



MINUTES
Committee of the Whole
Tuesday, September 27, 2011
City Council Chambers
5:30 p.m.

Ward 1	Frank Edwards	Ward 6	Cory Jobe (Chair)
Ward 2	Gail Simpson	Ward 7	Joe McMenamin
Ward 3	Doris Turner	Ward 8	Kris Theilen
Ward 4	Frank Lesko	Ward 9	Steve Dove
Ward 5	Sam Cahnman (Vice Chair)	Ward 10	Tim Griffin

Chairman Cory Jobe called the Meeting to Order at 5:30 p.m.

Deputy Clerk Hawkins called the roll of members

PRESENT: Ald. Edwards☒, Simpson☒, Turner☒, Lesko☒, Cahnman☒, Jobe☒, McMenamin☒, Theilen☒, Dove☒, and Griffin☒.

Alderman Simpson moved to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2011 Committee of the Whole Meeting. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin. The motion passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

Next, Deputy Clerk Hawkins read the ordinances that are tabled or remain in Committee.

2010-158 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 1988 CITY OF SPRINGFIELD CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, BY ADDING CHAPTER 154: EROSION CONTROL REGULATIONS (**Requested By Mayor Timothy J. Davlin**) (**Remains In Committee 7/26/11**)

2011-104 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 100 OF THE 1988 CITY OF SPRINGFIELD CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, BY IMPOSING A 1.5% TAX ON THE PRIVILEGE OF PURCHASING ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR AND PREPARED FOOD ITEMS FOR IMMEDIATE CONSUMPTION (**Requested By Ald. Simpson**) (**Committee Of The Whole**) (**Remains In Committee 3/8/11**)

2011-224 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 1988 CITY OF SPRINGFIELD CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, BY AMENDING SECTION 36.04(A) TO CORRECT A TECHNICAL ERROR PERTAINING TO EXEMPTIONS UNDER CERTAIN

JURISDICTIONS OF THE CITY PERSONNEL SYSTEM AND BY ADDING SECTION 36.65 REGARDING SUSPENSIONS RESULTING FROM ARREST OR INDICTMENT, **AS AMENDED (Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston)**

2011-226 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 110 OF THE 1988 CITY OF SPRINGFIELD CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, REGARDING PEDDLER'S AND SOLICITOR'S LICENSES, **AS AMENDED (Requested by Alderman Frank Lesko)**

2011-344 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO JAMES TAYLOR, AN OFFICE OF PUBLIC UTILITIES EMPLOYEE, FOR SETTLEMENT OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIM NUMBER 10-WC-43534 **(Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston)**

Alderman Theilen asked Alderman Lesko the status of Agenda Item 2011-226. He responded that a proposed amendment has been worked out and he stated that he intends to pull the ordinance out of committee at the next City Council Meeting.

Deputy Clerk Hawkins then read the ordinances for committee consideration.

2011-362 An Ordinance Authorizing Execution Of An Intergovernmental Agreement With The Board Of Education Of Springfield School District No. 186 Regarding School Safety Officers For The 2011-2012 And 2012-2013 School Years **(Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston)**

Alderman Simpson moved to place Agenda Item 2011-362 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman Edwards asked about a recent report that the School District was eliminating the school safety officers. Corporation Counsel Cullen responded that they were eliminating one school safety officer, but are leaving one in each of the high schools and at Douglas School. He added that the school district is reimbursing 75% of the cost of the officers.

Alderman Griffin asked about the listing of eight school safety officers in the ordinance language. CC Cullen responded that the error is a typographical error in the ordinance. Alderman Griffin made a floor amendment to change the language of the ordinance to reflect four officers. His motion was seconded by Alderman Theilen.

Alderman McMenemy asked about the estimated amount of the contract. Deputy Police Chief Cliff Buscher responded that amount totals salaries and their benefits for 75% of their time. During the summer months, the police officers are put back onto the streets. He also added that the amount reflects a two year amount for the officers.

