

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

Council Chambers, Peoria, Illinois, Monday, December 15, 2008, a Rescheduled Regular City Council Meeting was held this date at 5:03 P.M., at City Hall, Council Chambers, 419 Fulton Street, with Mayor Jim Ardis presiding, and with proper notice having been posted.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed the following Council Members physically present: Gulley (arrived at 5:05 P.M.), Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg (arrived at 5:15 P.M.), Spain, Spears (arrived at 5:07 P.M.), Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 11; Absent: None.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Ardis requested a moment of silent prayer or silent reflection and he requested the family of Pekin's Mayor Dave Tebben be remembered due to his recent passing, and the family of Mary Haynes be remembered also, due to the passing of her sister. Mayor Ardis then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.

PROCLAMATION: C.H.O.I.C.E.S. YOUTH CHOIR

MINUTES

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the minutes of the Joint City Council & Town Board Meeting held on December 9, 2008, as printed, with a change to Item No. 08-618 on Page 28766 changing Ordinance No. 15,355 to Ordinance No. 16,355; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OF PEORIA

(08-633) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Economic Development Requesting Approval of the HOTEL REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT with EM PROPERTIES, LTD to REHABILITATE and EXPAND the HOTEL PERE MARQUETTE into a FULL SERVICE MARRIOTT with PARKING GARAGE, RETAIL SPACE, RESTAURANTS, and a CONNECTOR to the Civic Center, with ORDINANCE, and to Authorize the Interim City Manager to Execute the Necessary Documents.

An Ordinance approving the Redevelopment Agreement and information amending the Redevelopment Agreement was distributed by Corporation Counsel Randy Ray.

A spiral-bound book was distributed by EM Properties, Ltd. providing details of the proposed Redevelopment Agreement.

Interim City Manager Henry Holling commented although this effort had been progressing for over two years, the idea for a Convention Center with a full-service hotel went back even further. He

said this project was a true private-public partnership, as it was approached by the Staff, elected leadership and Developers as a team. He stated the City's investment would be met through revenues generated through the project, as the project was designed to be self-sustaining. He explained, although the proposed development would not be completed until 2012, the timing of the project was critical because convention and meeting planners were making decisions for events three to four years from now. He expressed Peoria wanted to be competitive, and he said this project would strengthen Peoria's ability to compete to be the destination site outside of Chicago for meetings, conventions and major occasions.

Director of Economic Development Craig Hullinger said Council Members had wanted this project for a long time. He said in order for the Civic Center to reach its full potential, an attached full-service, quality flagship hotel was needed, and four consulting studies written since 2002 called for the same. He recognized staff members who worked on the project along with three outside consultants which included Kevin McCanna of Speer Financial, Inc., Brian Harris of HVS and Pat Curtner of Chapman and Cutler. He said this package was fair to the three existing downtown hotels in the area as all of them were located in the new TIF and Business Development District. He pointed out the differences between this proposal and the proposal made to the Council two years ago. He said this proposal was rehabilitation to the Hotel Pere Marquette, which was a historic factor, and would improve the hotel to become a full quality service facility on Main Street. He further pointed out it was important to keep the focus on Main Street down to the River.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Ardis granted Privilege of the Floor to Mr. Gary Matthews.

Mr. Gary Matthews, President of EM Properties Ltd, showed a visionary video which emphasized Peoria's downtown Business District transformed into a first-class Hospitality Destination. The vision of the rehabilitated Pere Marquette included enhancements such as 220 upscale guest rooms, ornamental lighting, decorative sidewalks, covered sidewalk seating, a parking garage and an environmentally controlled walkway connected to the Civic Center accessible from the hotel and the parking garage.

Mr. Matthews introduced his team which included Michael Sorth of PiperJaffray; David Richardson, Bond Attorney, of HuschBlackwell Sanders; Jane Ohaver, Legal Counsel for EM Properties Ltd; Michael Hall and Cara Shimkus Hall, Architects of GH2 in Tulsa, Oklahoma; and Gloria McCollum along with Chuck Pinkowski of Pinkowski & Company who provided the feasibility study.

