

**Minutes of Springfield City
Council Special Meeting
Tuesday, September 29, 2009, 5:15 p.m.
City Council Chambers**

Mayor Davlin called the Special City Council Meeting to Order at 5:15 p.m. All were invited to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Clerk Tumulty called the roll of City Council members.

PRESENT: Alderman Edwards ☒, Simpson ☒, Kunz ☒, Lesko ☒, Cahnman ☒, Mahoney ☒, Cimarossa ☒, Griffin ☒ & Mayor Davlin ☒ (9)

ABSENT: Theilen ☒, Dove ☒ (2)

Proclamations: None

The only ordinance on the Agenda was 2009-484, "A Resolution Declaring The City Of Springfield Shall Not Transfer Property The City Owns Along The 3rd Street Railway Corridor For Use By Union Pacific Railroad Company To Build A Second Rail Line, For Emergency Passage." Ald. Cahnman Moved To Place Agenda No. 2009-484 On Emergency Passage. Ald. Mahoney Seconded. Discussion Followed.

Mayor Davlin welcomed Sangamon County Board Chairman Andy Van Meter and his Chief of Staff Brian McFadden to the Meeting. Mayor Davlin indicated that all were willing to answer any questions. He stated the public meeting at the Dove Center last night was very informative and covered all of the issues. Mayor Davlin went on to say that House Speaker Michael Madigan had introduced a bill, HB 4626, which would prohibit the use of State Funds for the 3rd Street Railroad project. It's in the preliminary stages. There haven't been any additional changes since the meeting last night.

Steve Combs, representing the Grassroots Coalition for Consolidation, 821 No. Fifth St., Spfld, IL., addressed the Council. He thanked the Council for bringing this ordinance forward. He also thanked the aldermen for putting their position on paper and sending the letter to Mayor Davlin. A copy of the letter is attached to these minutes. He stated it is this council who may very well draw the fire of individuals all over the state. There will be many issues to contend with and he hopes the Council will stay the course and asked for a unanimous vote on the ordinance.

Angela Harris, President of the Pioneer Park Homeowners Assn., 1202 E. Capital, Spfld, IL, addressed the Council. The homeowners oppose the alternative 10th Street plan. She yielded her time to Randall Jordan.

Margaret Griffin, Sealy-Cary Neighborhood Assn., Springfield, Ill. Addressed the Council. She asked the Council to consider the area on the east side of I55. There won't be a lot of expense because there are tracks there now. If the council okays 10th street, she stated we will be giving up a lot of lives.

Randall Jordan, Pres. Of Randall Court Neighborhood Association, Springfield, Il., addressed the Council. This is a great concern to the association. He stated the Association opposes the 10th Street alternative. He quoted Confucius stating that in order to fix anything – one must fix his heart. He asked are we really fixing anything here with this action. Greed never sleeps. We have the power to change this proposal. He hopes the Council considers their position and votes accordingly.

Linda Douglas-Williams, County Board Member of District 20, 1828 E. Pine, Springfield, Il., addressed the Council. She asked the Council to urge IDOT to come up with another alternative. 10th Street is not the answer to the problem.

Ald. Dove arrived in the Council Chamber at 5:28 p.m.

Ald. Edwards asked if Andy Van Meter will address the Council. He went on to state that at the meeting at the Dove Center, the discussion really explained why 3rd Street was not a viable option due to the crumbling sewers, poor infrastructure, the negative impact the rail would have on North Grand as well as the negative affects the railroad would have on the Medical District. The speed of the trains was a great concern as well as the braking and its impact on the Medical District. He stated the Medical District will have a positive impact upon the entire city in terms of jobs and that impacts the East Side. Ald. Edwards gave credit to Chairman Van Meter and Mayor Davlin for an informative meeting last night. He stated he had his concerns about 10th street as well.

Mayor Davlin stated that Ald. Edwards summed it up pretty well. He's not sure what else he could add to Ald. Edwards' statements.

Ald. Cahnman asked if Mayor Davlin knew what rail line Ms. Griffin referred to on the east side of I55. Mayor Davlin indicated he did not know. The estimates were \$3-5 billion to build a rail line outside the City.

Ald. Cahnman asked about the location of the City property in question in the proposed ordinance. Mayor Davlin stated that city property would be needed for gate access as well as traffic signals along 3rd Street to accommodate high speed rail.

The Motion on Emergency Passage Carried 9/1 via voice vote. Ald. Edwards, Simpson, Lesko, Cahnman, Mahoney, Cimarossa, Dove, & Griffin voted Yes. Ald. Kunz Voted No.

Ald. Mahoney Moved to Adjourn the Meeting at approximately 5:35 p.m. Ald. Cimarossa Seconded. The Motion Carried 9/0 via voice vote. Ald. Edwards, Simpson, Kunz, Lesko, Cahnman, Mahoney, Cimarossa, Dove, & Griffin voted Yes.

Cecilia K. Tumulty

Cecilia K. Tumulty, C.M.C
City Clerk