardis, Gibson, Nichting, Spears, Thetford, Turner - 6.

(00-864) CONSIDERATION of a MOTION to REMOVE FROM THE TABLE, and PLACE on the APRIL 10, 2001 COUNCIL AGENDA, the ORDINANCE Amending an EXISTING USE WITH APPROVAL as a SPECIAL USE per Current Requirements in a Class C-1 District (General Commercial) to Include AUTO REPAIR AND AUTOMOBILE AND LIGHT TRUCK SALES for Property Located at 2022 N. WISCONSIN AVENUE, with Conditions.

Council Member Thetford moved to remove from the Table and place on the April 10, 2001, Council Agenda, the Ordinance amending an Existing Use with Approval as a Special Use per current requirements in a Class C-1 District (General Commercial) to include Auto Repair and Automobile and Light Truck Sales for property Located at 2022 N. Wisconsin Avenue, with conditions; seconded by Council Member Ardis.

Motion to remove this item from the Table and place on the April 10, 2001, Council Agenda was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Grieves - 11;

Nays: None.

NEW BUSINESS

(01-187) Comments Regarding the HIGH COST of CILCO UTILITY BILLS and a REPORT from the TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR on EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE. (Refer to Item No. 01-153)

Council Member Nichting moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to Township Supervisor Joe Whalen; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Grieves granted Privilege of the Floor to Township Supervisor Joe Whalen.

Mr. Joe Whalen, Township Supervisor, said the past winter had been the most active period in the eight years he had served as Township Supervisor. He said this year the high utility bills had affected low income families as well as those living on fixed incomes. He thanked the City Council for providing an extra \$300,000 for further assistance. He said he would continue to assist those in need.

Council Member Nichting reported that since January 1, 2001, the Township had paid out \$507,930.65 in emergency assistance, and \$331,754.49 of this amount was for CILCO assistance to 940 residents. He said other organizations providing assistance that could also be contacted by citizens was the Hands-Up Program under the direction of Public Aid, and the Community Action Agency. He added a CILCO representative stated customers on a partial payment plan would not have their service disconnected. However, if citizens did not meet their payment arrangement obligation, there could be in danger of having their service disconnected. He further urged citizens to contact CILCO prior to this occurrence.

Council Member Thetford requested that this information be provided to Cable Channel 22 so it could be broadcast to all citizens.

COMMENTS Regarding the NEIGHBORHOOD COLLEGE

Council Member Thetford said she attended the Neighborhood College that was held at Jumers and she commended the speaker who had vast experience with the Weed and Seed Program.

COMMENTS Regarding the ARTS COMMUNITY

Council Member Morris commended the Peoria Civic Center and the Peoria Area Community Foundation, and the Arts groups who would benefit. He also indicated he was looking forward to the concert by Violinist Itzhak Perlman in Peoria in September, 2001.

CITIZEN REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

(01-188) REQUEST by CITIZENS to ADDRESS the COUNCIL.

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

Mr. Walter Ratledge, 2717 N. Missouri, thanked the Council for their support of neighborhoods. He said old neighborhoods had been rehabilitated and he commended the efforts of those who moved forward with the Weed and Seed Program.

Mr. Tom Edwards, 2702 N. Peoria Avenue, spoke in support of the proposed museum for the Sears Block, but he urged the Council to consider using the Sears Building for an expanded Illinois Central College campus. He said the Governor was providing \$150 million for new buildings on college campuses, and he felt the City should take advantage of the opportunity. He urged the Council to consider other ideas for the Sears Block and he discussed attractions that would draw people to downtown Peoria.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

(01-189) Consideration of a Motion for the City Council to go into EXECUTIVE SESSION to Discuss 2(c)(6) The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body.

Council Member Duncan moved to go into Executive Session to Discuss 2(c)(6) The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Motion to go into Executive Session to Discuss 2(c)(6) The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Duncan, Gibson, Grayeb, Morris, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Thetford, Turner,
Mayor Grieves – 11;

Nays: None.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Approved by viva voce vote.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

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

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