

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

Council Chambers, Peoria, Illinois, September 18, 2001, a Regular Meeting of the City Council was held this date at 6:16 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, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 10; Absent: Sandberg – 1.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Ransburg requested a moment of silent prayer, remembering in particular those who perished in the terrorist attacks on the United States last Tuesday and their families, and then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.

PROCLAMATION: AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S DAY – September 20, 2001

PROCLAMATION: NATIONAL ADULT DAY SERVICES WEEK – September 16-22, 2001

PROCLAMATION: 5TH ANNUAL CENTRAL ILLINOIS BLACK EXPO – September 21-23, 2001

MINUTES

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the Minutes of the Executive Session and the Regular City Council Meeting held on September 4, 2001, as printed; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Gulley, Morris, Nichting, Spears, Teplitz, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 9;

Nays: None.

Note: Council Member Grayeb had left his seat momentarily and did not vote on the Minutes.

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

- (01-614) NOTICE OF SUIT on Behalf of CHARLES BEASLEY Regarding Alleged Violation of his Fifth Amendment Rights and Fourteenth Amendment Rights due to alleged fraudulent Activity.**
- (01-615) TAG DAY REQUEST from LIONS CLUB OF PEORIA to hold their ANNUAL CANDY DAY and Collect Donations on the Streets of Peoria on Friday, October 12, 2001. (Date is Open)**
- (01-616) BIDS for STREET NAME SIGNS Recommending the Bids of VULCAN SIGNS, in the Amount of \$15,446.64; and SIGNS AND BLANKS, in the Amount of \$2,644.35.**
- (01-617) Communication from ESDA Director and Finance Director/Comptroller Requesting Authorization to PURCHASE RADIOS for the POLICE DEPARTMENT from the 2000 CIP, in the Amount of \$53,538.95.**

- (01-618) **PAYMENT ESTIMATES for PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS: IMPERIAL DRIVE, RIVIERA DRIVE, RIVIERA COURT & ELDORADO DRIVE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT (Removing existing curb, gutter, sidewalks and driveway approaches and constructing concrete sidewalks, combination curb and sidewalks, combination curb and gutter driveway pavement, storm sewer, and a bituminous concrete pavement overlay and all necessary adjustments, incidentals and appurtenances.) COULTER CONSTRUCTION CO. – PAY ESTIMATE #7 - \$79,627.95; MICHELE LANE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (Teton Drive to Kimberly Drive)(Construction of concrete sidewalks, combination curb-sidewalks, P.C.C. gutter, driveway pavement, underdrain, storm sewer and a 1-1/2" bituminous concrete pavement overlay.) C&G CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION – PAY ESTIMATE #1 - \$111,963.51; TOTAL AUTHORIZATION APPROVED: \$191,591.46. (For Information Only)**
- (01-619) **Communication from Finance Director/Comptroller Requesting Authorization for the DISPOSAL of CITY PROPERTY at a PUBLIC AUCTION to be held on OCTOBER 20, 2001.**
- (01-620) **Communication from Director of Public Works Requesting Authorization to Grant a PERMANENT UTILITY EASEMENT to CILCO to Serve a VERIZON CELL TOWER on Leased City-Owned Property, and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Easement.**
- (01-621) **Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with ORDINANCE NO. 15,195 Granting a SPECIAL USE in a Class R-8 (Multi-Family Residential) District for EXISTING CONDITIONS for a FIRE STATION/ ADMINISTRATION FACILITY to Include a BUILDING ADDITION for the Property Located at 505 N.E. MONROE AVENUE.**
- (01-622) **Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with ORDINANCE NO. 15,196 Rezoning Property Located at WEAVERRIDGE SUBDIVISION, SECTION 5, LOTS 287 THROUGH 301, from the Present Class R-5 (Residential Cluster) District to a Class R-3 (Single Family Residential) District.**
- (01-623) **Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with ORDINANCE NO. 15,197 Rezoning Property Located at 301 WEST R. B. GARRETT AVENUE from the Present Class R-8 (Multi-Family Residential) District and a Class C-2 (Large Scale Commercial) District to a Class B-1 (Central Business) District.**
- (01-624) **Communication from Corporation Counsel with ORDINANCE NO. 15,198 Amending CHAPTER 2 of the Code of the City of Peoria Relating to BOARDS and COMMISSIONS, Designating that Terms End June 30th except those created by State Statute that cannot be changed.**
- (01-625) **APPOINTMENTS by Mayor David P. Ransburg to the GIS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE:**

Gene Hewitt – City Engineer

Wayne Anthony – Director of Planning and Growth Management

*** No term limits defined.**

(01-626) REPORTS:

- A. ANNUAL REPORT from ARTSPARTNERS OF CENTRAL ILLINOIS, INC. – August 31, 2001.**

(01-627) ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE REPORT Regarding STORM WATER MANAGEMENT.

