

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

Council Chambers, Peoria, Illinois, February 26, 2008, a Regular City Council Meeting was held this date at 6:16 P.M., at City Hall, 419 Fulton Street, with Mayor Jim Ardis presiding.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed the following Council Members were physically present: Gulley, Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Turner (arrived at 7:15 P.M.), Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 11; Absent: None.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Ardis requested a moment of silent prayer or silent reflection, and he then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.

PRESENTATION: PLAQUE PRESENTATION TO THE FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS BY THE KASKIE FAMILY

PROCLAMATION: READ WITH YOUR CHILD WEEK - February 29 - March 7, 2008

PROCLAMATION: BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH - March 2008

PROCLAMATION: RECOGNITION OF NEIGHBORHOOD ADVOCATE LAVETTA RICCA'S 70TH BIRTHDAY

MINUTES

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on February 12, 2008, as printed; seconded by Council Member Manning.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OF PEORIA**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

(08-012) PUBLIC HEARING Regarding the PROPOSED ANNEXATION of 1500 W. WILHELM ROAD (Parcel ID #09-29-326-002) Adjourned to this Date.

Council Member Nichting moved to re-open the adjourned Public Hearing regarding the proposed Annexation of 1500 W. Wilhelm Road (Parcel ID #09-29-326-002); seconded by Council Member Spain.

No objections were heard.

The Public Hearing re-opened at 7:35 P.M.

Following the third call by Mayor Ardis for citizens to address the City Council, Council Member Nichting moved to adjourn the Public Hearing regarding the proposed annexation of 1500 W. Wilhelm Road (Parcel ID #09-29-326-002) to the March 25, 2008, Regular City Council Meeting at 6:15 P.M. at City Hall in the Council Chambers; seconded by Council Member Manning.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spain, Spears,
Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

The Public Hearing closed at 7:37 P.M.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE, for the City of Peoria, with Recommendations as Outlined:

- (08-078) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Information Systems Requesting Approval of the PURCHASE of HP NETWORK EQUIPMENT, in the Amount of \$10,514.00, from PTC SELECT.**
- (08-079) * Communication from the Interim City Manager and Fire Chief Requesting Approval to AWARD CONTRACTUAL SERVICES for the PEORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT WELLNESS/FITNESS INITIATIVE to the LOWEST QUALIFIED BIDDER, IWIRC, in the Amount of \$92,482.60.**
- (08-080) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Public Works Requesting Approval of a FINAL PAY ESTIMATE, in the Amount of \$29,158.91 (or 3.19% Over Contract) for a Public Improvement Project: DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT at 5546 N. PROSPECT ROAD.**
- (08-081) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Inspections Requesting Approval for AGREEMENTS for ANIMAL SHELTER SERVICES, and Requesting Authorization for the Interim City Manager to Enter into Agreements with KINGSTON MINES and MAPLETON for the Combined Amount of \$1,215.00.**
- (08-082) ** Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Public Works Requesting Approval of an ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT with HANSON PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, INC., in an Amount Not to Exceed \$52,259.00 to Prepare a Traffic Model for the Area Surrounding the MAIN STREET and UNIVERSITY STREET AREA.**
- (08-083) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller Requesting Approval of RESOLUTION NO. 08-083 Authorizing NAMED BANKS TO HONOR CHECKS, DRAFTS, ETC. of the City of Peoria, Authorizing the CITY TREASURER and FINANCE DIRECTOR/COMPTROLLER to ACCEPT and RELEASE SECURITIES for SAFEKEEPING Held by a THIRD PARTY, and Repealing Resolution No. 07-492.**
- (08-084) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller Requesting Adoption of ORDINANCE NO. 16,248 Amending the City of Peoria Budget for Fiscal Year 2008 Relating to the REVISED 2008 HUD ENTITLEMENT BUDGET as Outlined, and the Recommended Budget Revisions.**

