

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

Council Chambers, Peoria, Illinois, January 27, 2009, a Regular City Council Meeting was held this date at 6:16 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 were physically present: Gulley (arrived at 6:18 P.M.), Jacob, Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg (arrived at 6:18 P.M.), Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 11; Absent: None.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.

PRESENTATION: INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AWARD
PRESENTATION TO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

PROCLAMATION: AAA CERTIFIED CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY CORPORATION: 25TH
ANNIVERSARY

PROCLAMATION: PEORIA READS!

MINUTES

Council Member Nichting moved to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting and Executive Sessions held on January 13, 2009; 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

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

(09-028) **Communication from the Interim City Manager and Police Chief Requesting**
* **Approval for a SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE of 20 DIGITAL IN-CAR**
 CAMERAS and the Necessary Peripherals, Including 10 Transmitters, from
 L3 COMMUNICATIONS MOBILE VISION, INC., in the Amount of \$118,973.50.

(09-029) **Communication from the Interim City Manager and Police Chief Requesting**
 Approval for a SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE of an EOD-9 BOMB SUIT
 ENSEMBLE from ALLEN-VANGUARD, INC., in the Amount of \$23,154.00, to
 be Paid for Through Asset Forfeiture Funds.

- (09-030) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Public Works Requesting Approval of a FINAL PAY ESTIMATE, in the Amount of \$15,678.86, Which is 15% Over Contract Amount of \$79,282.09, for the HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT Under the Safer Neighborhood Schools Sidewalk Program.
- (09-031) Communication from the Interim City Manager, Director of Public Works, and Police Chief Requesting Approval of a SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT with MIDCO INC., for the CITY'S SECURITY SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE for an INITIAL TWO-YEAR PERIOD (March 1, 2009 - February 28, 2011), in the Amount of \$78,931.32 (\$39,931.32 for the First Year and \$39,000.00 for the Second Year) with an OPTION to EXTEND the CONTRACT for up to THREE ONE YEAR RENEWALS.
- (09-032) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Public Works Requesting Adoption of ORDINANCE NO. 16,387 Vacating all STREETS and ALLEYS within the AREA BOUNDED by WISCONSIN AVENUE, REPUBLIC STREET, MARYLAND AVENUE, and KANSAS STREET.
- (09-033) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting Adoption of ORDINANCE NO. 16,388 Rezoning Property Located at the SOUTHWEST CORNER of the INTERSECTION of W. McCLURE and N. NORTH STREET, Parcel No. 14-33-305-061, from the Present Class CN (Neighborhood Commercial) District to a Class R-6 (Multi Family Residential) District.
- (09-034) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting Adoption of ORDINANCE NO. 16,389 Granting a SPECIAL USE for a PRIVATE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK in a Class R-3 (Single Family Residential) District for Property Located at 8811 WESTPOINT COURT.
- (09-035) APPOINTMENT by Mayor Jim Ardis to the RENAISSANCE PARK COMMISSION:
- DR. SARA RUSCH (Voting) - Term Expires 6/30/2012
- (09-036) REPORT of the CITY TREASURER REGINALD A. WILLIS for the MONTH of NOVEMBER 2008, with Request to Receive and File.

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

Council Member Jacob requested Item No. 09-031 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Gulley requested Item No. 09-028 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

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

Item Nos. 09-028 through 09-036 (excluding Item Nos. 09-028 and 09-031, 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.

(09-028) * Communication from the Interim City Manager and Police Chief Requesting Approval for a SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE of 20 DIGITAL IN-CAR CAMERAS and the Necessary Peripherals, Including 10 Transmitters, from L3 COMMUNICATIONS MOBILE VISION, INC., in the Amount of \$118,973.50.

Council Member Gulley stated he would like to hold more Council discussion on this purchase of in-car cameras prior to the purchase and he moved to defer this item for two weeks until the February 10, 2009, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Montelongo.

Police Chief Steve Settingsgaard explained the proposed purchase was the final portion for the conversion project for in-car videos. He said the Council had already approved several other similar requests and most Police cars were now equipped with this system.