Alderman Cahnman asked if the new agreement differs in any way other than in the number of officers. Deputy Chief Buscher responded that it does not and that previous agreements had also been for 75% of the officer's time. Alderman Cahnman asked if the schools were going to contract with private security to make up the difference. Deputy Chief Buscher responded that to his knowledge, the school district was planning to hire back officers and off duty officers. Alderman Griffin added that there is also an agreement that if an officer is in the area of a

school, that they would stop in during their patrols and make their presence known. Deputy Chief Buscher added that the program is called the school watch program. Alderman Cahnman asked if the officers were in the schools as of now. Deputy Buscher responded that they were.

Alderman Griffin repeated his floor amendment that the ordinance reflects that there are only four officers instead of eight officers. The amendment passed with a voice vote.

The motion to move Agenda Item 2011-362, as amended to the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-363 An Ordinance Authorizing Acceptance And Execution Of A Grant From The Illinois Department Of Transportation In The Amount Of \$184,883.47 For The Local Alcohol Program And Authorizing A Supplemental Appropriation In The Amount Of \$75,419.50 For FY12 For The Springfield Police Department (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson moved to place Agenda Item 2011-363 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-364 An Ordinance Authorizing Payment In The Amount Of \$26,268.23 To Coe Equipment, Inc. For Full And Final Settlement Of Risk Management Claim Number AL2011050279 (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson moved to place Agenda Item 2011-364 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman Simpson asked Public Works Director Mark Mahoney if there was any chance that the employee involved in this incident would file a worker's compensation claim. CC Cullen responded that it is a possibility. She asked if the employee had been given additional training. Director Mahoney responded that there have been a number of issues on which employees, including the one in the accident, have been through training.

Alderman McMenamin asked if the purchase of a new vector truck that will be considered later in the meeting is to replace the one in the accident. Director Mahoney responded that truck that is being purchased has nothing to do with this incident. The truck that was involved in the accident has since been repaired and is back in service. Alderman McMenamin asked that since the city is self-insured, that the total cost of the repair is coming out of the City's pocket. CC Cullen responded that he is correct.

Alderman Cahnman asked about the deductible that is being assessed. Director Mahoney and Council Coordinator Joe Davis both responded that the deductible refers to the amount that the Public Works Department pays to the self insurance fund. Dir. Mahoney added that the process is for the Department fund, which ever fund is involved in the accident, pays the deductible and the self insurance fund takes over the rest.

The motion to add 2011-364 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-365 An Ordinance Authorizing A Change In Scope Of Bid Contract No. UE11-02-107- Substation Transformer Recondition And Repair In The Amount Of \$93,910.00 With Solomon Corporation For A Total Amount Of \$179,920.00 Payable To Said Vendor For The Water Division Water Purification Department (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson moved to place Agenda Item 2011-365 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Theilen.

Alderman Griffin asked about the cost of repairing the transformer versus the purchase of a new transformer. Craig Burns with City Water Light and Power responded that the engineers have determined that this is the best course of action. He added that he is not really qualified to answer whether a new transformer purchase would be cost effective or not. Tom Skelly responded that the repairs will make the transformer run like a new transformer.

Alderman Simpson asked if the repair is in response to normal wear and tear. Tom Skelly responded that the transformer had previously been used by Dallman Units 31 and 32 and it became too small for their use. It has been sitting idle for a number of years. The intent is to put it to use at the pump stations for the new water works improvement project. The damage was found when it was still in service, but once it was inspected it was found that there needed to be additional repairs.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-365 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-366 An Ordinance Authorizing Additional Funding In An Amount Not To Exceed \$75,000.00 With Explosive Professionals Midwest, Inc. For Explosive Blasting Services For The Dallman Power Plant Unit Nos. 31, 32, 33 And 4 Boilers Under An Existing Proposal For A Total Amount Of \$179,000.00 Payable To Said Vendor For The Electric Division Generation Department (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson moved to place Agenda Item 2011-366 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Theilen.