Finance Director/Comptroller Jim Scroggins said the City would pay 39.2% of all approved payment requests, not to exceed the project grant amount. He stated in the Spring, the City would issue a tax exempt General Obligation Bond that would net bond proceeds of \$39.3 million. He said given the delay between the need for funds and the opening of the hotel, the Bond would include about \$6 million in capitalized interest over the first three years with the first principal payment coming due on January 1, 2013. He said the City would use project generated revenues to pay the Bond, and those sources would include TIF increment from the new hotel and existing hotel, revenue gathered from the Business Development District taxes on hotels, food and retail sales within the project, increment of hotel taxes above what the Pere Marquette paid in 2008, as well as Restaurant taxes above what the Pere Marquette paid in 2008, and incremental City taxes above what was currently being paid by the Pere Marquette in 2008. He reported the City's financial adviser, Speer Financial, Inc., had developed an estimated Bond payment schedule and this payment schedule would be solidified as issuing the bond approaches.

Six Sigma Black Belt Chris Setti discussed revenue projections and the risks involved on the private and public sides. He said the City was confident the project as designed and executed would produce the adequate resources to pay for the project. He said the Council had been

provided with two revenue projections and he discussed the characteristics of each. He discussed the developer's pro forma to obtain their financing and the information that assisted Marriott to make their decisions. He stated the second scenario was a more conservative approach to the numbers. He said, in the first scenario, the projected revenues for the next twenty to twenty-five years exceeded what would be needed to pay the Bonds by over \$13 million. He said in the second scenario, which was more conservative, the revenues would exceed payments by \$1.6 million, so there was still a fair amount of cushion. He continued by stating, while there was always a chance revenues would not meet projections in any given year, the City had several other options, which were outlined. He said, while the Staff was confident about the future of this project, they were further confident in the resources available to make the project work.

Corporation Council Randy Ray provided a legal prospective of the Agreement as amended, and a review of the Ordinance. He stated the Agreement protected the City as much as possible.

Council Member Gulley moved to approve the Hotel Redevelopment Agreement, as amended, with EM Properties, Ltd to rehabilitate and expand the Hotel Pere Marquette into a full-service Marriott with parking garage, retail space, restaurants, and a connector to the Civic Center, to adopt the Ordinance approving the Redevelopment Agreement between the City of Peoria and EM Properties, Ltd., and to authorize the Interim City Manager to execute the necessary documents; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Council Member Gulley requested the minutes reflect his grave concern for those who would be impacted by this development, and specifically for those citizens and businesses that would be displaced. He said the Agreement should be a win/win for everyone concerned.

Council Member Spain recalled opportunities in the past that did not go forward because he said they were not appropriate, and he said this Agreement was favorable for the citizens of Peoria. He said it was no secret the City of Peoria was losing hotel business to local competitors. He said he wanted the Council to realize the conditions would be more challenging in a downtown environment. He stated that the Council had adequate time to review this opportunity, and time was of the essence. He said not only was it important to realize the full market potential of Peoria and the Civic Center, but this would be an important way to create jobs in Peoria. He said he would be voting for the approval.

Council Member Sandberg clarified the financial terms of the contract with Corporation Counsel Randy Ray. In reference to Article 5.1 on Page 14 of the Redevelopment Agreement between the City of Peoria and EM Properties, Ltd., David Richardson of HuschBlackwell Sanders said the first sentence indicated there was a limit to the \$39,371,000; then, the second sentence said notwithstanding that it could not exceed 39.2%. He said the key words were shall not exceed; so, again, if it was less, it would not be the \$39,371,000 because it would be tied to the percentage, but if it's more it would still be capped at the \$39,371,000.

Council Member Manning spoke in support of the Agreement saying Peoria was in need of more and better quality hotel rooms downtown. He said he served as a Council Liaison to the Civic Center Authority for the past 1.5 years, and he listened to their plans for future convention bookings. He said opportunities had been lost because Peoria did not have the full-service hotel with quality rooms. He said the importance of the Marriott Hotel being owned and managed by Marriott could not be understated. He said the hotel had a national reservation system which was attractive to the business traveler and those involved in booking conventions. He said by Peoria pledging General Obligation Bonds on this project, the City was protecting its credit rating, and made economic sense to get the lowest rate possible. He stated he felt the timing was perfect for this project, and he planned to vote for the approval.