Council Member Nichting expressed concern regarding the deferral because the purchase of these digital in-car cameras would assist in reducing overall costs for the Department. He said he felt issues raised by Council Member Gulley related to policy, which was separate from the technology purchase. He suggested that policy issues be discussed at a later date, but the proposed purchase should be approved by Council.

Council Member Gulley said the cost of the proposed purchase was not his concern. He said he felt the policy should be discussed prior to making the purchase to make sure the equipment purchased would accomplish the desired tasks.

Motion to defer this item for two weeks until the February 10, 2009, Regular City Council Meeting was DEFEATED by roll call vote.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Jacob, Spain – 3;

Nays: Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Sandberg, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 8.

Council Member Nichting moved to approve a sole source purchase of 20 digital in-car cameras and the necessary peripherals, including 10 transmitters, from L3 Communications Mobile Vision, Inc., in the amount of \$118,973.50; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Gulley - 1.

(09-031) ** Communication from the Interim City Manager, Director of Public Works, and Police Chief Requesting Approval of a SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT with MIDCO INC., for the CITY'S SECURITY SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE for an INITIAL TWO-YEAR PERIOD (March 1, 2009 - February 28, 2011), in the Amount of \$78,931.32 (\$39,931.32 for the First Year and \$39,000.00 for the Second Year) with an OPTION to EXTEND the CONTRACT for up to THREE ONE YEAR RENEWALS.

Council Member Jacob questioned why the proposed purchase was a sole source contract.

Police Lt. Dave Roger explained MIIDCO, Inc. had been performing the bulk of the work over the past couple of years to bring the entire system current. He said MIDCO had worked diligently over the past year on different camera projects and they had installed and were familiar with the systems. He added approval of this item would be a cohesive move forward.

In discussion with Council Member Jacob, Corporation Counsel Randy Ray said it would be the Council's decision regarding whether or not this satisfied the reason for a sole source purchase.

Council Member Sandberg expressed concern regarding the cost for the maintenance of the system and that the amount was paid annually in advance. He said he would not support the motion.

Director of Information Systems Cathy Roger said it was not unusual for software maintenance contracts to be paid annually in advance.

Council Member Nichting moved to defer this item for two weeks until the February 10, 2009, Regular City Council Meeting, and he directed the Staff to work out the terms of payment for the maintenance contract to break it down to a monthly or quarterly payment; seconded by Council Member Montelongo.

Motion to defer this item until February 10, 2009, and direct Staff to work out the terms of payment for the maintenance contract to break it down to a monthly or quarterly payment, was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

(09-037) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management with a Request to Concur with the Recommendation from the Zoning Commission to ADOPT OR to Concur with the Staff Recommendation to DENY an ORDINANCE Granting a SPECIAL USE in a Class CG (General Commercial) District for the EXPANSION of a NON-CONFORMING USE for a RESTAURANT for Property Located at 1811 N. KNOXVILLE AVENUE, with Conditions.

Following several brief comments of support, Council Member Van Auken moved to adopt the Ordinance granting a Special Use in a Class CG (General Commercial) District for the expansion of a Non-Conforming Use for a restaurant for property located at 1811 N. Knoxville Avenue, with conditions; seconded by Council Member Manning.

Council Member Sandberg expressed concern that the site would provide no space, buffering, or landscaping along the fence to protect the surrounding neighborhood from the noise generated by a commercial business that operated during late hours of the night.

Council Member Spain said he felt this issue was different and while he agreed the City should offer protection for the residents, a denial of this request would not change the fact that the business was already an existing business at that location. He said he would support the motion and offer some incremental and additional protection to the neighborhood to achieve a better product for an existing business at the same time.

Motion to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 16,390 granting a Special Use in a Class CG (General Commercial) District for the expansion of a Non-Conforming Use for a restaurant for property located at 1811 N. Knoxville Avenue, with conditions, was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Sandberg - 1.

