



MINUTES
Committee of the Whole
Tuesday, September 13, 2011
City Council Chambers
5:30 p.m.

Ward 1	Frank Edwards	Ward 6	Cory Jobe (Chair)
Ward 2	Gail Simpson	Ward 7	Joe McMnamin
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.

Clerk Tumulty called the roll of members

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

ABSENT: Ald. Lesko☒

A motion was made by Alderman Simpson to approve the August 30, 2011 Committee Meeting Minutes. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin. The motion passed by a voice vote of 9-0.

Treasurer Langfelder gave the Corporate Fund report for the month of August. There was a beginning balance of -\$807,551.00. Receipts for the month of August totaled \$8,934,933.00. Disbursements for the month of August totaled \$6,849,716.00. Ending cash balance in the corporate fund for the month of August totaled \$1,277,666.00. He also pointed out that there was one emergency contract disbursement, which is outlined in the Monthly Cash Report. A copy of that report is attached to these minutes.

Alderman Theilen moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. His motion was seconded by Alderman Dove. The motion passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

A copy of the Office of Budget and Management Contract Report is also included in these minutes.

Next, Clerk Tumulty 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**)

Clerk Tumulty then read the ordinances for committee consideration.

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 Simpson moved to place Agenda Item 2011-344 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-344 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-345 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH ENOS PARK DEVELOPMENT, LLC FOR USE OF ENOS PARK TAX INCREMENT FINANCE FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$110,592.64 FOR ACQUISITION ASSISTANCE AND RELATED EXPENSES FOR VARIOUS PROPERTIES LOCATED IN WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE ENOS PARK TIF AREA (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston and Alderman Sam Cahnman**)

Alderman Cahnman moved to place Agenda Item 2011-345 onto the consent agenda. His motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman McMenamin asked for clarification on the details of the Enos Park LLC and how it is structured. Steve Combs of 821 North 5th Street and an officer of the Enos Park LLC addressed

Alderman McMenamain's concerns. The organization was formed in April 2011 and is a registered not for profit with the State of Illinois. It was formed as a land banking entity with the intent to acquire properties and get them in the hands of developers and builders who will bring them back to life. The properties are a mixture between open lots and buildings that are past the point of rehabilitation.

Mr. Combs went on to explain that the LLC is an arm of the Enos Park Neighborhood Improvement Association. The Board members of the Neighborhood Association have direct input as to the operations of the Enos Park LLC through the appointment of three of the Directors of the LLC. They meet on a regular basis to discuss properties, strategize as to the best use of the properties and work with the City of Springfield Economic Development staff.

Mr. Combs also explained that the previous TIF funds have been used to improve the neighborhood by fixing sidewalks, planting trees and the installation of the historic lighting throughout the neighborhood.

Alderman McMenamain clarified that the elected board members of the Enos Park Neighborhood Association appoint the board members of the Enos Park LLC.

Alderman Cahnman asked if the Enos Park LLC has not for profit status with the State of Illinois. Mr. Combs responded that it does. Alderman Cahnman thanked him and the Neighborhood Association for the work that they have been doing to revitalize the neighborhood.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-345 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-346 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING A VENDOR NAME CHANGE TO PETERSBURG PLUMBING & EXCAVATING, LLC AND APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONSENT TO ASSIGNMENT UNDER CONTRACT NO. UW10-02-95 – WATER MAIN INSTALLATION AND DRY BORING WORK FOR THE WATER DIVISION WITH J.K.SNYDER CO., AND PETERSBURG PLUMBING AND HEATING COMPANY IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORDINANCES 194-05-10 AND 118-04-11 IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$1,239,380.00 FOR THE WATER DIVISION **(Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston)**

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-346 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-346 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-347 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING BIDS AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CONTRACT UE12-07-52 – BACKFILL MATERIALS WITH VULCAN CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, LP AND P.H. BROUGHTON & SONS, INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$250,000.00 FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, ELECTRIC AND WATER DIVISIONS **(Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston)**

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-347 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-347 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-348 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONTRACT SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD AND SPRINGFIELD CLINIC LLP FOR THE ELECTRIC DIVISION (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-348 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman McMenamin recalled a conversation that he had with Director Hobbie about this ordinance. This service has grown in the past ten years and now brings in annual revenue of over \$1,000,000.00 for the City. Director Hobbie added that the service is to a niche area in the City to provide large pipes for data transfers for local businesses.

