

***Proceedings of the Council of the City of Joliet, Illinois
held on the 20th day of October, A.D. 2008***

PRE-COUNCIL MEETING of the Council of the City of Joliet, Illinois held on Monday, October 20, 2008 at 3:30 P.M. in the Theater at the Billie Limacher Bicentennial Park, 201 W. Jefferson at Bluff Street, Joliet, Illinois.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: MAYOR PRO-TEM THOMAS C. GIARRANTE and DISTRICT 4 COUNCILWOMAN SUSIE A. BARBER, DISTRICT 2 COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY M. BROPHY, COUNCILWOMAN AT LARGE JAN QUILLMAN, DISTRICT 1 COUNCILMAN JOSEPH R. SHETINA, COUNCILMAN AT LARGE MICHAEL F. TURK and DISTRICT 3 COUNCILMAN ANTHONY UREMOVIC.

ABSENT: MAYOR ARTHUR SCHULTZ and DISTRICT 5 COUNCILMAN WARREN C. DORRIS.

ALSO PRESENT: CITY MANAGER THOMAS A. THANAS and CORPORATION COUNSEL JEFFREY S. PLYMAN.

The City Manager asked for the Mayor Pro-Tem and Council's indulgence in moving several items up on the agenda due to the presence of interested individuals.

The City Manager explained Council Memo #1225-08 dealing with an Advisory Agreement with VOA Associates, Inc. for the Preparation of an Update to the Joliet City Center Development Plan in an amount not to exceed \$199,711.00.

Planning Director Don Fisher stated our last City Center plan was done 18 years ago. He said working with the City Center Partnership we all felt it was a good time right now to look at an update for an action plan for the downtown area. He said some of the priorities to look at are the civic district, a new transportation center in the downtown area, helping assist with the Joliet Junior College Campus, the Rialto Theatre and the arts district as well as the University of St. Francis, and also housing along the waterfront and along Union Station. He said the process started several months ago and 16 consulting firms presented proposals to the City. He said through a review by City staff that was narrowed down to four finalists who were interviewed before a selection committee. He said a staff/committee recommendation was made and VOA Associates, Inc. of Chicago was selected. He said the Land Use Committee reviewed the proposal and recommended approval.

Mr. Fisher said one of the questions at the Land Use Committee meeting was the use of TIF funds. He said the TIF fund is a fund we can use in the downtown area for development projects and incentives for developers as well as studies such as this. He said the balance of unencumbered funds in our TIF fund which can only be used for downtown projects or downtown planning is \$280,000.00 and that can be used for studies such as this. He said the estimate we have is \$199,711.00 for this project.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN asked what VOA stands for.

Mr. Rebel Roberts, President of VOA Associates, Inc. said nothing any more, but it used to stand for the names of the three original partners. He said their team will be involved in guiding, developing goals and implementing plans that Joliet

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has already begun and they are pleased with the prospect to be working in Joliet on this project.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked Mr. Fisher to give a quick presentation on what has occurred. He said the Land Use Committee listened to the presentation as well as looked at the PowerPoint presentation. He said the Land Use Committee agreed with the selection.

The Director of Planning said over the last several years the City Center Partnership has been working very hard to jump start some downtown development projects. He said they felt it that we have some key elements in the downtown that need immediate attention. He said they all feel good projects for the downtown area would be transit oriented development around Union Station, riverfront development including residential housing, possibly a hotel and conference center and also plans by Joliet Junior College and the University of St. Francis to expand their campuses into the downtown area. He said we felt that we needed to bring a team on to assist with some of the action items that need to be carried out. He said one of the key elements why VOA was chosen was because they were a little bit different than just a consulting services company in that they put a team together that had the ability to recruit or look for capital private investment to come into our downtown area and they have done it in many places throughout the world.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY said with regard to the actual agreement, there is a second called "Time of performance" without really specifying the end of the plan. He said we're paying for a plan and a product that will be produced at the end, we have a dollar amount set aside, we have payments due, but it doesn't say specifically that there will be a plan delivered to the client at the end of the process unless he missed that in the smaller print. He asked the Corporation Counsel if he could review that.

The Corporation Counsel said he will. He said he received a copy of the proposed boiler plate contract on Friday and he will work with the team to finalize that.