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

Item Nos. 01-614 through 01-627 were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.

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

Nays: None.

(01-628) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management Recommending Adoption of the Following:

- A. ORDINANCE Annexing Territory Contiguous to the City of Peoria (Approximate Address of 8600 N. KOERNER/TRIGGER ROAD);**

Council Member Nichting moved to adopt the Ordinance annexing territory contiguous to the City of Peoria (approximate address of 8600 N. Koerner/Trigger Road); seconded by Council Member Ardis.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,199 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

- B. ORDINANCE Rezoning Property Located at PHASE 1 AND 2 of BRIDLEWOOD SUBDIVISION from the Present Class RR (Rural Residential-County) District to a Class R-E (Estate Residential-City) District.**

Council Member Nichting moved to adopt the Ordinance rezoning property located at Phase 1 and 2 of Bridlewood Subdivision from the present Class RR (Rural Residential-County) District to a Class RE (Estate Residential-City) District; seconded by Council Member Ardis.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,200 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

(01-629) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with ORDINANCE Amending Ordinance No. 14,987, an EXISTING SPECIAL USE in a Class C-2 (Large Scale Commercial) District for a SHOPPING CENTER to Allow a FREE-STANDING SIGN of 130 SQUARE FEET for the Property Located at 3300 W. WILLOW KNOLLS DRIVE.

Council Member Nichting moved to adopt the Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 14,987, an existing Special Use in a Class C-2 (Large Scale Commercial) District for a shopping center to allow a free-standing sign of 130 square feet for the property located at 3300 W. Willow Knolls Drive; seconded by Council Member Turner.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,201 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

- (01-630) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with ORDINANCE Granting a SPECIAL USE in a Class R-1 (Single Family Residential) District for Existing Conditions for CHURCH FACILITIES to Include a NEW GARAGE for the Property Located at 1420 W. MOSS AVENUE.**

Council Member Teplitz moved to adopt the Ordinance granting a Special Use in a Class R-1 (Single Family Residential) District for existing conditions for church facilities to include a new garage for the property located at 1420 W. Moss Avenue; seconded by Council member Grayeb.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,202 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

- (01-631) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with Recommendation from the Zoning Commission and City Staff to DENY an ORDINANCE Rezoning Properties Located at 2300 S. OREGON and 2734 W. WYOMING from a Class R-4 (Single Family Residential) District to a Class R-8 (Multi-Family Residential) District AND Granting a SPECIAL USE for CHURCH FACILITIES to Include a HOMELESS SHELTER.**

Council Member Gulley moved to defer this item for three weeks until the October 9, 2001, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Morris.

Motion to defer this item until the October 9, 2001, Regular City Council Meeting was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

- (01-632) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with Recommendation from the Zoning Commission to DENY and Recommendation from the City Staff to APPROVE an ORDINANCE Rezoning Property Located at 3813 N. SHERDIAN ROAD from the Present Class R-3 (Single Family Residential) District to a Class 0-1 (Arterial Office) District, with Conditions.**

Council Member Spears moved to defer this item for two weeks until the October 2, 2001, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Morris.

Motion to defer this item until the October 2, 2001, Regular City Council Meeting was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

- (01-633) Communication from Director of Economic Development with ORDINANCE Amending Ordinance No. 15,151 Authorizing the City's Use of CONDEMNATION AND QUICK-TAKE PROCEEDINGS for the REMAINING ONE (1) PROPERTY OWNERSHIP ACQUISITION within the MIDTOWN PLAZA TAX INCREMENT FINANCE (TIF) REDEVELOPMENT AREA.**

Council Member Thetford moved to adopt the Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 15,151 authorizing the City's use of condemnation and quick-take proceedings for the remaining one (1) property ownership acquisition within the Midtown Plaza TIF Redevelopment Area; seconded by Council Member Teplitz.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,203 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

(01-634) CITY MANAGER REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL.

Council Member Thetford moved to receive and file the City Manager Report to City Council; seconded by Council Member Teplitz.

Council Member Thetford requested ESDA Director Kay Harmon to elaborate on her communication regarding 2001 Wireless 9-1-1 which was included in the City Manager Report.