Alderman Cahnman asked if the purpose of this service is to allow a company that has multiple locations throughout the City to be able to network their systems together. Director Hobbie responded that he was correct and that the service allows them to have telephone networks, medical imaging and video conferencing all across the network.

Alderman Simpson asked how much money this service generates for the City. Director Hobbie responded that it generates \$1,100,000 to the Utility as of right now, but it is increasing as they add customers. Only one customer has left since the program started and that was the University of Illinois because they needed to be on a larger network.

Alderman Cahnman asked if City Water Light and Power is doing anything to market the service to businesses. Director Hobbie responded that while CWLP has created literature about the program, their best marketing tool has been word of mouth among the Information Technology community throughout the City. They are also connected to the local Internet providers that market their services to the customers as well. Alderman Cahnman suggested putting an insert in the CWLP bills to commercial customers. Director Hobbie responded that they have looked into doing that, but the type of service that their offer is not right for every commercial customer, so they have instead gone to those customers directly.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-348 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-349 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275,000.00 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 2011-349 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

Alderman Cahnman asked Director Mahoney if the funds are coming from the sewer fund, instead of the corporate fund. Director Mahoney responded yes and that this supplemental appropriation is because there have been excessive sewer breaks and emergency repairs have had to be done.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-349 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-350 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ROCK SALT FROM NORTH AMERICAN SALT COMPANY, UNDER STATE CONTRACT PSD 4017035 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$445,690.00 FOR THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC WORKS (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-350 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-350 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-351 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PLAN FOR THE LARGE SCALE DEVELOPMENT OF WHITE OAKS MINI STORAGE FOR THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC WORKS (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-351 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-351 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-352 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BID AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CONTRACT PW 12-06-45 WITH PRAIRIE STATE PLUMBING & HEATING FOR MANHOLE CONSTRUCTION - RECONSTRUCTION AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$208,810.44, FOR THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC WORKS (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-352 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-352 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-353 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$17,174.81 FOR THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS FROM FUNDS COLLECTED THROUGH CITIZEN VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO CITY WATER, LIGHT & POWER THROUGH THE ROUND-UP PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF \$13,574.81 TO THE SALVATION ARMY FOR 2011/2012 SPRINGFIELD OVERFLOW SHELTER AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF \$3,600.00 TO MIRRORS, INC. (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston and Alderman**)

Sam Cahnman)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-353 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Cahnman.

Alderman Griffin asked for more information about Mirrors, Inc. Community Relations Director Sandy Robinson responded that they are a local not for profit group that has done work with Harvard Park Elementary School and provides meal to individuals at the local shelters. They have been in existence since 2002.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-353 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-354 AN ORDINANCE TO DECREASE THE NUMBER OF CLASS "A" LIQUOR LICENSES BY ONE AND INCREASE THE NUMBER OF CLASS "D" LIQUOR LICENSES BY ONE FOR MANGIA BENE OF SPRINGFIELD, INC. D/B/A PARROT DOWN CARIBBEAN RESTAURANT & TIKI LOUNGE, 2700 N. LAWRENCE AVENUE, SUITE C (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Dove made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-354 onto the consent agenda. His motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-354 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-355 AN ORDINANCE TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF CLASS "D" LIQUOR LICENSES BY ONE FOR QSL OF SPRINGFIELD INC. D/B/A QUAKER STEAK AND LUBE, 1121 W. LINCOLNSHIRE BOULEVARD (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Griffin made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-355 onto the consent agenda. His motion was seconded by Alderman Theilen.

Alderman Cahnman asked for more details about the business. Alderman Theilen responded that it is a corporate chain restaurant that is located next to Sheels.