In response to Council Member Nichting, Chris Setti confirmed 50% of the \$39 million of public money could be utilized out of the unobligated proceeds of adjoining TIF's.

In response to Council Member Gulley, Chris Setti said the Southtown TIF would expire in 2013.

In response to Council Member Sandberg, Chris Setti confirmed if the various TIF's were ended, the tax dollars could be returned to the General Fund, the School District, and to the other taxing authorities.

Mayor Ardis stated this was a very expensive project, and unlike other projects in the past, all of the homework and legwork had been completed ahead of time to control costs. He said everyone on the Council had received briefings about this project over the past several months, and this proposal was not new to them. He said this project would pay for itself. He acknowledged the Interim City Manager and Staff for the considerable amount of time they put into the project. He also thanked Mr. Matthews and the outstanding team he put together who understood historical tax credits. He said as soon as the Agreement was signed, the hotel could begin booking events as many events were booked two to three years in advance. Mayor Ardis expressed his excitement about the opportunity that had been placed before the Council this evening.

Motion to approve the Hotel Redevelopment Agreement, as amended, with EM Properties, Ltd. to rehabilitate and expand the Hotel Pere Marquette into a full-service Marriott with parking garage, retail space, restaurants, and a connector to the Civic Center, to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 16,375, the Ordinance approving the Redevelopment Agreement between the City of Peoria and EM Properties, Ltd., and to authorize the Interim City Manager to execute the necessary documents was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Sandberg – 1.

(08-634) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of an AMENDMENT to the City of Peoria Agreement with PEORIA AREA CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU, Dated January 1, 1996, and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Agreement.

Council Member Manning moved to approve an amendment to the City of Peoria Agreement with Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, dated January 1, 1996, authorizing the City Manager to execute the Agreement; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Council Member Sandberg expressed concern the amendment was inconsistent with the original intent of the HRA revenues.

Motion to approve an amendment to the City of Peoria Agreement with Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, dated January 1, 1996, and to authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Sandberg – 1.

(08-635) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of an AMENDMENT to the 1996 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT Between the City of Peoria and the PEORIA CIVIC CENTER AUTHORITY, and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute the Agreement.

Council Member Gulley moved to approve an Amendment to the 1996 Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Peoria and the Peoria Civic Center Authority, and to authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement; seconded by Council Member Manning.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Sandberg – 1.

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

(08-636) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller Requesting Authorization to PURCHASE an Additional 40% of the City's ENERGY NEEDS from SEMPRA ENERGY SOLUTIONS Beginning January 1, 2009, Ending December 31, 2011.

(08-637) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Public Works Requesting Approval of the PURCHASE of REAL ESTATE Located at 501 WEST MCCLURE AVENUE for the Purchase Price of \$44,888.00, as an Opportunity Acquisition for Future Improvements to the Intersection of Loucks Avenue and McClure Avenue. (Refer to 08-584)

(08-638) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller Requesting Authorization to: A) REJECT ALL PROPOSALS to Provide BANKING SERVICES for 3 to 5 Years Commencing January 1, 2009, AND B) To Negotiate with National City Bank for RENEWAL of BANKING SERVICES for ONE YEAR, Commencing January 1, 2009, Under Terms of Existing Contract with National City or Under Similar Terms Providing Comparable City Benefits, AND C) In the Event of Unsuccessful Negotiations with National City for a ONE YEAR CONTRACT RENEWAL Yielding Comparable City Benefits, Immediately Revise and Reissue the City's Banking Services Request for Proposal.

(08-639) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting Adoption of an ORDINANCE Amending APPENDIX B of the Code of the City of Peoria Relating to SIGNAGE in the B-1 (Central Business) District.

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(08-640) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting Adoption of an ORDINANCE Granting a SPECIAL USE in a Class WM (West Main Form) District for a VARIANCE from the Street Wall Requirement Along DOUGLAS STREET for the Development of a MEDICAL/OFFICE/RETAIL DEVELOPMENT for Property Located at 725 and 741 W. MAIN STREET, 712-714-716-718 W. RUSSELL STREET, and 1012-1014-1016-1020-1022 N. DOUGLAS STREET, with Conditions.