Alderman Griffin asked about the cost of the explosive blasting and how often this cost might come up. Mr. Burns responded that explosive blasting is something that needs to be done periodically to knock the slag off of the boiler tubes so that it is safe for employees to go into the boiler to do any repairs. Controlled explosive blasting is done in the boilers all of the time. The estimate is made at the beginning of the year for the service, but in some cases, there is more work that needs to be done. Alderman Griffin asked why the additional money is needed when there was additional money set aside to generate the anticipated extra power and that ultimately did not come to fruition. Mr. Burns responded that the slag build up is as a result of alterations to the air/fuel mix in the boiler that are being made to bring Dallman 4 up and running.

Alderman Lesko asked if the ratio to the air/fuel mix needs to be altered in order to make the boiler run at its most efficient. Mr. Burns responded that he was correct.

Alderman Griffin asked for clarification about the water bonds and increasing the water rates to cover the cost of the bonds. Mr. Burns responded that electrical improvements were part of that waterworks improvement program.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-366 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-367 An Ordinance Accepting The Bid And Authorizing The Execution Of Contract UE12-08-54 – Dallman Power Plant Unit No. 31 Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) System Change Out With Enerfab, Inc. In The Amount Of \$121,882.00 For The Electric Division **(Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston)**

Alderman Simpson moved to place Agenda Item 2011-367 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Theilen.

Alderman Edwards pointed out to Alderman Griffin that the extra cost for any unforeseen circumstances was included in this ordinance.

The motion passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-368 An Ordinance Approving And Authorizing The Execution Of A Telecommunications Fiber Capacity License Agreement Combining And Renewing Existing Telecommunications Fiber Capacity License Agreements Between The City Of Springfield And Memorial Health System For The Electric Division **(Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston)**

Alderman Lesko moved to place Agenda Item 2011-368 onto the consent agenda. His motion was seconded by Alderman Simpson.

The motion passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-369 An Ordinance Authorizing Payment Of \$218,500.00 To The State Of Illinois, Department Of Transportation, For Pavement Patching On Jefferson Street From Emporia Avenue To Veterans Parkway And On Madison Street From Lewis Street To 9th Street (MFT Section No. 10-State-02-RS) For The Office Of Public Works **(Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston)**

Alderman Lesko made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-369 onto the consent agenda. His motion was seconded by Alderman Cahnman.

The motion passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-370 A Resolution Authorizing Execution Of A Letter Of Intent With The State Of Illinois For The Widening Of Dirksen Parkway From Linden Lane To Ridge Avenue (MFT Section #11-State-01-WR), For The Office Of Public Works **(Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston)**

Alderman Lesko made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-370 onto the consent agenda. His motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion was passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-371 A Resolution Authorizing Execution Of A Letter Of Intent With The State Of Illinois For The Widening Of Wabash Avenue From Moffet Street In Curran To Koke Mill Road (MFT Section # 11-State-02-WR), For The Office Of Public Works (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-371 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman McMenamin asked if the project is to be funded entirely by motor fuel tax funds. Director Mahoney responded that the total project cost is \$18M and the City's portion is \$1.9M. There is roughly \$1.1M in grant money set aside to do the project. The remainder of the cost, \$896,000, will come out of Motor Fuel Tax money. Alderman McMenamin asked if the grant money is discretionary or if it is for this particular project. Director Mahoney responded that the grant money is for dealing with Archer Elevator and Cockrell Lane. Alderman McMenamin asked how much Motor Fuel Tax money is spent in a given year. Director Mahoney responded that several million dollars is spent, but that it varies.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-371 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-372 A Supplemental Resolution Notifying The State Of Illinois That Additional Motor Fuel Tax Funds In The Amount Of \$2,655.90 Was Used To Purchase Battery Back-Ups And Backplate Reflective Tape From The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library And Museum Grant (JN605-006), Pursuant To The Illinois Highway Code, MFT Section No. 10-00448-06-TL, For The Office Of Public Works (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-372 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-373 An Ordinance Authorizing A Supplemental Appropriation In The Amount Of \$80,000.00 From Unappropriated Fund Balance For The Office Of Public Works (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-373 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Lesko.