The Planning Director said there is actually a letter that could be an addendum to the contract and it has itemized each of the elements that they will be working on and all of the different stakeholders they will be working with.

The Corporation Counsel said the scope of work is very detailed and part of that does include a schedule for the work assignments and the total timetable is 24 weeks.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said in the presentation he thought it was implicit that this would not be an ending relationship, and if it goes the way it's supposed to go, we would be working with these folks until something good happens over a period of time and he thinks that probably indicates that we would be using their services in the future if necessary.

The Planning Director said there will be updates to the City Council as well as to the other stakeholders. He said this will be a very inclusive planning process because ideas are probably the most important thing at this point.

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It was requested that this item be voted on today.

1. A RESOLUTION Approving an Advisory Agreement between the City of Joliet and VOA Associates, Inc. for the Preparation of an Update to the City Center Development Plan was presented and read.
(Council Memo #1225-08)

COUNCILMAN BROPHY moved that said Resolution be adopted.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN SHETINA.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILWOMAN BARBER, COUNCILMAN BROPHY,
COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN, COUNCILMEN SHETINA, TURK,
UREMOVIC and MAYOR PRO-TEM GIARRANTE.

NAYS: NONE.

Prior to his vote, COUNCILMAN BROPHY stated he thinks it's a good investment that we provide the seed money to do this kind of work. He said he wants to be very clear to the citizens of Joliet that the TIF money here is produced from properties within the TIF and is otherwise unavailable for any other use, so it is not a line item or an amount of money that we actually budgeted. He said it is actually produced from the City Center properties and is to be used for the City Center or downtown area. He said that's an appropriate use of these funds and he wholeheartedly votes aye.

Prior to his vote, COUNCILMAN SHETINA says he thinks that it shows the City-County Committee that we are in earnest about doing things downtown in addition to the rest of the City, and he thinks we're showing our good faith in this kind of a representation and he thinks that should help us a lot with our future negotiations with the County and he voted aye.

(RESOLUTION NO. 6188)

The City Manager explained Council Memo #1237-08 dealing with the Vacation of Schweitzer Road Right-of-Way East of Patterson Road to Brandon Road, except the 492 feet West of Brandon Road.

Attorneys Kevin Breslin and Michael Hansen were present on behalf of the petition.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said he was at the Plan Commission meeting and there were some questions that came up and he asked the City Manager if he is satisfied that those questions have been reasonably answered to the best of our ability.

The City Manager said yes, we have anticipated this vacation from the beginning. He said this part of the vacation has been non-controversial and everyone has anticipated Schweitzer Road to be vacated so this will not deny access to any private property owners to a public road and that's why we're recommending that you proceed with the vacation.

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MAYOR PRO-TEM GIARRANTE asked if this would affect emergency response in any way.

The City Manager said no, it's currently a gravel road that is not used very much. He said there are no homes on it at all. He said this is consistent with what we've talked about previously; there is nothing new here. He said we have not received any calls in opposition to this. He said we still have a couple property owners who have issues with other vacations but not this particular one.

It was requested that this item be voted on today.

2. AN ORDINANCE Approving the Vacation of Schweitzer Road between Patterson and Brandon Roads except the 492 Feet Immediately West of Brandon Road as recommended by the Plan Commission was presented and read. (#V-9-08/Dist. #5)
(Council Memo #1237-08)

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN moved that said Ordinance be adopted.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN UREMOVIC.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMAN BROPHY, COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN, COUNCILMEN SHETINA, TURK, UREMOVIC, COUNCILWOMAN BARBER and MAYOR PRO-TEM GIARRANTE.

NAYS: NONE.

Prior to his vote, COUNCILMAN BROPHY said his earlier conflict has been resolved and is no longer in existence and he votes aye.

(ORDINANCE NO. 16330)

The City Manager explained Council Memo #1236-08 dealing with the Vacation of a Section of Benton Street, west of Page Avenue, the Vacation of a Section of Page Avenue, South of Benton, and the Vacation of a Section of Wenberg, West of Page.

Mr. Ken Glassman was present on behalf of the petitioner, Berlinsky Scrap Corp.

MAYOR PRO-TEM GIARRANTE asked if there are any homes on the streets that are being vacated.