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- (08-641) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting Adoption of an ORDINANCE NO. 16,376 Granting a SPECIAL USE for a PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT PRELIMINARY PLAN for SENIOR HOUSING with Various Services and Multi-Family Dwellings, Which Repeals Ordinance No. 15,895 an Existing Special Use, as Amended, for a Residential Cluster Development Known as the VILLAS AT GRAND PRAIRIE in a Class R-3 (Single-Family Residential) District for the Property Located at the 5200 Block of W. WOODSAGE ROAD to the 5300 Block of W. WOODSAGE ROAD and from the 8900 Block of N. SCRIMSHAW DRIVE to the 9000 Block of N. SCRIMSHAW DRIVE, with Condition.
- (08-642) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting Adoption of an ORDINANCE NO. 16,377 Rezoning Property Located at 7620 N. UNIVERSITY from the Present Class C-1 (General Commercial) District to a Class C-2 (Large Scale Commercial) District and Granting a SPECIAL USE for a SHOPPING CENTER, with Conditions.
- (08-643) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller Requesting Adoption of the Following:
1. ORDINANCE NO. 16,378 LEVYING a TAX for Fiscal Year 2009 for the WEAVERRIDGE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA PARCEL A - GOLF COURSE;
 2. ORDINANCE NO. 16,379 LEVYING a TAX for Fiscal Year 2009 for the WEAVERRIDGE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA PARCEL D;
 3. ORDINANCE NO. 16,380 LEVYING a TAX for Fiscal Year 2009 for the WEAVERRIDGE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA PARCEL 136-B;
 4. ORDINANCE NO. 16,381 LEVYING a TAX for Fiscal Year 2009 for the WEAVERRIDGE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA LOT 308 (TALLGRASS CONDO.)
- (08-644) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting Adoption of an ORDINANCE NO. 16,382 LEVYING a TAX for FISCAL YEAR 2009 for the EAST BLUFF NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SPECIAL SERVICE AREA, and Directing the City Clerk to File a Certified Copy with the County Clerk to Allow the Tax to be Extended as Provided by Law. (Report is on File with the City Clerk.)
- (08-645) *** Communication from the Interim City Manager and Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of a SITE APPLICATION for a CLASS A (Tavern) LIQUOR LICENSE for 5901 NORTH PROSPECT, SUITE 6 in Junction City, with Recommendation of the Liquor Commission to APPROVE.
- (08-646) APPOINTMENT by Mayor Jim Ardis to the TRAFFIC COMMISSION, with Recommendation to Concur: Thomas Harrington (Voting) – Term Expires 6/30/2009

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. 08-640 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Jacob requested Item No. 08-645 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Montelongo requested Item No. 08-640 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Sandberg requested Item No. 08-639 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 Jacob.

Item Nos. 08-636 through 08-646 (excluding Item Nos. 08-639, 08-640 and 08-645 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, Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 11;

Nays: None.

(08-639) * Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting Adoption of an ORDINANCE Amending APPENDIX B of the Code of the City of Peoria Relating to SIGNAGE in the B-1 (Central Business) District.

Council Member Sandberg expressed concern that signage was being approved by content-based information.

Council Member Nichting moved to adopt an Ordinance amending Appendix B of the Code of the City of Peoria relating to Signage in the B-1 (Central Business) District; seconded by Council Member Spain.

ORDINANCE NO. 16,383 was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Jacob, Montelongo, Nichting, Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 9;

Nays: Manning, Sandberg – 2.

(08-640) ** Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting Adoption of an ORDINANCE Granting a SPECIAL USE in a Class WM (West Main Form) District for a VARIANCE from the Street Wall Requirement Along DOUGLAS STREET for the Development of a MEDICAL/OFFICE/RETAIL DEVELOPMENT for Property Located at 725 and 741 W. MAIN STREET, 712-714-716-718 W. RUSSELL STREET, and 1012-1014-1016-1020-1022 N. DOUGLAS STREET, with Conditions.

Council Member Montelongo said he would be abstaining from discussion and voting on this item due to a business relationship.

Council Member Van Auken moved to defer this item until the February 10, 2009, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Spain.

Motion to defer this item until February 10, 2009, was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None;

Abstention – Montelongo - 1.