The motion passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-374 An Ordinance Authorizing The Acceptance Of Two Grants And The Execution Of The Respective Grant Agreements With The U.S. Department Of Housing And Urban Development In Connection With The City's Fiscal Year 2011 Consolidated Action Plan To

Accept \$1,163,012.00 In Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Award And \$541,171.00 In Home Investment Partnership Formula Funds For A Total Of \$1,704,183.00 For The Office Of Planning And Economic Development (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman McMenamain made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-375 onto the debate agenda. His motion was seconded by Alderman Theilen.

Alderman Edwards asked Economic Development Director Mike Farmer about the amount that the City received last year. Director Farmer responded that it was \$2.1M last year. Alderman Edwards stated that the City had lost \$400,000.00 in funds for the upcoming fiscal year.

Alderman Cahnman asked what the City is planning to use the funds for. Director Farmer responded that the funds are used for economic development, home deferred loans, emergency home repair and infrastructure improvements. He went on to state that this represents year two of their five year plan that had previously been provided to the Aldermen. There is also a yearly plan that is available that goes into much more detail about what the funds will be used for. Alderman Cahnman asked if any of the funds will be used to purchase abandoned houses. Director Farmer responded that they will and have been in the past. Alderman Cahnman asked how much of the funds will be used. Director Farmer responded that in the past anywhere from \$100,000 to \$150,000 has been granted to Public Works for demolition. Alderman Cahnman asked if an amount had been identified for the upcoming year. Director Farmer responded that the allocation that was made for this year, so it would not be wise to grant the money ahead of them spending down the money that they have. He added that this is just one of the many services that they offer.

Alderman Edwards stated that the key is that there is not as much money available as there was in the past year and therefore all of the grant money will be affected. Director Farmer added that the funds had been decreasing during the Bush Administration, there was a slight increase during early part of the Obama Administration, but now there has been a slight pull back in funds.

Alderman Simpson asked Alderman McMenamain if it was his plan to have the same discussion at next week's city council meeting. Alderman McMenamain responded that he would like to give the Council time to review the spending plans before approval. Director Farmer also welcomed the Council to review their spending plans. Alderman McMenamain stated that he has reviewed the plans. He added that the portion of the City that are entitled to these grants are in modest to lower income areas of the City and he expressed his support for these grants for these older neighborhoods. Director Farmer mentioned that he has a breakdown of the spending of CDBG funds by ward. Alderman Cahnman asked if he could also provide the council members with a dollar amount that the department will be using to purchase abandoned houses as well.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-374 onto the debate agenda passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-375 An Ordinance Authorizing Execution Of An Amendment To Subrecipient Agreement For Grant Number 08-SR-0012 With Helping Hands Of Springfield, Inc. To Reduce The Grant Amount By \$34,000.00 For A Total Grant Amount Not To Exceed \$224,095.50 To Carry Out Eligible Activities In Conjunction With The Homelessness Prevention And Rapid Re-Housing Program Using Community Development Block Grant Funds For The Office Of Planning And Economic Development (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-375 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-376 An Ordinance Authorizing Execution Of An Amendment To A Subrecipient Agreement For Grant Number 08-Sr-0013 With M.E.R.C.Y. Communities, Inc. To Increase The Grant Amount By \$34,000.00 For A Total Grant Amount Not To Exceed \$292,095.20 To Carry Out Eligible Activities In Conjunction With The Homelessness Prevention And Rapid Re-Housing Program Using Community Development Block Grant Funds For The Office Of Planning And Economic Development (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-376 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Cahnman.

The motion passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-377 An Ordinance To Increase The Number Of Class “E” Liquor Licenses By One For Jered Dennis D/B/A Porter & Hazel’s Delicatessen, 106 W. Jefferson Street (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Cahnman made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-377 onto the consent agenda. His motion was seconded by Alderman Simpson.

The motion passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-378 An Ordinance Authorizing Execution Of An Agreement With Azavar Audit Solutions, Incorporated To Perform A Separate Audit Of Each Utility Contract Executed By The City And Each Franchise Fee Or Tax Authorized By The City Within Its Corporate Boundaries, For The Office Of Budget And Management (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Cahnman made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-378 onto the debate agenda. His motion was seconded by Alderman Theilen.