(09-038) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Planning and Growth Management with Recommendations to ADOPT ONE of the FOLLOWING:

- A. ORDINANCE Rezoning Property Located at 726 EAST FORREST HILL AVENUE and 725 EAST BUERKIN COURT from a Class R-4 (Single Family Residential) District to a Class CG (General Commercial) District AND Rezoning Property Located at 3029, 3031 & 3035 N. WISCONSIN AVENUE from a Class CN (Neighborhood Commercial) District to a Class CG (General Commercial) District, as Recommended by the Zoning Commission, OR**
- B. ORDINANCE Rezoning Property Located at 3029, 3031 & 3035 N. WISCONSIN AVENUE from a Class CN (Neighborhood Commercial) District to a Class CG (General Commercial) District, as Recommended by Staff.**

Council Member Manning moved to adopt Ordinance “A” rezoning property located at 726 E. Forrest Hill Avenue and 725 East Buerkin Court from a Class R-4 (Single Family Residential) District to a Class CG (General Commercial) District and rezoning property located at 3029, 3031 & 3035 N. Wisconsin Avenue from a Class CN (Neighborhood Commercial) District to a Class CG (General Commercial) District, as recommended by the Zoning Commission; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Council Member Manning provided background information regarding this property. He explained that the Petitioner wanted to add on to his current veterinary practice and Council Member Manning urged the Council to adopt the Ordinance to retain the location of this business in the City of Peoria. He added that the Petitioner was committed to staying at his current location and had the support of many of his surrounding neighbors.

Council Member Sandberg requested a report back regarding whether or not animals could be boarded overnight at a facility in a C-1 Zoning District. He said he thought overnight boarding could only occur in a C-2 Zoning District. He expressed concern that he had received several complaints regarding noise issues at this facility, and he proposed an installation of a buffer area to protect the surrounding neighborhoods from noise. He added he would not support the motion.

Motion to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 16,391 rezoning property located at 726 E. Forrest Hill Avenue and 725 East Buerkin Court from a Class R-4 (Single Family Residential) District to a Class CG (General Commercial) District and rezoning property located at 3029, 3031 & 3035 N. Wisconsin Avenue from a Class CN (Neighborhood Commercial) District to a Class CG (General Commercial) District was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Sandberg - 1.

(09-039) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Corporation Counsel with Request to Take Action on the SITE APPLICATION for a CLASS A (Tavern) LIQUOR LICENSE, with a SUBCLASS 1 (4:00 A.M. Closing), at 617 MAIN STREET, with the Liquor Commission's Recommendation to DENY.

Council Member Jacob said he would be abstaining from discussing 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 Gulley moved to approve the Site Application for a Class A (Tavern) Liquor License, with a Subclass 1 (4:00 A.M. Closing), at 617 Main Street; seconded by Council Member Sandberg.

Motion to approve was DEFEATED by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Sandberg, Spears – 3;

Nays: Manning, Montelongo, Nichting, Spain, Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis – 7;

Abstentions: Jacob – 1.

(09-040) Communication from the Interim City Manager Regarding the FINAL REPORT and RECOMMENDATIONS of the CITY'S ENERGY EFFICIENCY TASK FORCE, with Request to Receive and File.

Council Member Nichting moved to receive and file the City's Energy Efficiency Task Force Final Report; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Interim City Manager Henry Holling commended Director of Planning and Growth Management Pat Landes for her suggestion, after meeting with peers from other cities, regarding creating an Energy Efficiency Task Force. He stated at the time, gasoline was over \$4.00 a gallon and the Administration felt the City needed to be proactive in their desire to make wiser use of natural resources and to reduce costs. He said Fire Chief Kent Tomblin was the team's leader and he requested that he discuss the highlights of the report.

Fire Chief Tomblin said the City spent almost \$3 million on natural resources in 2008, which was almost evenly split between electricity and fuel, and spending on energy costs had increased by 67% since 2004. He further explained the increases were caused by increased costs rather than user increases. He also explained the process that was used to compile the report. He said the Council communication contained 27 recommendations and an implementation plan and schedule had also been created.