Mr. Glassman said there are some homes on Wenberg Street west of the area that they're asking to be vacated.

MAYOR PRO-TEM GIARRANTE said so there are none on Page or Benton and Mr. Glassman stated no.

The City Manager said they asked the petitioner as a condition of approval to provide for fencing, landscaping and screening of the perimeter of the vacated areas to help dress up the area a little bit because even though it is not a high travelled area, it's still an area that needs some attention and he believes Mr. Glassman has indicated they will be making those improvements.

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Mr. Glassman said yes.

It was requested that this item be voted on today.

3. AN ORDINANCE Approving the Vacation of an 110' x 66' Section of Benton Street, West of Page Avenue, Vacation of a 280' x 40' Section of Page Avenue, South of Benton and Vacation of a 90' x 50' Section of Wenberg, West of Page as recommended by the Plan Commission subject to the receipt of the appraised market value of \$21,250.00 within 60 days was presented and read. (#V-7-08/Dist. #5)
(Council Memo #1236-08)

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN moved that said Ordinance be adopted as recommended.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN SHETINA.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN, COUNCILMEN SHETINA, TURK, UREMOVIC, COUNCILWOMAN BARBER, COUNCILMAN BROPHY and MAYOR PRO-TEM GIARRANTE.

NAYS: NONE.

(ORDINANCE NO. 16331)

Deputy Liquor Commissioner Dan Campus then explained Council Memo #1292-08 dealing with the Issuance of a Class "B" Liquor License at 3101 W. Jefferson Street.

It was requested that this item be voted on today.

4. Issuance of a Class "B" Liquor License at 3101 W. Jefferson Street
(Council Memo #1292-08)

A communication from the Liquor Commissioner regarding the application of WVP Joliet, LLC d/b/a Aurelio's Pizza for the issuance of a Class "B" Liquor License at 3101 W. Jefferson Street contained his recommendation that the issuance of this license is in the best interest of the City, and therefore, approval is recommended.

COUNCILMAN TURK moved that the recommendation of the Liquor Commissioner be concurred in.

Motion seconded by COUNCILWOMAN BARBER.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEN SHETINA, TURK, UREMOVIC, COUNCILWOMAN BARBER, COUNCILMAN BROPHY, COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN and MAYOR PRO-TEM GIARRANTE.

NAYS: NONE.

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Deputy Liquor Commissioner Campus then explained Council Memo #1293-08 dealing with the Issuance of a Class "C" Liquor License at 2405 Essington Road.

It was requested that this item be voted on today.

5. Issuance of a Class "C" Liquor License at 2405 Essington Road
(Council Memo #1293-08)

A communication from the Liquor Commissioner regarding the application of 7-Eleven for the issuance of a Class "C" Liquor License at 2405 Essington Road contained his recommendation that the issuance of this license is in the best interest of the City, and therefore, approval is recommended.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY moved that the recommendation of the Liquor Commissioner be concurred in.

Motion seconded by COUNCILWOMAN BARBER.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEN TURK, UREMOVIC, COUNCILWOMAN BARBER, COUNCILMAN BROPHY, COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN, COUNCILMAN SHETINA and MAYOR PRO-TEM GIARRANTE.

NAYS: NONE.

6. Neighborhood Stabilization Program Presentation

The City Manager announced that the \$700 billion bailout that was approved by Congress and signed by the President two weeks ago has made its way to Joliet and we will be given an allocation of \$3.5 million to deal with foreclosures in Joliet. He said the Federal government has established rules and procedures for that. He said we are required to apply for those funds by December 1st and the Neighborhood Services Department will be making a presentation to the Council for a recommendation as to how the Joliet earmark will be spent and we will be doing that at one of the meetings in November. He said that will give us a chance to put a proposal together because we don't want to miss the December 1st deadline as we see this as a big benefit in dealing with the foreclosures that have beset some of our areas in Joliet.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked if we can find out how many foreclosures there are in our corporate limits.

The City Manager said yes, that will be part of the process. He said we'll get a handle on the number of foreclosures and what we're looking at as far as what's vacant. He said he's not sure how good the inventory will be because it's changing on a regular basis but we'll have a pretty good idea. He said this program will help us to be able to deal with the foreclosure problem we're seeing in the community. He said this is not an issue that is isolated to one particular area, every neighborhood is going through this problem right now and it's something that we want to be able to tackle using Federal funding.