- (08-085) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller Requesting Adoption of ORDINANCE NO. 16,249 Amending the City of Peoria Budget for Fiscal Year 2008 Relating to SAM J. STONE AVENUE ORNAMENTAL STREET LIGHTING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT REIMBURSEMENT of ELIGIBLE TIF COSTS from SOUTHTOWN TAX INCREMENT FINANCING (TIF) FUND to the Capital Fund in the Amount of \$28,897.00.
- (08-086) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Recommending Adoption of ORDINANCE NO. 16,250 Amending Ordinance No. 15,542, Which Allows a DRIVE THROUGH RESTAURANT and RETAIL BUILDING within a CONTROLLED THOROUGHFARE OVERLAY DISTRICT in a Class C-2 (Large-Scale Commercial) District by Allowing an ADDITIONAL OUTDOOR FREEZER for Property Located at 718 W. GLEN AVENUE, with Conditions.
- (08-087) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Recommending Adoption of an ORDINANCE Amending Ordinance No. 13,992, a SPECIAL USE in an A1 (Agricultural) District to Allow a FREESTANDING SIGN for a CHURCH for Property Located at 3800 W. WAR MEMORIAL DRIVE, with Conditions.

- (08-088) Communication from Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting to Concur with the Staff Recommendation to REJECT the REQUEST from the CENTRAL ILLINOIS LANDMARKS FOUNDATION to REQUIRE ALL DEMOLITIONS in the City to be Approved by the HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION.

- (08-089) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of an APPLICATION for a CLASS H TEMPORARY LIQUOR LICENSE for the BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER PEORIA for an Event to be held on March 17, 2008.

- (08-090) PEORIA CIVIC CENTER FIRST QUARTER 2008 REPORT, with Request to Receive and File.

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Mayor Ardis questioned if the Council wished to have any of the Consent Agenda items removed for further discussion.

Council Member Van Auken requested Item No. 08-089 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Sandberg requested Item Nos. 08-079 and 08-088 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Nichting requested Item No. 08-087 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Jacob requested Item Nos. 08-082 and 08-089 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Manning requested Item No. 08-090 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

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

Item Nos. 08-078 through 08-090 (excluding Item Nos. 08-079, 08-082, 08-087, 08-088, 08-089, and 08-090, which were removed for further discussion) were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.

Yeas: Gulley, Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spain, Spears,
Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

(08-079) * Communication from the Interim City Manager and Fire Chief Requesting Approval to AWARD CONTRACTUAL SERVICES for the PEORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT WELLNESS/FITNESS INITIATIVE to the LOWEST QUALIFIED BIDDER, IWIRC, in the Amount of \$92,482.60.

Council Member Sandberg said there were physical standards set for Police Officers and Firefighters when they began their career, but those particular groups contributed to a larger number of workman's compensation claims, especially Firefighters during their careers. He questioned, since this was the second year of this program, if there had been savings realized by less on-duty injuries, sick days, etc.

Council Member Nichting said he also had a number of questions and Fire Chief Kent Tomblin was working to address those questions on this item, so he suggested a deferral.

Council Member Sandberg moved to defer this item until the March 11, 2008, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Nichting.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spain, Spears,
Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

(08-082) ** Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Public Works Requesting Approval of an ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT with HANSON PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, INC., in an Amount Not to Exceed \$52,259.00 to Prepare a Traffic Model for the Area Surrounding the MAIN STREET and UNIVERSITY STREET AREA.

Council Member Jacob said a member of the Heart of Peoria Commission had expressed concern regarding this item. He questioned if there was a need to bid on these services.

Director of Public Works Dave Barber explained Hanson Professional Services, Inc. was selected because they had already been selected for a study which had been conducted that was similar in nature for the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission. He said they went through a selection process and Hanson's was performing a similar study for a regional traffic model. He said this selection would save the City money rather than performing the work separately and would build on the work Hanson's was performing for the Regional Tri-County Planning Commission.

In discussion with Council Member Jacob regarding what steps would be taken once the Study was completed, Director Barber said the work to be completed would focus on the Main and University intersection, but there were concerns about where the traffic would go and they did not want to force traffic into neighborhoods. He said the concept was to complete a traffic model using traffic information that the City already had and some the City would be

obtaining to model the path traffic would take. He said then options could be discussed if traffic was restricted on Main Street. He said he did not feel a smaller study would benefit the surrounding neighborhoods. He said the scope was expanded to determine how the traffic would flow to make sure improvements would not force traffic into neighborhoods. He added it was a different approach than had been taken in the past and was more comprehensive.

Council Member Van Auken said the Study had been delayed due to the work on I-74, but would be completed during a period of time when the greatest density of population with the Bradley students on campus would be present.

Following further comments regarding a needed correction to the map, Council Member Van Auken moved to approve an Engineering Services Agreement with Hanson Professional Services, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$52,259.00, to prepare a traffic model for the area surrounding the Main Street and University Street Area; seconded by Council Member Gulley.