Larry Pope of 513 East Miller Street, who is applying for the license, was also on hand to answer any questions. Alderman Theilen asked him if it is in fact a corporate chain restaurant. Mr. Pope responded that it is.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-355 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-356 AN ORDINANCE TO DECREASE THE NUMBER OF CLASS "D" LIQUOR LICENSES BY ONE FOR MAYA BUFFET CORP. D/B/A MAYA BUFFET, 131 E. JEFFERSON STREET (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Cahnman made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-356 onto the consent agenda. His motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-356 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-357 AN ORDINANCE TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF CLASS "E" LIQUOR LICENSES BY ONE FOR SMASHONE, LLC D/B/A SMASHBURGER, 2661 CHATHAM ROAD (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman McMenamin made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-357 onto the consent agenda. His motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-357 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-358 AN ORDINANCE TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF CLASS "E" LIQUOR LICENSES BY ONE FOR HIBACHI GRILL AND SUPREME BUFFET INC. D/B/A HIBACHI GRILL & SUPREME BUFFET, 2309 S. MACARTHUR BLVD (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman McMenamin made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-358 onto the consent agenda. His motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-358 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-359 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF JOSHUA G. COLLINS TO THE CITIZENS' EFFICIENCY COMMISSION (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman Simpson made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-359 onto the consent agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-359 onto the consent agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

2011-360 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH, AND PAYMENT OF \$50,000.00 TO, MAXIMUS CONSULTING SERVICES, INC. TO PERFORM A REVIEW OF A FISCALLY-SUSTAINABLE STAFFING LEVEL FOR THE CITY, FOR THE OFFICE OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT (**Requested by Mayor J. Michael Houston**)

Alderman McMenamin made a motion to place Agenda Item 2011-360 onto the debate agenda. Her motion was seconded by Alderman Cahnman.

Alderman Cahnman thanked Mayor Houston for introducing the ordinance. He went on to state that the study is sorely needed and that he hoped that the Council will pass it at their next meeting.

Treasurer Langfelder read a brief statement in which he expressed his opposition to the proposed ordinance and asked the Council to vote against it.

Alderman Theilen stated that while he respects Treasurer Langfelder, he disagreed with his statement. He pointed out that other clients, including Sangamon County, have benefited from such a study. He also agrees with the Treasurer that the Police Department and the Fire Department should not be excluded from the study.

Alderman Edwards stated that he would like to see a summary of the scope of the contract provided to all of the Aldermen. He also stated that he agrees with Treasurer Langfelder that all Departments should be included in the study. He urged the Council to follow through on the recommendations of the study, which may include job elimination.

Alderman Simpson stated that she agrees with Treasurer Langfelder and that she plans to vote against the ordinance. She stated that she believes that the City has a capable Human Resources Department that would be able to conduct this audit with the Department Directors. She went on to state that she has seen the product of Maximus' work that they did with the County Health Department and the Board of Health. She recommends looking at every Department within the City with regard to staffing levels. She also stated that there should be a concern about minority employees as they are the last hired and, presumably, the first fired. She recommends preserving diversity of staffing within the City.

Alderman Turner stated that she agrees that all Departments, including police and fire, be included in the study. She also understands the need to be fiscally prudent and to save money. However in this situation, she feels that there should be an independent set of eyes involved and making recommendations in order to avoid any appearance of any political motivations. She has worked with Maximus in her service on the Sangamon County Board and she recommends them highly. She believes that the cost for the audit is well spent.

Alderman Cahnman agreed with Alderman Turner. He also asked Director McCarty about the scope of the audit. Director McCarty stated that audit will include all City Departments, including CWLP. The only people that will be excluded are sworn officers of Police and Fire. He also pointed out that the Fire Department is currently having problems with minimum manning now and he didn't see the need to extend the survey to include them, when the number of sworn officers is going to have to increase. Alderman Cahnman asked why the sworn Police Officers are not included in the study. Director McCarty responded that for expediency, the sworn staff of the Police Department was excluded. He also added that the administration's stated goal is to reduce head count, as it comprises over 80% of the corporate fund. Alderman Cahnman asked how long the study will take. Director McCarty responded that it is unknown at this time, but he would ask. He also added to the point that Alderman Turner made and stated that there needs to be an outside set of eyes that are not emotionally attached to the process. He also encouraged the Council to accept the findings of the study, especially if it leads to head count reductions.