Alderman Cahnman asked what percentage will be paid to the company and how many years would the contract extend to. Mayor Houston responded that the primary focus of the audit will be with Comcast. The contract is done on a contingency basis. Any money that they recoup for the City, the company receives 33% for a five year period.

Alderman Simpson asked how the company was chosen. Mayor Houston responded that the company had approached the City. Alderman Simpson asked if Rockford was the only community within Illinois that has used their services. Mayor Houston responded that he is unsure of the other communities within Illinois, but Rockford is similar to Springfield in the amount of money that might be available to be collected. Office of Budget and Management Director Bill McCarty added that other communities such as O'Fallon and Peoria have used the services. He added that this proposal is a result of working with Treasurer Langfelder's office.

Alderman Cahnman asked if there were any other companies, other than Azavar that perform this service. Director McCarty responded that he was unsure and that it is a specialized service. Alderman Cahnman asked him to look into if there are other audit firms that do this kind of work before the next council meeting.

Alderman Simpson asked Jason Perry of Azavar Solutions to give background about his company and if he is aware of any other companies that provide a similar service. Mr. Perry stated that their firm is unique in that it only deals with municipalities and focuses on utility audits. The audits are conducted using historical data and corrects any errors moving forward. Their commitment is to work with the City to ensure that they receive every penny of funds that they are due. They have done similar audits for over 110 communities within Illinois. Alderman Simpson asked how many people would be working on the audit. Mr. Perry stated that there are 26 staff members and 5 who are dedicated to the analysis of energy, cable, and telecommunications data. Alderman Simpson asked how long ago their audit of the city of Rockford was. Mr. Perry stated that it was just completed at the beginning of the year. He added that the firm does not receive any money if the City does not receive their money.

Alderman Edwards asked if the City's purchasing department determined that the contract is a professional services contract. CC Cullen responded that it had. Alderman Edwards asked if there was a confidentiality sign off included with the contract. CC Cullen responded that there was.

Alderman Cahnman asked about the fees that were not being collected. Mr. Perry responded that there was money recovered from the electric utility franchise fees and cable franchise fees. He explained their process in looking at franchise fees to ensure that the fees are keeping up with historical annexations that have occurred around the City. Alderman Cahnman clarified the process that the auditors will undertake in making sure that the fees are collected going back and moving forward for the City. He also asked about how the company would recover funds assessed by a percentage, such as the hotel/motel tax. Mr. Perry responded that the tax is self reported and often there are errors that are made in computation and they are able to correct those errors moving forward. Alderman Cahnman stated that when he, Alderman Turner and Alderman Griffin were on the Sangamon County Board, a similar audit was done on the County's phone bill and quite a bit of savings were found.

Alderman McMenamin asked for clarification on where the money is coming from to pay the back the City. Mr. Perry responded that in typical situations the entity is the responsible party to the City. What the entity does after they pay their fees is beyond their control, although he acknowledged that it might be a difficult conversation for the company to have with their customer. Alderman McMenamin asked how far back will the audit go and if they have found

a local business that has been extraordinarily harmed by an incorrect billing. Mr. Perry stated that this is an important part of their business. They work in conjunction with the City and he ensured the Council that he will work with Director McCarty and Treasurer Langfelder on each case and how it is handled. He added that how far they go back is dependent on ordinances, statutes and agreements.

Alderman Edwards pointed out that the City is already aware of people that do owe money to the City that are not paying in a timely fashion. He asked if Azavar would be entitled to any of the money that is previously known to be owed to the City. Mr. Perry stated that he was correct. Alderman Edwards pointed out that some of the ideas are the same ideas that were proposed in the blue ribbon commission's report that Mayor Houston sat on. He suggested taking a look at that report as opposed to paying a company to basically give the same information.

Alderman Simpson asked how the Mayor would handle that situation. Mayor Houston responded that the services are basically for free money and that the primary focus would be cable television. Cable television pays a portion of their revenues to the City. Azavar has the software systems to be able to analyze the money to ensure that the City is receiving all they are due. They are the only company that provides such a service and are focused on municipalities.

Alderman Cahnman asked if the City has the ability to do the audit internally. Mayor Houston stated that Azavar has the software and the expertise to conduct this and they do not receive any money until the City receives money.