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COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked if we know if this money is to help buy down the properties who are late with their payments and get them up to date or is it to pay off mortgages and how will this work.

The City Manager said he thinks they're going to give us some flexibility on it. He said he thinks a lot of it will be dealing with the banks that have acquired title and purchasing the homes and getting them into some kind of local homesteading program where we can provide some incentives to people to reoccupy those homes. He said as far as buying down the mortgages he's not sure if we can do that.

Director of Neighborhood Services Alfredo Melesio said there is no proposed prevention activities eligible under the grant. He said its usage is only after the property is vacant and already been touched by foreclosure and has been vacant for 90 days.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked if he knows when we can actually write the checks after the December 1st application.

Mr. Melesio said HUD has until Valentine's Day of next year to give us a positive response and at that time we will be all set up with the Federal system where we call in and draw down the funds at that point.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked if we have 18 months from then.

Mr. Melesio said we have 18 months to allocate all of the funding which means it has to be spent unless you're working on a project like Senior Suites that takes a couple of years.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked who will set up the criteria and what vehicle will we use to mete out the funds, it's not a lot of money and it could go real fast.

Mr. Melesio said he's going to get together with the City Manager and talk about how many houses we're dealing with. He said we can renovate existing foreclosed properties so we're going to try to weed through those and we're probably looking over the next two years. He said we could do anywhere from 10 to 20 new houses in a particular targeted area. He said because it's a limited amount of funds they're actually encouraging us to target the funds so at the end of the day you can actually see a difference and can bring somebody in and say this is where we used the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. He said that's what they would really like us to do. He said both the Chicago office and the D.C. office is going to be reviewing and approving our plan.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked who picks the donees.

Mr. Melesio said like any other program we have like the property we just did at Second and Mississippi, we currently market to the entire community in our Neighborhood Newsletter and our churches to see who becomes eligible for these houses once they become available. He said we've had a waiting list in the past and we just try to figure out how to make more or have some kind of lottery process.

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COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked who sets the cap on an individual property.

Mr. Melesio said the current appraisal does but there actually is a discount requirement from the Feds. He said what they don't want to see is local governments maybe overpaying for property so they want to see a 15% discount on anything we buy from a real estate or loan organization. He said then we are unable to sell the property to somebody for more than the actual value that we put into it, we can sell it for less but we can't sell it for more.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said keeping it apolitical he hopes that happens. He said the indication is that it's not supposed to be in one area, it's supposed to be spread out, isn't that correct.

Mr. Melesio said what was required on the application is to actually have a targeted activity to use the funds in a certain area.

COUNCILMAN UREMOVIC said in regards to trying to get this inventory identified does water billing kick in any of these right now.

Mr. Melesio said we signed up this week for a full membership in Realtytrack.com which gives you foreclosures, pre-closures, bank-owned and estate-owned properties in the community but we also have eight inspectors out in the field on a daily basis and they should know what houses are vacant. He said then it's basically sorting and putting those lists together and figuring out which ones have been touched by foreclosure and which ones are just an estate sale and going through those one by one to see which ones are actually eligible for use of these funds.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said foreclosure is the key word though.

Mr. Melesio said yes, it has to be touched by foreclosure, you can't use any of these funds if it hasn't been touched by foreclosure and be vacant.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN said so it doesn't matter if it's an old or a new house, it's whether it's in the foreclosure process.

Mr. Melesio said correct, it doesn't matter. He said they set guidelines as far as the areas you can move into based on income levels but foreclosure is the very important word.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN asked what they mean by income level, is there a cap on the income you can make.

Mr. Melesio said it depends on the census tract. He said they raised the guidelines 120% of median income so that means a family of four making \$90,000.00. He said 51% of the people that live in that census tract have to make less than a family of four making \$90,000.00 a year. He said it's a pretty wide guideline.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN said for example if you live in an area that has \$350,000 homes and everybody makes "x" amount of dollars and you bought this home and it's starting to go into foreclosure because you lost your job and your wife has an illness, they wouldn't qualify for that.

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Mr. Melesio said they would if the census tract has less than 51% of the people who made less than \$90,000.00.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN said but those are the people that need it.