Council Member Manning suggested that the scope of services and tasks performed by Hanson should provide information regarding pedestrian areas. He stated the Heart of Peoria Commission, Renaissance Park Commission, and the City Council had placed a priority on being pedestrian friendly in many of the Form Districts.

In discussion with Council Member Sandberg, Director Barber stated this Study would be a good tool to use when anyone came forward with a change or modification, and it could be determined what would happen if a street was closed or if traffic patterns were changed. He said the model could be used as a planning tool for the change to determine how surrounding neighborhoods would be impacted.

In discussion with Council Member Spain, Director Barber said information from the Study should be available so meetings with neighborhoods could be held beginning early fall of 2008. He said data was collected by traffic counters and computers, and the work would be performed in the office. He explained how the computerized model would flow traffic through areas of least resistance and he said the model simulated how traffic would react in certain situations. He stated the model would be used as a planning tool to assist the Staff in determining the projected flow of traffic so problems were not created for other areas.

Council Member Gulley expressed concern regarding the size of the scope. In discussion, Council Member Gulley stated the corner of Main Street and Monroe Street should be the axis of the study due to the impact the downtown had on the westerly flow of traffic.

Director Barber explained that Main and Monroe Streets were included in the Study, but the intersection of Main and University Streets was the focus of the Study. He added changing Martin Luther King Drive to two-way traffic would also be studied to determine its impact on the Main and University Streets intersection.

Motion to approve an Engineering Services Agreement with Hanson Professional Services, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$52,259.00, to prepare a traffic model for the area surrounding the Main Street and University Street Area was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

- (08-087)**

Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Recommending Adoption of an ORDINANCE Amending Ordinance No. 13,992, a SPECIAL USE in an A1 (Agricultural) District to Allow for a FREESTANDING SIGN for a CHURCH for Property Located at 3800 W. WAR MEMORIAL DRIVE, with Conditions.

Council Member Nichting moved to adopt an Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 13,992, a Special Use in an A1 (Agricultural) District to allow for a Freestanding Sign for a Church for property Located at 3800 W. War Memorial Drive, with conditions as amended to change Condition #1 to read "The proposed sign shall be no larger than 50 square feet and no taller than 9 feet," which should be changed in the Council communication and the Ordinance; seconded by Council Member Spain.

ORDINANCE NO. 16,251, as amended, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

- (08-088)**

Communication from Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting to Concur with the Staff Recommendation to REJECT the REQUEST from the CENTRAL ILLINOIS LANDMARKS FOUNDATION to REQUIRE ALL DEMOLITIONS in the City to be Approved by the HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION.

Council Member Sandberg moved to defer this item until the March 25, 2008, Regular City Council Meeting so the request could be defined; seconded by Council Member Van Auken

Motion to defer this item until March 25, 2008, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

- (08-089)**

Communication from the Interim City Manager and Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of an APPLICATION for a CLASS H TEMPORARY LIQUOR LICENSE for the BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER PEORIA for an Event to be held on March 17, 2008.

Council Member Jacob said he would be abstaining from voting on this item because he was a liquor licensee and was prohibited from voting on liquor related matters by State Statute 235 ILCS 5/6-2.

Council Member Van Auken said she would be abstaining from voting on this item because she was a Board Member of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Peoria.

Council Member Nichting moved to approve an Application for a Class H Temporary Liquor License for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Peoria for an event to be held on March 17, 2008; seconded by Council Member Spain.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Mayor Ardis – 8;

Nays: None;

Abstentions: Jacob, Van Auken - 2.

(08-090) PEORIA CIVIC CENTER FIRST QUARTER 2008 REPORT, with Request to Receive and File.

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Council Member Manning explained the new format to present the quarterly updates from the Peoria Civic Center Authority. He said the Civic Center's report highlighted information that was of interest to the City Council regarding activity, progress made, and their financial condition. He said if there was any additional information that the Council would like to have included in the report, they should contact him or the Civic Center's Finance Director.

Council Member Manning moved to receive and file the Peoria Civic Center First Quarter 2008 Report; seconded by Council Member Van Auken.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spain, Spears,
Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

(08-091) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Corporation Counsel Requesting Adoption of an ORDINANCE Amending CHAPTER 3 of the Code of the City of Peoria Relating to the RETAIL SALE of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES Increasing the Amount of Surety Bonds and Other Amendments.