Six Sigma Black Belt Chris Setti provided an outline regarding steps that were currently being implemented. He said all Department Heads had been asked to review their own Department's activities to determine things that could be done to become more energy efficient. He said there was an employee education program regarding vehicle idling, and he and Facility Maintenance and Operations Engineer Steve Myers would be attending a conference sponsored by Ameren and ComEd targeting municipalities and sustainable energy planning.

Interim City Manager Holling said it was recognized this program depended on individual behaviors and, with a diverse workforce, it would take time to change behaviors. He said he would be reporting back to the Council periodically regarding progress.

In discussion with Council Member Jacob regarding the creation of a satellite office for employees in North Peoria, Mr. Setti said no new space would be purchased, but there would be reallocation of space at a Fire House or the Richwoods Substation, or another City facility. He said this would be a basic office space with a computer that could assist employees in their jobs.

Council Member Jacob said there were computers available for trucks that would limit idling or miles per hour, etc. and he suggested that this kind of technology be reviewed and considered. He also suggested installing GPS on non-Public Works' vehicles to make certain the most efficient routes were being used.

Interim City Manager Holling said the Administration reviewed technology enhancement during the 2009 Budget preparation, but due to a maintenance budget and concerns regarding costs, there were several Budget exceptions proposed by departments that affected routes, etc. He said this was something that could be further explored, but due to the economy and possibly further budget tightening, those items were listed as exceptions. He said as the economy became stronger in the future, the City would want to take advantage of the latest techniques for more efficiencies in the routes and assignments, and the accountability of the individuals.

In further discussion with Council Member Jacob regarding the use of an energy consultant, Mr. Setti outlined several meetings that had been attended and their research of best practices by other municipalities regarding energy efficiencies. He said outside expertise was used wherever it could be found.

Council Member Jacob requested that Staff take advantage of the expertise of local companies who had done an outstanding job with energy efficiencies. He said he felt this expertise could possibly be levered without a great deal of costs.

In discussion, Council Member Sandberg suggested a City vehicle idling policy should be created and then the City employees should be educated regarding the policy.

Council Member Spears said when the City purchased energy or electricity at a discount, it should be purchased in bulk so the citizens could also take advantage of the savings. He further requested that solar battery packs be installed in street lights for a test case, if this could be accomplished. He commended the Task Force for their work on this matter.

Council Member Spain also suggested that a consultant be used to find ways for energy conservation and then the practices could be passed along to citizens so they could, in turn, find ways for savings as they face escalating energy costs and less money in their pockets.

Motion to receive and file the City's Energy Efficiency Task Force was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

Clerk's Note: See further discussion on Page 28811 under Item No. 09-040.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(09-024) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Public Works Requesting Approval of TASK ORDER NO. 4 to AGREEMENT NO. 07-040, the 2007 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT with MACTEC ENGINEERING AND CONSULTING, INC., with an Effective Date of January 16, 2009, and a Completion Date of February 28, 2009, for a Total Additional Compensation Amount Not to Exceed \$42,481.00 to Assist the City in Applying for Economic Stimulus Incentives through the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for Early Action Projects Related to the City's Mandated Combined Sewer Overflow Long-Term Control Plan, with REPLACEMENT COMMUNICATION and SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION.

Mayor Ardis said he would be abstaining from the discussion and vote on this item due to a business relationship with his employer. He then requested Council Member Turner Chair this portion of the meeting.

Following a brief comment, Council Member Gulley moved to approve Task Order No. 4 to Agreement No. 07-040, the 2007 Professional Services Agreement with MACTEC Engineering and Consulting, Inc., with an effective date of January 16, 2009, and a completion date of February 28, 2009, for a total additional compensation amount not to exceed \$42,481.00 to assist the City in applying for economic stimulus incentives through the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for early action projects related to the City's mandated Combined Sewer Overflow Long-Term Control Plan, and to receive and file the replacement communication and supplemental information; seconded by Council Member Sandberg.

Following discussion, Council Member Jacob requested an update by Mr. Asbury regarding the overall C.S.O. project in the near future.

