

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

Council Chambers, Peoria, Illinois, October 23, 2001, a Regular Meeting of the City Council was held this date at 6:18 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, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 10; Absent: Morris – 1.

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.**

PROCLAMATION: HEAD START AWARENESS MONTH – October, 2001

PROCLAMATION: JUNIOR LEAGUE OF PEORIA, INC. MONTH – November, 2001

PROCLAMATION: BRADLEY UNIVERSITY CHAPTER OF DELTA UPSILON FRATERNITY – 55<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**MINUTES**

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting and Executive Sessions held on October 16, 2001, as printed; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

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

- (01-707) **PAYMENT ESTIMATE FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: 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 COMPANY – PAY ESTIMATE #9 - \$44,167.15; TOTAL AUTHORIZATION APPROVED: \$44,167.15. (For Information Only)**
- (01-708) **STREET LIGHTING REQUESTS – 700 BLOCK E. HIGH POINT TERRACE.**
- (01-709) **SITE APPROVAL for a CLASS “G” (Restaurant, Beer and Wine Only) LIQUOR LICENSE for 1200 W. MAIN, UNITS 10-11, with Recommendation of the Liquor Commission to Approve.**

**(01-710) SITE APPROVAL for CATERED EVENTS ONLY, SUBCLASS 8 LICENSES, to  
\* be Held at 600 N. E. WATER STREET, with Recommendation of the Liquor  
Commission to Approve.**

**(01-711) REPORTS:**

**A. Communication from Finance Director/Comptroller Regarding the  
AUGUST 2001 REVENUE and OPERATING EXPENDITURE REPORT.  
(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 Sandberg requested that Item No. 01-710 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Item Nos. 01-707 through 01-711 (excluding Item No. 01-710 which was removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion) were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.

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

Nays: None.

**(01-710) SITE APPROVAL for CATERED EVENTS ONLY, SUBCLASS 8 LICENSES, to  
\* be Held at 600 N. E. WATER STREET, with Recommendation of the Liquor  
Commission to Approve.**

Council Member Sandberg stated he could not support any type of liquor license for a health facility operated by a public entity, particularly when one of the partners involved in the facility was a hospital. He said he felt catered events could be held without serving alcohol.

Council Member Turner moved to approve the application for Subclass 8 liquor licenses for catered events at 600 N.E. Water Street; seconded by Council Member Gulley.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ardis, Grayeb, Gulley, Nichting, Teplitz, Thetford, Turner, Mayor Ransburg – 8;

Nays: Sandberg, Spears – 2.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**(01-153) AES and PENDING SALE of CILCO**

Council Member Grayeb said he had obtained a document prepared for AES by Ross/Hill & Knowlton, a Chicago public relations firm, which outlined a short-term strategy for damage control in Peoria by trying to assuage local and State elected officials, business leaders and the media. He quoted portions of the document and stated he felt the citizens of Peoria were far too intelligent to be fooled by such rhetoric. He said he shared this information so the Council Members would be aware of the lengths to which AES was willing to go in order to thwart attempts by this community to take back its local energy utility.

Mayor Ransburg requested that copies of this document be provided to each Council Member and to the media.

(Clerk's Note: see comments by Bill O'Brien under Item 01-713 pertaining to this topic.)

**RIVERFRONT PLAYGROUND**

Council Member Thetford apologized for not congratulating the Junior League members who were present earlier for their sponsorship of the newly constructed Riverfront playground, adjacent to the RiverPlex Center. She said this was a wonderful addition to the Riverfront and encouraged parents to take their children to enjoy it.

**NEW BUSINESS****(01-712) MOTION to CONSIDER CANCELING the OCTOBER 30, 2001 CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Council Member Turner moved to cancel the October 30, 2001 Council meeting; seconded by Council Member Teplitz.

Council Member Sandberg questioned the advisability of canceling a regular meeting when the Council Members had not yet been informed of the budget schedule.

City Manager Michael McKnight explained the budget cycle was somewhat different this year than it had been in previous years. He said the Mayor had met with all the Council Members, and the Administration was currently developing a plan and strategy, but that it was not yet ready to be brought forward in a public forum.

Mayor Ransburg clarified that although he was not prepared to discuss the budget next week, that would not necessarily preclude the need to schedule special budget meetings later on.

Council Member Thetford said she was also concerned that with so few scheduled Council meetings remaining until the budget adoption deadline, there was still a great deal of information the Council did not have.

Council Member Gulley inquired about the report back he had requested for next week's meeting. City Manager McKnight said he would talk with EEO Director Kimberly King to determine if she had received the necessary information so she could respond directly to Council Member Gulley.

Motion to cancel the October 30, 2001 Council meeting was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Sandberg – 1.

**CITIZEN REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL****(01-713) 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.

Chase Ingersoll, P.O. Box 5782, spoke about the legality of making a citizen's arrest and requested that information regarding issues he had outlined in an e-mail to Council Members and staff dated October 19, 2001 be provided to him.

Bill O'Brien, 3321 N. Chestnut Lane, stated he was co-chairman of the Citizens for Local Utility Buyback and that he was in complete agreement with Council Member Grayeb's comments regarding AES and its public relations strategy. He said that upon coming to this community, AES had promised to be a great corporate citizen, but had instead become a corporate terrorist. He urged the Council Members to be wary when they met with AES representatives.

**POLICY/WORKSHOP SESSION****(01-714) Communication from Director of Public Works Regarding the  
POLICY/WORKSHOP SESSION – INFRASTRUCTURE.**

Council Member Turner moved that the City Council go into a Policy/Workshop Session regarding Infrastructure; seconded by Council Member Ardis.

Motion to open the Policy/Workshop Session was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

The Policy/Workshop Session opened at 6:55 p.m.

A Policy/Workshop Session was held regarding Infrastructure.

(Clerk's Note: Council Member Morris arrived during the Policy/Workshop Session at approximately 8:10 p.m.)

Mayor Ransburg closed the Policy/Workshop Session regarding Infrastructure at 8:44 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION****(01-715) Consideration of a Motion for the City Council to go into EXECUTIVE SESSION  
to Discuss 2(c)(5) The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public  
body.**

Council Member Grayeb moved to go into Executive Session to Discuss 2(c)(5) The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body; 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 Grayeb.

Approved by viva voce vote.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

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