ESDA Director Kay Harmon stated the Illinois Commerce Commission had set September 11, 2001 as the date for all wireless 9-1-1 providers to have their calls go directly to a dispatch center. She said that prior to that date, only one of the four Peoria-area providers was in compliance. She explained there were three different phases to 9-1-1 wireless calls: Phase 0 routed the call but did not provide a phone number or location from which the call originated; Phase 1 sent a caller to the appropriate dispatch center and provided the caller's phone number, name, cell site location and cell sector; Phase 2 (which probably would not be in place for at least two years) would provide the caller's location within 150 meters. She said that since September 11th, two providers (Verizon and US Cellular) had routed calls directly to the dispatch center, but Sprint and Nextel were still routing calls through Conor Communications in Chicago. She said they were averaging about 60 wireless 9-1-1 calls per day and anticipated that when the other two came on line, that number would increase by 40%. She advised that cell phone users check with their providers to determine compliance so they would know how emergency calls were being handled. She clarified that Verizon was compliant to Phase 1 and US Cellular was compliant to Phase 0.

Motion to receive and file the City Manager Report was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(01-527) Communication from ESDA Director Regarding the LEASE AGREEMENT with ILLINOIS RSA #3, INC., d/b/a U.S. CELLULAR for a MONOPOLE TOWER to be Located on City Property at 102 MOUND STREET, with Supplemental Report Back.

City Clerk Mary Haynes said the motion on the floor was to approve the Lease Agreement with Illinois RSA #3, Inc. d/b/a U. S. Cellular for a monopole tower to be located on City property at 102 Mound Street.

Council Member Nichting moved to withdraw his earlier motion to approve the Lease Agreement; seconded by Council Member Teplitz

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

Council Member Thetford moved to DENY the lease agreement with Illinois RSA #3, Inc., d/b/a/ U.S. Cellular for a monopole tower to be located on City property at 102 Mound Street, and to request that staff work with U.S. Cellular to co-locate at an existing tower; seconded by Council Member Teplitz.

Motion to DENY was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

(01-579) Communication from Director of Planning and Growth Management with ORDINANCE NO. 15,204 Amending ARTICLES 2 and 15 of APPENDIX B of the ZONING ORDINANCE of the Code of the City of Peoria Regarding HANDICAP/ACCESSIBLE PARKING, with Supplemental Report Back.

Planning & Growth Management Director Wayne Anthony distributed a communication and revised Ordinance to all members of the City Council.

Council Member Ardis asked EEO Director Kimberly King to explain what had occurred since the August 21st Council meeting.

EEO Director Kimberly King explained the Council had determined on August 21st that two of the four sections proposed for revision were somewhat problematic, specifically Sections 2.11.d. (Standards for Certificate of Occupancy) and 15.1.d.(Damage or Destruction). She said this item was deferred until after the Advisory Committee for the Disabled had an opportunity to meet and discuss the amendments and formulate a more acceptable alternative. She said the meeting was attended by Advisory Committee Chair Dawn Weber, Council Members Ardis and Sandberg, Corporation Counsel Randy Ray, Inspections Director John Kunki, Assistant Inspections Director Bob Miener, Planning & Growth Management Director Wayne Anthony and herself. She said their recommendation was to table any changes to either Section 2.11.d or Section 15.1.d., but noted that the Illinois Accessibility Code, incorporated by reference into the City Code, provided for the addition of accessible parking spaces if the percentage of dollar amount of a renovation met a certain threshold. She clarified that the revised ordinance provided for changes to Section 15.2.a., most significantly changing the 16' wide parking spaces from 8/8 to 11/5, as well as a provision for ramps connected directly to a sidewalk or building entrance, and Section 15.2.b.(1) addressing required off-street parking spaces. She said the Advisory Committee reserved the option to come back at a later date to amend the sections that were tabled.

Council Member Ardis moved to adopt the revised Ordinance amending Article 15 of Appendix B - Zoning Ordinance of the Code of the City of Peoria with respect to handicap/accessible parking; seconded by Council Member Morris.

ORDINANCE NO. 15,204 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

(01-604) Communication from Corporation Counsel with REPORT BACK Regarding TAG DAYS and OTHER SOLICITATIONS on PUBLIC STREETS with Request for POLICY GUIDANCE.

Council Member Spears moved to withdraw this item from the Agenda; seconded by Council Member Nichting.

Motion to withdraw this item from the Agenda was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

(01-611) Communication from ESDA Director with REPORT BACK Regarding the FAILURE of the REVERSE 911 SYSTEM during the CHEMICAL PLANT FIRE in Mapleton.