In discussion with Council Member Sandberg, Senior Civil Engineer Jane Gerdes said the optional services would include the design and getting the projects through bidding, so these tasks would need to be approved by Council. She also stated it was possible to solicit for bids for the design of the three projects.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

Abstentions: Mayor Ardis – 1.

(08-607) Communication from the Interim City Manager and Director of Public Works Regarding a REPORT BACK and with a Request for the City Council to REVIEW and SELECT at the FEBRUARY 10, 2009, CITY COUNCIL MEETING Their HIGHEST PRIORITIES for the POSSIBLE STIMULUS PACKAGE PROJECTS to Submit for Consideration to the Appropriate State and Federal Legislators.

Director of Public Works Dave Barber distributed a copy of this communication to all members of the City Council.

Mayor Ardis referred to recent Council discussions regarding possible projects that could be submitted to be included in a possible Federal stimulus package, and he said he felt it was important for the Council to understand how the funding could be moving forward and to have an opportunity to identify two or three projects that would be submitted to the Legislators for lobbying purposes.

Council Member Spears agreed it was important to select two or three projects for the Legislators to focus on and to make sure those projects were shovel-ready. He also stated, after speaking with State Senator Dale Risinger, he said the State of Illinois would be in a unique situation in that the Governor would not be making the decisions, due to his potential impeachment. He said the State Legislators could be making the decisions, which could cloud the process and could present a problem in determining who the one voice would be that would speak to these issues and who would keep the priorities in line.

Mayor Ardis welcomed newly hired City Engineer Jeff Smith to the Council Meeting, who was most recently from Champaign, Illinois.

City Engineer Jeff Smith said even though the details of the proposed stimulus package changed daily, he intended to keep up with the changes and continue to simulate the information and pass it along to the Council. He said there were three different groups of projects that were presented to be reviewed in three different time frames, and he explained the three groups as outlined in the Council communication.

Interim City Manager Holling encouraged the Council to focus on the projects in the highest priority category and to select two or three priorities at this time.

Council Member Van Auken said she would like to have the term “shovel-ready” defined and she pointed out that if stimulus money was granted for one or two projects, other priorities would still be funded through the City. She further pointed out that money the City would not be using to fund projects that were chosen for the “stimulus” projects could be re-allocated to other City priorities. She suggested that projects dealing with or relating to the C.S.O. should be targeted as priorities.

Council Member Gulley said the City should present a project for each category of funding in the stimulus package. He added it would be difficult to know what type of funding was available for the variety of things which were on the list.

Senior City Engineer Jane Gerdes explained there were clean water projects or transportation projects and she explained how the money would be distributed through agencies. She said it would be wise to have one or two projects for the environmental area and one or two projects for the transportation area.

Council Member Gulley said he felt the various sidewalk programs should be a priority.

Council Member Turner said the number of jobs a project would create would be taken into consideration and would be a priority for projects that would be selected for the stimulus package.

Council Member Spain agreed that a significant emphasis would be placed on the number of jobs a project would create, so projects with similar capital dollars would be compared with those which created the most number of jobs. He said the range for each project would be in the range of \$3 million to \$5 million, so this should be used as a target to ensure success, and those projects that would be received favorably by those in Washington should be priorities. He stated the City could use a consultant in Washington because he felt the selection of projects would follow a non-traditional route for approval. He said the City should maximize their non-traditional relationships in Washington.

Council Member Sandberg said the Clark/Darst Street area and Southern Gateway area should be priorities to enhance the potential for development and better access for the industrial businesses in that area. He also said his priorities included projects that had been in the planning stages for years, but had never been completed.

Council Member Jacob stated there should be a balance between the items listed on the high priority list and other items on the list. He agreed the various sidewalk programs should be a priority because it was something citizens could see that progress was being made and sidewalks were useful to neighborhoods. He said sidewalks and the improvement of infrastructure should be priorities.

Mayor Ardis said State Senator Dale Risinger indicated there would be a number of hearings on the proposed stimulus package in Chicago and there were a few hearings that would be held in downstate Illinois. He said Director of Public Works Dave Barber planned to attend a hearing in Springfield later this week to discuss Peoria's priorities with members of the Committee.