Alderman Cahnman asked if the study will include programs as well as personnel. Director McCarty stated that the study will look at reorganizations as well as personnel. Alderman Cahnman pointed out that the study would pay for itself if even one job is eliminated.

Alderman Dove pointed out that an email was sent out earlier in the afternoon which contained a copy of the contract.

Alderman Griffin pointed out that he was on the County Board when the study was conducted on the County level and it paid dividends in the long term. He pointed out the potential savings that could occur. He also advocated for an independent look at staffing. This will help to validate any negative steps that need to occur.

Alderman McMenemy stated that he is in favor of an independent review, but he believes that it is the wrong approach. He is in favor of Maximus looking at all City Departments that are funded by the Corporate Fund. He does advocate for a serious look at City Water Light and Power, but in looking at the resumes of the individuals who are going to be conducting the audits, none of them have any engineering experience, nor advance degrees in economics. In his opinion, the study is not very well thought out. He would advocate for something more thorough and objective. He also stressed the uniqueness of the City and of City Water Light and Power and expressed concern about the auditors having experience with such a city owned entity. He stated that while he is leaning against the proposal, he would be in favor of it if it was reformulated in a different manner.

Alderman Edwards asked if these concerns could be addressed by the next meeting. Director McCarty asked that the Aldermen give their concerns to Council Coordinator Joe Davis and he will address them.

The motion to place Agenda Item 2011-360 onto the debate agenda passed with a voice vote of 9-0.

Director McCarty gave an update on the mid-year financial report. He reported that, as of the end of August, the Office of Budget and Management has revised their FY12 ending revenue estimates by \$700,000, or 0.6%. It factors in \$106,000 in reduced revenue from Springfield School District 186's decision to reduce the number of school resource officers this school year. While he is optimistic that increased revenue will continue, given the economic volatility, there is no guarantee of that. The City continues to hold \$1.2 million in budgetary reserves that are not accessible to any of the Departments.

Alderman Griffin asked what the status of collecting CWLP bills from the State of Illinois. Craig Burns of City Water Light and Power responded that the top fifteen customers from the State of Illinois were behind by \$1.4 million, which is less than what they have owed in the past. There are a total of roughly 250 accounts for the State.

Alderman McMenemy asked what the total accounts receivable for CWLP and how it compares to historical trends. Mr. Burns responded that he could not answer the question without looking at a financial statement.

Public Works Director Mark Mahoney gave an update on the leaf pick up program. The intention is for the pick up to occur during the month of November. There are requests for proposals that have been put out and they are looking at restructuring the program to save money. The Public Works Department is also looking at doing some of the pick up internally. It is his hope that there is a significant savings in the program.

Alderman Simpson asked how many street sweepers the city owns. Director Mahoney responded that there are three. They are high maintenance pieces of equipment and break down often. It is an area that Public Works is looking at to save money. Alderman Simpson went on to ask about vacuum trucks and if it is a viable option. Director Mahoney responded that there are some cities that do have the trucks, but they are moving away from them because they are high maintenance and only work well in certain areas. In older areas where cars are parked on the streets, there are problems including the clogging of sewers. There are a variety of solutions to consider. Alderman Simpson suggested looking at other alternatives to continue to provide the service to the residents of the City. She asked about the use of vacuum trucks in the older parts of the City. Director Mahoney responded that problems arise with not only the cars on the streets, but also the volume of leaves and the potential for them to clog the sewer system. In looking at other municipalities, there is a move away from using the vacuum trucks for those reasons.