Council Member Grayeb requested that in view of last week's terrorist attacks, ESDA Director Kay Harmon provide the Council with a comprehensive report-back on what the City would need to do – utilizing all the newest technologies, not just Reverse 911 – to upgrade security apparatus, provide even better emergency notification, and ensure better mass mobilization in the event of an emergency situation. He asked Director Harmon if any plans were currently underway to accomplish this.

Director Harmon replied that on October 5th at least four service providers were scheduled to meet with City and County staff regarding new technology for the community messaging system (Reverse 911). She said some of the new services could make 1,100 one-minute calls per minute as compared to the current capability of 12 calls per minute. She said in the event of a hazardous materials incident occurring in the City, the emergency alert system (through the National Weather Service office in Lincoln) could be activated locally, in conjunction with the television stations and cable provider. In discussion with Council Member Grayeb, she said she had no indication from FEMA of any intention to reactivate and stock fallout shelters, but that her staff was looking into developing a brochure advising citizens what to do within their own homes or places of business in the event of a chemical or biological attack. She confirmed that all of the outdoor warning systems within the City were operational.

Council Member Grayeb moved to defer this item for two weeks until the October 2, 2001 Regular City Council meeting; seconded by Council Member Morris.

Motion to defer this item until the October 2, 2001 Regular City Council meeting was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

(01-517) Communication from Corporation Counsel Regarding Council Rule Concerning CANCELLATION OF MEETINGS.

Corporation Counsel Randy distributed a communication to all members of the City Council.

Mayor Ransburg explained that since some concern had been expressed about the cancellation of last week's Council meeting, there should be clarification of that provision of the Council Rules which would then be voted on in whole next week.

Council Member Thetford moved to approve the second Cancellation of Meetings option listed on the communication; seconded by Council Member Teplitz.

Council Member Ardis moved to defer this item for one week until the September 25, 2001, Regular City Council meeting; seconded by Council Member Nichting.

Motion to defer this item until the September 25, 2001 Regular City Council meeting was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

Council Member Nichting requested that the City Clerk also have input on this item at the next meeting when the Council Rules item was brought forward for a vote.

NEW BUSINESS

(01-635) Communication from Corporation Counsel with RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT for the UNITED STATES and CONDOLENCES for the FAMILIES Affected by the September 11, 2001 TERRORIST ATTACK.

Corporation Counsel Randy Ray distributed a communication and Resolution to all members of the City Council.

Council Member Nichting read aloud the Resolution:

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED STATES AND CONDOLENCES FOR THE FAMILIES AFFECTED BY THE TERRORIST ATTACK OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Resolved

WHEREAS, the United States of America was attacked on Tuesday, September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, the loss of life, property and emotional trust has been overwhelming to this country; and

WHEREAS, the City of Peoria, Illinois, mourns for the families of the departed; and

WHEREAS, municipal employees in the service of the people have suffered in this experience and their families have lost loved ones called into service to protect, save and defend the citizens involved and put themselves into harm's way; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, on behalf of their constituents, wishes to extend their prayers and sympathy to everyone who suffered a loss.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Peoria go on record in a moment of silence to express the respect and condolences to the families and individuals who have experienced a loss during this national crisis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Peoria, Illinois, overwhelmingly supports the Congress of the United States, President George W. Bush, Mayor Guiliani and Governor Pataki for their strength and wisdom in protecting this country.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS this 18th day of September, 2001.

APPROVED:

/s/ David P. Ransburg
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Mary L. Haynes
City Clerk

EXAMINED AND APPROVED:

/s/ Randall Ray
Corporation Counsel

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the Resolution of Support and Condolences for those affected by the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001; seconded by Council Member Morris.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-635 was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

Council Member Nichting requested that a moment of silence be observed in respect for those affected by this tragedy and that copies of the Resolution be sent to President Bush, Congressman LaHood, and Senators Shadid and Hawkinson.

(01-636) REQUEST for SUPPORT of POLICE DEPARTMENTS EFFORTS Against URBAN TERRORISM

Council Member Grayeb expressed concern about the nine recent shootings in Peoria and the eight to ten flashpoint areas of the City that were high crime zones. He said the Council must support the Police

Department in doing whatever was necessary to bring some security and peace of mind to the people living in these areas, without diluting the Police presence in the rest of the City. He said he was willing to support in next year's budget, if necessary, additional manpower to provide saturation Police services for these troubled neighborhoods where there was currently no quality of life.

City Manager Michael McKnight stated this rash of shootings also disturbed him greatly. He said he would support saturation of Police resources in some areas, if the Council could support budgetary amendments for same. He asked Police Chief John Stenson to address this.