**(08-645) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Corporation Counsel
*** Requesting Approval of a SITE APPLICATION for a CLASS A (Tavern) LIQUOR
LICENSE for 5901 NORTH PROSPECT, SUITE 6 in Junction City, with
Recommendation of the Liquor Commission to APPROVE.**

Council Member Jacob said he would be abstaining from discussion and 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 Nichting moved to approve a site application for a Class A (Tavern) Liquor License for 5901 North Prospect, Suite 6 in Junction City; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None;

Abstentions: Jacob - 1.

**(08-647) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Corporation Counsel
Requesting Approval of a RESOLUTION Demanding that GOVERNOR ROD
BLAGOJEVICH RESIGN. (Refer to Item 08-631)**

Council Member Spears moved to approve a Resolution demanding that Governor Rod Blagojevich resign; seconded by Council Member Van Auken.

RESOLUTION NO. 08-647 was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

**(08-648) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller
Requesting Adoption of an ORDINANCE Providing for the ISSUANCE of Not to
Exceed \$24,200,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS of the City of
Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois, Authorizing the Execution of an Escrow
Agreement and a Bond Order and Providing for the Levy and Collection of a
Direct Annual Tax for the Payment of the Principal of and Interest on Said
Bonds.**

Council Member Manning moved to adopt an Ordinance providing for the issuance of not to exceed \$24,200,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the City of Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois, authorizing the execution of an Escrow Agreement and a Bond Order and Providing for the Levy and Collection of a Direct Annual Tax for the Payment of the Principal of and Interest on Said Bonds; seconded by Council Member Turner.

ORDINANCE NO. 16,384 was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

(08-649) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting to Concur with the Recommendation from the Heart of Peoria Commission to DECOMMISSION, Effective December 31, 2008, by REPEALING Ordinance No. 15,571, an ORDINANCE Creating the HEART of PEORIA COMMISSION; and to APPOINT Commissioners to other Commissions, as Openings are Available.

Council Member Manning moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to Heart of Peoria Commissioner Beth Akeson; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Ardis granted Privilege of the Floor to Commissioner Beth Akeson.

Beth Akeson, a Peoria resident and Heart of Peoria Commissioner, urged the Council to vote against the decommission of the Heart of Peoria Commission saying the Commission's work had not been completed. She discussed the unique characteristics of the Commission and its work, and the Commission's accomplishments under the leadership of the late Bill Washkuhn.

Council Member Van Auken moved to concur with the recommendation from the Heart of Peoria Commission to decommission, effective December 31, 2008, by adopting an Ordinance repealing Ordinance No. 15,571, an Ordinance creating the Heart of Peoria Commission; and to appoint Commissioners to other Commissions, as openings were available; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Council Member Van Auken explained the Heart of Peoria Commission was not a standing Commission. She acknowledged the job of adopting Zoning Codes was an enormous undertaking; however, she said the Commission's purpose was served. She said she was grateful to the members of the Commission, and hoped those on the Commission would continue to be advocates and educators.

Council Member Sandberg said he felt the Commission's work was not completed, and he stated there still needed to be a focused advocacy group.

Council Member Spain said he agreed with Council Member Sandberg. He said he felt there was a certain legitimacy and presence that took place when an activity was ordained by the City of Peoria.

Council Member Gulley stated he felt there was still a lot of work to be done by this Commission. He referred to the Council Communication which said that the Heart of Peoria Commission was formed as part of the implementation of the Heart of Peoria Plan that would be working on a vision for Peoria until 2015.

Mayor Ardis commended the work of the Heart of Peoria Commissioners. He said the accomplishments made by the Heart of Peoria Commission were nothing short of overwhelming. He said he hoped no one in the public would have a lack of appreciation for all of the work that had been completed.

Motion to concur with the recommendation from the Heart of Peoria Commission to decommission, effective December 31, 2008, by adopting ORDINANCE NO. 16,385, REPEALING Ordinance No. 15,571, an Ordinance creating the Heart of Peoria Commission; and to appoint Commissioners to other Commissions, as openings were available was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Spears, Turner, Van Auken,
Mayor Ardis – 8;

Nays: Gulley, Sandberg, Spain – 3.