Alderman Simpson asked if they are an Illinois company. Mr. Perry responded that they are based in Chicago.

Director McCarty pointed out that the company will not be coming in to tell the City which fees they should be charging or should be raised. They are simply coming in to assess what the City should already be getting from laws that are already in place.

Alderman Edwards stated that he would feel more comfortable with the proposal if the City were to get bids on the project so that the scope is defined.

Alderman Griffin asked if the audit will be looking at interfund transfers. Mr. Perry responded that they will not. Mayor Houston added that the City will pick and choose what they will be looking at.

Alderman McMenamin asked if there is something with the City's agreement with cable television that makes the audit more ideal. Mr. Perry responded there is not. He pointed to the examples of larger cities like Rockford and Peoria and their recent annexations, which points to a higher probability of there being money to be recovered.

Director McCarty added that the original proposal was for 45% of what is recovered. The 33% was reached as a compromise. The other side of the compromise is that the City signs a contract with them in the month of October.

Alderman Cahnman asked if the revenues collected by the City of Rockford were done in a year period. Mr. Perry responded that the figure was a total amount recovered and it took three years to compute and negotiate. He added that the City of Rockford was an extraordinary example. In his experience, most cities the size of Springfield may have an error of 1-2%. Alderman Cahnman asked what percentage the City of Rockford paid. Mr. Perry responded that it was the standard 45%.

Mayor Houston pointed out that the reason for focusing on Comcast is that it is one of the largest franchise payers. Also there are annexations that are in the City of Springfield that they may not consider being part of the City of Springfield.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-378 onto the debate agenda passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-379 An Ordinance Authorizing Execution Of A Redevelopment Agreement With The Salvation Army For Redevelopment Assistance Utilizing Central Area Tax Increment Finance Funds In An Amount Not To Exceed \$1,800,000.00 For The Property Located At 100 N. 9th Street, For The Office Of Planning And Economic Development (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston and Alderman Sam Cahnman**)

Alderman McMenamin made a motion to move Agenda Item 2011-379 onto the consent agenda. His motion was seconded by Alderman Cahnman.

Alderman Cahnman recognized members of the Salvation Army that were in the audience. Major Paul Logan with the Salvation Army thanked the City Council for the City's assistance in building their facility and expressed his excitement on what they will be able to do for the community. The funds will help them move forward on their capitol campaign. The campaign total is \$6.8M. And this funding will help them reach closer to their goal. Alderman Cahnman pointed out that this project has been in the works for along time.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-379 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 10-0.

2011-380 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 101, Sections 101.16 And 101.999, Of The 1988 City Of Springfield Code Of Ordinances, As Amended, Pertaining To The Regulation Of Alteration, Construction And Demolition Of Buildings And Structures Identified On The List Of Properties Eligible For Landmarking (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to move Agenda Item 2011-380 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman Edwards asked for more details about the ordinance. CC Cullen responded that the two principal changes are to increase the time period from 30 to 60 days of when an application is received for the Historic Sites Commission to review the application and take action to delay the demolition. There is also a provision for a waiver of the time period if the building is dangerous or if the commission makes a determination that it is not relevant to delay the demolition. Alderman Edwards asked about the rationale behind the increase of time. CC Cullen responded that the recommendation was coming from the Historic Sites Commission

and he assumed that it was to give them additional time to review a structure to add it to the list of land marked structures.

Alderman Cahnman asked if there have been situations in the past where there have been buildings considered for land marking, but have been demolished too quickly. CC Cullen responded that the Historic Sites Commission is concerned about people moving too quickly on a demolition on a site that might be historic. Alderman Cahnman asked if the Historic Site Commission had the authority to grant the waiver of the time period. CC Cullen responded that he was correct.

Alderman Simpson asked what the criteria are for determining if a building should be added to the landmark list. She expressed concern that this could potentially be in conflict with a potential ordinance on abandoned and boarded properties. CC Cullen responded that in the ordinance it talks about three different criteria about the properties: are they on the national register of historic places, on the Illinois Historic Landmark Survey, on the Springfield Historic Sites registry or any historically significant structure identified on any other lists. Alderman Simpson asked if the Commission had any money to do anything with the buildings. CC Cullen responded that he does not believe that they have any authority other than to declare buildings on the Springfield Historic Sites Registry.