Police Chief John Stenson said the members of the Peoria Police Department represented one arm of the criminal justice system in fighting urban terrorism. He said they have made over 600 arrests since August 27th, and eight of this year's nine homicides have been solved; crime overall has dropped 14% in the first eight months of the year. He said there have been discussions with the Police Benevolent Association to determine how to best utilize resources and even change contract rules in order to fulfill obligations. He said a budget upgrade would allow the purchase of lighter weight, more flexible and comfortable vests which also offered better protection for the officers than the vests currently provided. He said if more resources were authorized, the Police Department would detail a plan for the Council as to how those resources would be used, including increased 24-hour visibility in the flashpoint neighborhoods. Chief Stenson then introduced the newly elected officers of the Police Benevolent Association who would take office on November 1, 2001: President Mike Doyle, Mike Eddlemon and Jim Feehan.

Officer Doyle stated the officers on the street took pride in their Districts, and they knew how to do their jobs, but they needed the Council's trust and support.

Officer Eddlemon agreed that Peoria Police officers had a great deal of District pride and that they truly wanted to be proactive rather than reactive, but they needed the resources to accomplish that.

Council Member Thetford said she would appreciate being informed whenever District officer assignments changed in any of the Police Districts within the Third Council District, and particularly the Neighborhood Police Officer. And she said it was important to know how many arrests had resulted in convictions and prison sentences.

Council Member Nichting encouraged Chief Stenson to submit a 2002 budget which would significantly augment the Street Crimes Unit. He said community justice was not being served when over 80% of those arrested were repeat offenders.

Officer Eddlemon stated that in order for community policing to be effective, citizens who witnessed crimes needed to come forward and not just call in anonymously. He pointed out that citizens also had the opportunity and responsibility to serve their community as jurors.

Council Member Ardis stated it was incumbent upon the Council to acknowledge this was going to require extra resources and to pledge their confidence in the City Manager. He said he would support whatever resources would be necessary to put a plan into action for the Council and the Police Department to work as a team.

Council Member Teplitz said she had talked with some of the other Council Members about developing new tools to deal with irresponsible property owners who provided safe havens for criminals in the flashpoint areas, and that the Legal Department was also exploring this as well. She stated that information should be coming forth shortly.

Council Member Gulley announced that the newly created Neighborhoods & Police Partnership Ad Hoc Committee of the Neighborhood Development Commission had scheduled a meeting for this Thursday at 5 p.m. at City Hall. He said their purpose was to develop a plan and initiatives on how to better work with the Police Department in developing "violence-free zones" in the City.

Mayor Ransburg summarized it was important for the Council and staff to develop actionable items, e.g. directing the City Manager and staff to be more aggressive in the areas characterized as flashpoints and supporting any needed budget amendments for same, as well as eliminating the base of operations of the criminal element provided by irresponsible property owners.

Clerk's Note: No formal Council action was taken.

MAYOR'S ELECTION to ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE BOARD

City Clerk Mary Haynes congratulated Mayor Ransburg on his election to the Board of the Illinois Municipal League and commended him for the leadership he exhibited during the IML's annual conference last week in Chicago. She also thanked the Council Members for supporting the Mayor's involvement in bringing Peoria to statewide prominence.

STANCE AGAINST PREJUDICE and BIGOTRY

Council Member Nichting stated he had received calls from individuals concerned that persons of certain ethnicity or religious beliefs be treated with tolerance, as they, too, had suffered a loss along with all Americans as a result of last Tuesday's terrorist attack.

CITIZEN REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

(01-637) REQUESTS FROM CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

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

Mr. Ed Dentino, 217 Cobblestone Lane, East Peoria, spoke about the theory of "gestalt", or unification, as it related to public roadway maintenance and litter prevention.

Council Member Grayeb noted that he intended to bring forth an ordinance this Fall targeting property owners who did not voluntarily maintain and clean up their properties and businesses.

Council Member Gulley pointed out that Section 13.41 of the City Code addressed dumping or throwing litter and provided for a fine of up to \$5,000, but the problem was enforcement.

Mayor Ransburg agreed that aesthetic issues were important to citizens along with safety concerns.

Council Member Teplitz stated that Peoria City Beautiful would be launching an initiative shortly on this issue, and she encouraged Mr. Dentino to become involved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- (01-638) Consideration of a Motion for the City Council to go into EXECUTIVE SESSION to Discuss 2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity; 2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; and 2(c)6 The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body.**

Council Member Nichting moved for the City Council to go in to Executive Session to Discuss 2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity; 2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; and 2(c)6 The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Approved by viva voce vote.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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

smg