Council Member Jacob said he would be abstaining from voting on this item because he was a liquor licensee and was prohibited from voting on liquor related matters by State Statute 235 ILCS 5/6-2.

Council Member Sandberg expressed concern regarding the definition of "restaurant" and how a restaurant could be defined by what type of equipment they used. He said he felt the additional requirements in the definitions were over-simplistic.

Corporation Counsel Randy Ray said these amendments came from the Liquor Commission, but when an establishment did not have a kitchen, the situation demanded Staff time to address the 25% issue, and this was the Staff's best effort to require establishments to have kitchens.

Council Member Turner arrived at 7:15 P.M.

Council Member Sandberg expressed concern regarding other amendments proposed in the Ordinance. He said he could not support the entire proposed Ordinance.

Council Member Nichting suggested that a portion of Section 3 needed to be rephrased regarding the word "sink" and the preparation of food.

Council Member Turner urged the Council to adopt the Ordinance to assist with several problems at some of the bar establishments.

Council Member Gulley expressed concern that a liquor license applicant needed to have a year of paid insurance submitted with the application. He said he felt this was a burden on business owners. He also expressed concern regarding the requirement of a \$10,000 bond.

Council Member Nichting moved to defer this item until the March 25, 2008, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Montelongo.

Motion to defer Item No. 08-091 until the March 25, 2008, Regular City Council Meeting was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None;

Abstentions: Jacob - 1.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- (07-659) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management with Recommendation to DEFER ACTION Regarding the DEFINITION and APPLICATION of the Terms “COMPATIBLE” and “CONSISTENT” within APPENDIX C, the Permanent Zoning Ordinance of the City of Peoria.**

Council Member Spain moved to defer this item until the March 25, 2008, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Motion to defer this item until March 25, 2008, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 11;

Nays: None.

- (08-035) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting to Concur with the Recommendation from the Zoning Commission and Staff to DENY the Request to REZONE Property Located at 407 N. E. ROCK ISLAND AVENUE from the present Class R4 (Single-Family Residential) District to a Class I2 (Railroad/Warehouse Industrial) District.**

Council Member Manning moved to DENY the request to rezone property located at 407 N. E. Rock Island Avenue from the present Class R4 (Single-Family Residential) District to a Class I2 (Railroad/Warehouse Industrial) District; seconded by Council Member Van Auken.

Council Member Manning explained the business located at 407 N. E. Rock Island Avenue had outgrown their current location and the situation was impacting the neighborhood. He said he met with the neighborhood association along with the business owners and it became clear this was not a business against a neighborhood. He said, at the same time, he and Council Member Gulley assured the business owners that they would assist the business in relocation efforts for a more appropriate area to accommodate their future growth plans.

Council Member Manning moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to Mr. Michael Hodge; seconded by Council Member Van Auken.

Council Member Gulley said, as legislation came forward, he felt the City could work with this business to allow the business to grow.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Ardis granted Privilege of the Floor to Mr. Michael Hodge.

Mr. Michael Hodge, representing Recycling for Illinois, explained his company provided electronic recycling to several area hospitals, universities, school districts, private businesses, and residents. He stated, if affordable local recycling services were no longer available to the public, much of the material could go to the local landfill. He said there were several electronic

devices that were not eligible for landfill consideration. He stated, if enacted, the new law would have a lesser negative effect on the City of Peoria if companies, like his, provided an existing infrastructure and was immediately available to handle the growing amounts of electronic scrap. He also discussed their donation services to local churches and non-profit agencies.

Council Member Manning commended the efforts of Mr. Hodge to provide local jobs, but he said the present location was not the right location for this operation.

In discussion with Council Member Nichting, Mr. Hodge said the present building was approximately 15,000 square feet, but a 30,000 square foot building was needed. He said he would prefer to stay in the City of Peoria.

Motion to DENY the request to rezone property located at 407 N. E. Rock Island Avenue from the present Class R4 (Single-Family Residential) District to a Class I2 (Railroad/Warehouse Industrial) District was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 11;

Nays: None.

NEW BUSINESS

(08-092) DISCUSSION Regarding POSSIBLE BUDGET OPTIONS After YEAR-END 2007 REVENUES WERE REPORTED.