Mr. Melesio said yes.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN said and you're telling me they need it but they won't qualify because their neighbors make all this money and they came on hard times so they won't qualify but they're the ones that need it.

Mr. Melesio said the City wouldn't be able to do anything about that.

MAYOR PRO-TEM GIARRANTE said they actually have to lose the house, once it's gone then this process kicks in.

Mr. Melesio said correct, this is just to address vacant, foreclosed homes.

The City Manager said he thinks we'll end up dealing with banks more than families. He said there are a lot of banks out there and usually none of them are local, so we'll be approaching them about getting these homes back in inventory and trying to get them sold through this program.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY said what they're trying to do is something for the rest of us, in other words for the rest of the neighborhood who are still paying their bills and still working on their homes and still doing the right thing but there is a foreclosed home down the street, they are trying to help the rest of the neighborhood by getting rid of the problems. He said a lot of people that are in foreclosure need help but they are not trying to do that with this program. He said this is the neighborhood stabilization part of it and he hopes going forward something will come up to address the rest of those but for now we're just stabilizing neighborhoods.

The City Manager said we'll bring more information to you before the December 1st deadline.

7. Citizens to be Heard

- a. Alex Ledesma re: Spanish Center
- b. Cadre Robert Webb re: City Ordinances and Police Issues

Mr. Ledesma and Mr. Webb withdrew their requests to speak.

The City Manager then went to the beginning of the agenda to explain the remaining items.

The City Manager explained Council Memo #1226-08 dealing with Adjusting the Billing Procedures from Monthly to Semi-Annually for the Riverwall Parking Facility and the Parking Lots.

MAYOR PRO-TEM GIARRANTE said this is not an increase.

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The City Manager said it's not an increase in fees at all, it's just trying to make the process work a little bit better. He said he has talked to the Director of Management and Budget about eventually going to a system where people can purchase their parking passes on-line as well as doing it in person. He said a lot of people who are leaving early and coming home late aren't catching us during regular business hours and this would be a big help for them if they could do it on-line but cutting back from a monthly to a semi-annual will help us and will help the customer out quite a bit too.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN said she has one concern. She said it's hard economic times and some people are living paycheck to paycheck, they may not be able to afford six months at one time. She asked if they would still be able to pay monthly or is this going to be mandatory.

The City Manager said we'd like to move to a semi-annual pass. He said for example it will go from \$25 a month to \$150 for semi-annual and we'll certainly work with anyone who has a hardship and there will be a credit card option also. He said it's hard to start a program and we'll see what kind of response we get. He said if we see an overwhelming number of people who have a problem handling the six month pass we'll certainly let you know, but we're confident with some education to the customer on the part of staff, before the end of the year we think that most of our customers will be pleased to see this go to a semi-annual pass.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN asked if we can put the option out there that if they have a problem they can give us a call and we'll work with them.

The City Manager said we'll let them know that if they do have an issue they can let us know, but he can't guarantee that we'll be able to accommodate them.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN said this just seems like one more thing people now have to worry about. She said they have to have so much for groceries, so much for gas, parking and so on and they budget this for a month and now we're sticking them with \$150 up front for six months. She said it doesn't seem like a lot to some people but to some people it's a lot of money.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked if we can auto debit that like they do with their water bill.

Director of Management and Budget Ken Mihelich said he's sure we can set it up that way in the future.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN said it may or may not be an issue but we have to think about this, it's tough times right now.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY said the trade off would be auto debit so that we eliminate all the manual stuff.

Mr. Mihelich said he thinks what we're trying to accomplish here is streamline the process. He said we do realize that times are tough and part of those times are for the City as well so we're trying to get rid of about 80,000 extra transactions a year.

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COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN said she realizes that and some people may welcome this but for other people this could be a hardship for them.

Mr. Mihelich said he thinks the thing is if we ran into something in particular we could probably handle it on an individual basis, but if you made it so that people could pay per month then everybody would want to take advantage of that.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said everywhere he goes is becoming less and less user friendly, less and less customer friendly. He said that may be at the County or another town or Joliet or who knows, but every place you go they're making it less and less user friendly for people. He asked how much are we going to save by making people pay \$150 rather than having it quarterly or whatever it might be. He said there ought to be some options, but it's not user friendly. He said it's for the benefit of the staff or the department, it's not for the benefit of the customer.