(08-650) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting to Take Action on the Historic Preservation Commission's Recommendation to Adopt an ORDINANCE Approving the Designation of 1509 N. KNOXVILLE AVENUE as a LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK.

Council Member Van Auken moved to reject the Historic Preservation Commission's recommendation to adopt an Ordinance approving the designation of 1509 N. Knoxville Avenue as a Local Historic Landmark; seconded by Council Member Manning.

Council Member Van Auken said she did not support the process for historic landmarking, and she pointed out no one approached the owners of this property in advance of the designation petition, and she questioned the historic significance of the property.

Council Member Manning moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to citizens who wished to address this issue; seconded by Council Member Van Auken.

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

Interim Pastor Anna Saxton of Westminster Presbyterian Church, located at 1420 West Moss Avenue, spoke of favor of the motion to reject the designation of landmarking the Family House.

Attorney Paul Lewis, representing of Family House, spoke in support of the motion to reject.

Council Member Turner agreed the process was broken, and suggested a moratorium on any further issues until due diligence could be done. He said City Staff and the Historic Preservation Commission should work together to formulate a proposal for change.

Council Member Spain said he supported Council Member Van Auken's motion. He said he would like the Council to conduct a Policy Session on this issue to specifically rewrite portions of this Ordinance, rather than placing a moratorium on historic properties.

Council Member Van Auken proposed that after the first of the year, the Historic Preservation Commission make recommendations to the Council for amendments to the Ordinance prior to the Council holding a Policy Session.

Council Member Sandberg spoke in support of the proposed Ordinance stating that the property met the criteria of an Ordinance that the State certified. He urged the Council to not focus on who owned the building, but to understand the intrinsic value the building would bring to future generations.

Motion to REJECT the Historic Preservation Commission's Recommendation to adopt an Ordinance approving the designation of 1509 N. Knoxville Avenue as a Local Historic Landmark was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Sandberg – 1.

- (08-651) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management with Recommendation from the Zoning Commission to ADOPT or Recommendation from Staff to DENY, an ORDINANCE Granting a SPECIAL USE for a SHOPPING CENTER in a Class C-2 (Large Scale Commercial) District for the Development of a MOTEL and RESTAURANT with Shared Access, SIGNAGE VARIANCES in Height and Size and Detention for the Property Located at 1620 W. WAR MEMORIAL DRIVE.**

Council Member Van Auken moved to adopt an Ordinance granting a Special Use for a Shopping Center in a Class C-2 (Large Scale Commercial) District for the development of a Motel and Restaurant with shared access, signage variances in height and size and detention for the property located at 1620 W. War Memorial Drive; seconded by Council Member Turner.

ORDINANCE NO. 16,386 was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

- (08-652) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of a SITE APPLICATION for a CLASS K (Rental Hall) LIQUOR LICENSE for 3225 N. DRIES LANE, SUITE H, Located at Landmark Complex, with Recommendation of the Liquor Commission to APPROVE.**

Council Member Jacob said he would be abstaining from discussion and 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 moved to approve a site application for a Class K (Rental Hall) Liquor License for 3225 N. Dries Lane, Suite H, located at Landmark Complex; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None;

Abstention: Jacob – 1.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business came before the Council.

NEW BUSINESS

- (08-653) REQUEST Regarding LETTER from STATE REPRESENTATIVE DAVID LEITCH**

Council Member Montelongo presented a letter from State Representative David Leach stating that State Revenue reportings were available approximately after six weeks. He requested the City Clerk's Office accept this letter for the record.

No objections were heard.

CITIZEN REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**(08-654) Request for CITIZENS to ADDRESS the CITY COUNCIL Regarding VARIOUS ISSUES.**

Hearing no objections, Mayor Ardis granted Privilege of the Floor to those citizens wishing to address the Council.

Gordon Sieboldt, a Peoria resident, spoke in opposition to the Hotel Redevelopment Agreement with EM Properties, Ltd. to rehabilitate and expand the Hotel Pere Marquette into a Full-Service Marriott Hotel.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was determined that an Executive Session was not needed.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Nichting moved to adjourn the Rescheduled Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Montelongo.

Approved by via voce vote.

The Regular City Council Meeting adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

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

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