Council Member Turner said he wanted to make it clear that the hiring freeze he suggested had nothing to do with the City Police or Fire Departments. He stated he felt there would be a shortfall in revenues by the end of the year unless the City came forward with increasing revenues to offset an expected increase in expenses. He expressed concern that a shortfall could result in a lay-off of employees. He said he felt the Council should review this situation as early as possible so appropriate recommendations could be made.

Council Member Manning said the City was facing a situation similar to other taxing bodies and it was not a unique situation. He said he felt the steps already taken by making budget cuts in staffing levels and administrative positions, and employees taking on more of the burden of healthcare costs were unique. He said he felt the community needed to schedule a discussion regarding placing a hold on any tax increases for any project. He said the City of Peoria was only 11 cents of the tax bills.

Mayor Ardis said the 2008 City Budget was constantly monitored by the City Manager and the Finance Director. He also pointed out the revenues for the end of 2007 were not yet known. He expressed concern regarding how City employees would view the suggestion regarding layoffs prior to additional information being known. He suggested that an item be placed on the Agenda sometime in March to discuss these issues further after the year-end revenues had been reported.

Council Member Spain referred to budget assumptions related to changing the amortization period of pension issues, and he said this item needed to be tracked through Springfield. He added these changes would be a significant savings for the City.

Council Member Montelongo agreed that a meeting in March should be held. He moved to hold a meeting in March 2008. No second was heard.

Mayor Ardis suggested that an item be placed on the Council Agenda for the March 25, 2008, Regular City Council Meeting after the year-end revenues report was received.

Interim City Manager Henry Holling stated the Administrative Team was concerned about living within the City's Budget and their approach would be in a team-like environment to put together a plan with options that could be discussed with the City Council so there were no surprises. He said actions could then be taken in a reasonable, measured, and planned manner. He stated the Administration was not prepared to discuss options at this point, but those mentioned by Council Members would be noted. He said the Administration would work with the Council in partnership to make adjustments, as necessary, so the impact maintained the level of quality of services that the public expected, and that it was done in a way to engage the public so no drastic actions would need to be taken.

ANNOUNCEMENT Regarding a PUBLIC FORUM on FEBRUARY 28, 2008, to DISCUSS NORTHERN LIBRARY BRANCH ALTERNATIVES

Council Member Sandberg announced a Public Forum would be held on Thursday, February 28, 2008, at Exposition Gardens, the Youth Center, at 6:30 P.M. to discuss Northern Branch Alternatives. He said the consultant that had been hired to make a recommendation to the Library Board would be in attendance to make a presentation, and he urged citizens and Council Members to attend.

PRESENTATION

(08-093) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Economic Development with PRESENTATION from the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL Regarding the FOURTH QUARTER 2007 PERFORMANCE INITIATIVES, Under the Scope of Work for the Contractual Agreement Between the City of Peoria, County of Peoria, and the Heartland Partnership.

Council Member Spain said he would be abstaining from discussion and voting due to the Economic Development Council being an affiliated organization with his employer.

Ms. Vicki Clark, representing the Economic Development Council, reviewed activities within the Economic Development Council and the Heartland Partnership for the months of October through December, 2007. She said the activity reflected the economic investment the City had with the Economic Development Council in marketing, technical assistance, and business recruitment. She said the end of each year focused on marketing by Staff attending primary trade shows and placing ads. She reported the upgrade of their web site allowed them to monitor the effectiveness of their marketing campaign and trade show activity. She said there were twelve active files in business recruitment and expansion in the City, and she provided examples. She discussed trends in the market place, such as regional areas coming together to compete in the global market. She said there was an \$18 billion dollar program being proposed by Congress now to concentrate on sustainable growth and the environment. She said these would be critical areas for the City of Peoria area regarding the river commerce and corporations were looking at green, sustainable growth also. She said she looked forward to working with Peoria in the future to mobilize for economic growth in the area. Mayor Ardis thanked Ms. Clark for her presentation.

Council Member Nichting moved to receive and file the presentation; seconded by Council Member Jacob.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None;

Abstentions: Spain - 1.

CITIZEN REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

There were no citizens to come forward to address the City Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- (08-094) REQUEST for APPROVAL 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; and 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 such an action is probable or imminent.**

Council Member Montelongo moved that the City Council 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; and 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 such an action is probable or imminent; seconded by Council Member Jacob.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 11;

Nays: None.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Van Auken moved to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by viva voce vote.

The City Council Meeting adjourned at 8:01 P. M.

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

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By: _____
Chief Deputy City Clerk