Alderman Edwards asked about the upcoming Route 66 Car Show and the conflict between outside vendors being allowed to sell their products on the street, but the bars and restaurants located downtown not being able to do the same thing. In years past, outside sales have been allowed. Corporation Counsel Mark Cullen responded that he has not been given any direction on the issue. He pointed out that outside sales were allowed last year at the order of the Mayor.

Alderman Turner asked if there was a provision for special events. CC Cullen responded that there are a number of different ideas that have been talked about, but that no decision has been made.

Mayor Houston addressed the Committee and stated that the Route 66 Festival has requested that the permits not be issued because they generate revenue from the beer sales. In the past, they have felt that the local bars were undercutting their revenues.

Alderman Cahnman responded that he represents the downtown area and that competition among them should be allowed. He recommended to the Mayor that he grant the permits.

Alderman Theilen responded that if the festival wants to sell the alcohol and they do not want the competition, then they should not have their festival in the downtown area.

Mayor Houston responded that the concern is the ability to make money to keep the festival going.

Alderman Theilen suggested that they look at an alternative location if they are concerned about their alcohol sales.

Alderman McMenamin stated that he agreed with Mayor Houston that the event needs to remain successful and viable through their alcohol sales.

Alderman Edwards stated that it is similar to the St. Patrick's Day parade, where the bar owners contributed to the event to allow outside sales. He suggested that someone approach the bar owners to find a way to include them in the event and to work with the event.

Alderman Simpson stated that she agreed with Alderman Edwards and stressed the importance of not losing an event to another town. She encouraged cooperation between the festival and the downtown business owners.

Alderman Cahnman asked if the Route 66 Festival lost money last year. Mayor Houston responded that he did not know. Alderman Cahnman encouraged Mayor Houston to meet with the downtown bar owners and the Route 66 Festival promoters to see if a compromise can be worked out.

Mayor Houston pointed out that this situation is different from the St. Patrick's Day Parade in that none of the promoters of the parade are out selling alcohol, it is the bars that are selling the alcohol.

Alderman Griffin again stressed the importance of reaching a compromise between the festival and the downtown bars.

Michael Higgins, 1808 Dial Court addressed the committee. He suggested a possible compromise. In the past, downtown business owners had paid for an outside booth place and served beer to go. They paid for the booth place on the street and gave, at the time, 20% of the sales to the festival.

Alderman Jobe asked if there was an official group that represents the downtown bar owners. Alderman Cahnman responded that there was nothing formally, but there is a loose association.

Alderman Theilen pointed out that in order to have an emergency passage ordinance for the next council meeting, it needs to be drafted and announced by 4:30pm on Friday.

Alderman Edwards suggested allowing the Mayor to reach out and to reach a compromise and if nothing is accomplished by Thursday. If not, that leaves time to draft an ordinance for action to be taken at the next council meeting. Mayor Houston stated that he was confident that a compromise could be reached.

Alderman McMenamin pointed out that the crowds that will be downtown should help the downtown businesses.

Alderman Edwards pointed out that the parking spaces have been blocked off, blocking them off from their regular customers. He emphasized the need to reach a compromise.

Treasurer Langfelder announced that the Council was provided with a copy of the annual Treasurer's report for last year.

Alderman Cahnman recognized the recent death of Catie Barker of Catie Girl's Restaurant and extended his sympathies to her friends and family. He also attended the recent screening of "Not In Our Town" and recommended it to the Council and all residents of the City.

Alderman Theilen recognized Alderman Cory Jobe's birthday and wished him a happy birthday.

Don Norton from Illinois People's Action and resides at 532 West Carpenter Street addressed the Committee about concerns that he has about the need for shelters for the City's homeless population.

Tom Schafer who resides at 3513 South Park addressed the Committee about the Civilian Oversight Commission and the lack of knowledge given to the general public about the Commission.

A motion was made by Alderman Edwards to adjourn the meeting. His motion was seconded by Alderman Griffin

The Committee of the Whole meeting was adjourned at 6:46pm.

Cecilia K. Tumulty

Cecilia K. Tumulty
City Clerk