Alderman Cahnman asked if a structure is on the Historic Sites Registry, they would need the permission of the commission before demolishing the building. CC Cullen responded that the permission extends to alterations to the exterior as well.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-380 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-1.

Alderman Edwards asked for an update on the month long pick up of branches and leaves. Director Mahoney responded that they do not have the direct amount from the requests for proposals, but he anticipates putting an ordinance on first reading next week. The estimate is for \$150,000 from the sewer fund. In the past years, it has been a similar amount for a four week program. They have divided the city into quadrants and getting proposals on picking up everything put out in the four week period of November. Alderman Edwards asked if the amount of money will be enough to cover the entire program. Director Mahoney stated that the proposals are not being calculated on cubic yardage, but instead on picking up the leaves. Alderman Edwards expressed concern that there may not be enough money budgeted for this program. Director Mahoney explained that they are hoping to bring their full proposal, along with explanations on where the money is coming from and going too soon before the Council.

Alderman Cahnman asked if the City was trying to get more service for the same amount of money. Director Mahoney stated that it is his hope. Alderman Lesko stated that he thought that it was a good idea.

Alderman Edwards asked for there to be an ordinance drafted to address the building codes for buildings on Lake Springfield to meet all City of Springfield Building and Zoning regulations. He expressed concern about buildings that are being built, with the approval of City Water Light and Power, that do not adhere to the building codes that the rest of the City needs to follow. It is his belief that these structures need to adhere to codes for a multiple of reasons,

including safety. He asked that an ordinance be drafted and placed on emergency passage for next week's meeting.

Alderman Simpson asked for an update on the Pilot Program. Mr. Burns stated that the amount for electric and water, through the month of July was \$468,000 more than what the budget was through the month of July. This is roughly 16%. Alderman Simpson stated that it is not functioning as high as what the Council had thought it would be. Mr. Burns responded that the amount is definitely not as high as when the wholesale amount for power was up to \$70 per megawatt hour. Alderman Simpson asked if the figures take into account the heat wave during the month of August. Mr. Burns pointed out that it may be until September's figures come out because there is a 30 day lag between power being used and when it is billed. Alderman Simpson asked for the Council member to be updated.

Alderman McMenamin also asked for more information on the power generation department to be provided as well. He asked for year to date projections for year to date power projections and revenue figures for commercial, wholesale and retail. He asked for a report similar to the ones provided to the Council by the Treasurer for the monthly status reports. Mr. Burns recommended providing formal, unaudited balance sheets and income statements for each month.

Alderman Simpson asked that the information be provided to the Council electronically or a summary of the funds. Council Coordinator Joe Davis asked that the reports be provided to him and he will distribute them among the Aldermen.

Director of the Lincoln Library Nancy Huntley invited the Council to reception on October 2nd 1pm-5pm to celebrate their 125 years of service. The reception is being hosted by the Friends of Lincoln Library. Tours of the library will also be available. Alderman Simpson asked where the original library was located. Director Huntley stated that when the library opened, it was in the city building on the corner of 5th and Monroe. Then the library was located in the YWCA at 7th and Monroe, across the street from the current City Hall. In 1904, the building on 7th and Capitol opened and it was funded in part with funds from Andrew Carnegie. All of this will be part of the display on Sunday.

Alderman Simpson asked if there was information about the 1908 Riots. She responded that they do have some history, although not as much as the state library or the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library.

Alderman Cahnman asked if the display will be left up for people to view. Director Huntley responded that it will be left up through October.

James O'Connell of 3218 Sheridan in Springfield addressed the council concerning the recent proposal to shut down the Springfield Postal processing facility. He was representing Land of Lincoln Area Local 239 of the American Postal Workers Union. He thanked Alderman Turner and Alderman Jobe for their support of the recent rally. He urged the Council to support their efforts to keep the postal processing facility open in Springfield.