Mayor Ardis said the consensus of the Council for the priorities included the C.S.O. and related projects, various sidewalk projects, and the road project in the Darst Street and the Southern Gateway area. No objections were heard.

Council Member Sandberg pointed out the City had hired consultants for years and he requested that Staff bring back a time line as to when decisions on these projects would be made. He said these planning exercises went back several years.

**(09-040) Communication from the Interim City Manager Regarding the FINAL
*** REPORT and RECOMMENDATIONS of the CITY'S ENERGY EFFICIENCY
 TASK FORCE, with Request to Receive and File.**

Council Member Spain moved to direct the City's Energy Efficiency Task Force to provide a quarterly update regarding energy savings; seconded by Council Member Jacob.

Council Member Jacob requested a friendly amendment that the motion include a request for the City's Energy Efficiency Task Force to stay together for twelve months.

Council Member Spain agreed to the friendly amendment.

Motion to direct the City's Energy Efficiency Task Force to provide a quarterly update regarding energy savings and for the City's Energy Efficiency Task Force to stay together for twelve months 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

ANNOUNCEMENT Regarding PUBLIC MEETING with COMCAST CABLE SERVICES for CITIZENS to VOICE THEIR CONCERNS REGARDING SERVICE DELIVERY and OTHER ISSUES

Mayor Ardis said that Comcast Cable Services and the City of Peoria would be holding a Public Meeting on Tuesday, February 3, 2009, at 6:30 P.M. at City Hall, Council Chambers (Room 400) to discuss the current contract and the services provided by them. He urged the public to attend this meeting to make their concerns known to the Comcast Company. He requested that this information be posted on Cable Channel 22.

ANNOUNCEMENT Regarding ITEMS to be CONSIDERED on the AGENDA at the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING to be Held on TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2009.

Pursuant to Public Act 095-0761, which took effect July 2008, Mayor Ardis stated, if Council Members desired to have a item considered on the Agenda at the Annual Town Meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2009, at 6:00 P.M., they were required to bring a specific request, signed by 15 or more electors, to the Clerk by no later than March 1, 2009. He said this notice would be repeated at the next two Council Meetings in February.

REQUEST for INFORMATION Regarding TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES for PEORIA CITIZENS WHO HAD LOST THEIR JOBS

Council Member Jacob expressed concern that the Peoria community was beginning to feel the effects of the economic down turn and he requested a report back from Staff regarding the resources available in the City that would assist those Peoria citizens who had lost their jobs or would be losing their jobs. He said he felt it was important to communicate with the citizens and find opportunities for additional training.

Interim City Manager Henry Holling said he would work closely with Executive Director Bashir Ali and the Workforce Development Board to bring that information forward.

CITIZEN REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

(09-041) 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 City Council.

Ms. Lavetta Ricca, President of the Olde Towne South Homeowners' Association, discussed the recent inauguration of President Barack Obama and the historical significance. She also discussed the importance of volunteerism in the community.

Mr. C. J. Summers, a Peoria resident, expressed concern regarding the votes that were taken on Item Nos. 09-037 and 09-038. He explained any small change to a neighborhood impacted the neighborhood in some way and he said the City's Code should be enforced.

Mr. Don Jackson, Attorney and President of the NAACP, spoke in support of in-car cameras being installed in Police cars. He discussed several Police incidents where the cameras were not in use and he expressed concern. He said that deep questions should be asked about these incidents so these situations could be remedied. He also expressed concern that there were no African-Americans nor Latinos working on City Hall Renovations.

Mayor Ardis requested Interim City Manager Henry Holling to prepare an explanation regarding who was performing the renovation work at City Hall.

Council Member Sandberg requested a written policy regarding when the in-car video cameras in Police Cars should be turned on and when they should be turned off.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

(09-042) 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 Spain moved to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Gulley.

Approved by viva voce vote.

The Regular City Council Meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

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

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