Alderman Edwards asked if this is a fact that the facility is going to be closed. Mr. O'Connell stated that what they have now is a proposal, but the Postal Service is going to be doing

feasibility on the facilities. He is also seeking information on how the US Postal Service arrived at their conclusion to keep certain facilities open. Alderman Edwards asked if the decision was based on the fact that the Post Office does not own the building out of which they are operating. Mr. O'Connell responded that to his knowledge, the Post Office owns the building on Cook Street and leases the buildings for their Southwest Annex, Northeast Annex and Downtown facility. He went on to state that their current plan is to move all of the carriers and their customer service representatives to the Cook Street location. Alderman Edwards pledged to look into the situation a little bit more and to report back to Mr. O'Connell. He also asked CC Cullen to run a tax code on the facilities to find out who the owners are.

Alderman Cahnman recalled seeing a plaque that dedicated the building in 1972. Mr. O'Connell added that the facility has been renamed in honor of Colonel Wilson, who was General Patton's supply clerk and dedicated his life to the Post Office.

Alderman Simpson added her support to Mr. O'Connell's efforts and she urged her colleagues on the City Council to rally around this effort. She went on to state that the Capitol City is looking more like a shell of a city instead of the crown jewel of Illinois because it has lost too much. She stated that she found it unconscionable that letters mailed from Springfield would not have a Springfield post mark. She also mentioned the tourists that come to Springfield that would expect to be able to send mail with a post mark of Abraham Lincoln's hometown. She encouraged Mayor Houston to take a strong stand on the issue and urged the passage of a resolution by the City Council.

Alderman Cahnman asked CC Cullen that a resolution be drafted with him and Alderman Simpson listed as co-sponsors.

Alderman McMenamain asked if the sorting facility were moved to St. Louis, would the other facilities in Springfield consolidate to the Cook Street location. Mr. O'Connell responded that it is his understanding that that is the Post Office's plan.

Alderman Turner agreed that it is important for the City Council to rally around this effort because it affects the City in a number of different ways. She agreed with Alderman Simpson's argument about tourism. She mentioned the potential loss of up to 300 jobs that would affect the tax base of the City. She also added that the Post Office has been an economic engine for Ward 3 (the ward she represents). It has been the catalyst to revitalize Cook Street and encouraged redevelopment all along the corridor. She also expressed concern on how such a closure would affect one of the major arteries into the City. She stated that it was because of all of those reasons; she attended the rally that afternoon. She encouraged her fellow Aldermen to assist in gathering petitions for the cause as well. She encouraged everyone to attack the problem from every angle and she encouraged Mayor Houston to take a strong stand in favor of keeping the post office open.

Mr. O'Connell expressed concern about timing and making sure that the public has all of the information before the final decision is executed.

Alderman Simpson asked if the rally had any media coverage. Mr. O'Connell responded that the Springfield State Journal Register and Channel 20 were both covering the event.

Alderman Lesko asked that Mr. O'Connell stay in contact with Council Coordinator Joe Davis so that the information can be given to the Aldermen.

Alderman Cahnman asked if the current plan of the Postal Service is to keep the Cook Street facility open, but take out all of the processing equipment. Mr. O'Connell responded that he was correct and that it could potentially be the only post office in the City. Alderman Cahnman asked if the Peoria facility is targeted to stay open because there is no other location to process mail. Mr. O'Connell responded that the Quad Cities facility is targeted to stay open. He went on to state that the Springfield location is centrally located in the state.

Alderman Turner added that one of the unforeseen costs is to not for profits and churches that do bulk mailings and rely on those mailings to generate income for their organizations. Mr. O'Connell agreed and added that the processing time can be up to two weeks for bulk mailing processing that is sent through St. Louis.

Alderman Cahnman asked if the bulk mailers would have to drive their mailings to St. Louis for processing. Mr. O'Connell stated that he imagined that they would still drop off their mailings at the Cook Street facility, but they would be driven to St. Louis for processing.

Alderman Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The Committee of the Whole meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm.

Rianne Hawkins

Rianne Hawkins
Deputy City Clerk