Mr. Mihelich said he understands but right now most of those are paid at the parking decks and they can only pay cash, so we are going to allow them to use credit cards by having them come here. He said we try to do things through the mail if that is more convenient for them.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said we are the ones that are going to hear about it, you don't hear it. He said this one really bothered him but go ahead and do what you've got to do, but he can't support this.

The City Manager said we do have several companies, law firms and governmental agencies that buy in bulk. He said they will buy for their entire complement of workers so for some agencies like that this may actually be a benefit to them. He said he is sure that if we did a survey we'd probably find maybe 60% to 80% of the people would be very satisfied with this change and there is probably 20% to 40% that wouldn't be satisfied. He said it's a difficult issue, we need to look at our parking situation overall. He said he thinks this is something we're trying to do on a short term basis to try to make it a little easier.

MAYOR PRO-TEM GIARRANTE asked if we have on record who are using these parking spots and he asked if we could send them a letter to see if it would be an inconvenience and if it's not they could go with the six month check and if it is we can leave it the way it was.

The City Manager said we could do a survey. He said he thinks the issue was just trying to get the placards for the semi-annual printed and made available before the end of December. He said if that's something that you think you'd rather have us do before we go forward we can certainly do a quick survey and see what comes up.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN said she would appreciate that. She said the statement that Ken just made that if you can't pay just use your credit card, we're already in debt in the nation, just use your credit card for this and for their mortgage payment and their food and this is just one more thing.

Mr. Mihelich said the credit card thing was just for convenience. He said we can move whichever way the pleasure of the Council is, but we need to get these placards printed fairly soon so trying to get the survey done may not work at this time.

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COUNCILMAN BROPHY said you can do both if you simply make the six month option available on the menu with the monthly and let those people vote by their choice. He asked if we can do that.

The Director of Management and Budget said yes. He said if that's how you decide we have to have them printed up for all 12 months.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said we're being put in a position where we're on a placard timetable and we haven't even approved it. He said the issue is gone now and we're talking about a placard.

MAYOR PRO-TEM GIARRANTE said he thinks what Ken is talking about is either printing the placard individually for the month or for six months if we're going to sell them for six months.

The Director of Management and Budget said that's right. He said we were getting ready to order them and staff was asking if we should order these and we're trying to think of a way to streamline the process.

MAYOR PRO-TEM GIARRANTE asked if they couldn't print the monthly ones up, do the survey and then those that want them sell them five months worth.

The Director of Management and Budget said we can do that. He said if that's the case then we'll just have all 12 months printed and if they want to buy 12 months at once we can sell it to them that way as well.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN asked if they get a discount if they buy 12 months.

The Director of Management and Budget said no.

The City Manager said what we're trying to do is not deal with the rates at all because he thinks there is a divergence of opinion regarding rates, some people think our rates are way too low, others think they're just fine and he doesn't know of anybody who thinks they're too high. He said a component in our downtown study with VOA will be to assess the entire parking situation in downtown Joliet to talk about rates and location of future parking garages should that become a necessity too. He said he has a feeling that we probably shouldn't proceed with this tomorrow night. He said he would recommend that we pull it from the agenda, give us a little bit more time to study it and come back with a recommendation based on a possible survey and let us do a little more thinking on that and we'll bring it back.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN said it's a great concept, she's not against it at all but she thinks that option needs to be out there for people that really are having a hard time right now.

Mr. Mihelich said that's why we didn't want to touch the rates at all.

The City Manager said we'll pull it from the agenda and bring it back at a later date.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY said he'd be glad to put it on the Technology Committee agenda and work on it there.

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The City Manager explained the remaining items on the agenda.

The City Manager advised there was a need to go into closed session to discuss pending litigation.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA moved that the Council recess to closed session to discuss pending litigation at 4:40 p.m. after which the meeting will be adjourned.

Motion seconded by COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMAN UREMOVIC, COUNCILWOMAN BARBER,
COUNCILMAN BROPHY, COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN,
COUNCILMEN SHETINA, TURK and MAYOR PRO-TEM GIARRANTE.

NAYS: NONE.

ARTHUR SCHULTZ
Mayor

JANET K. TRAVEN
City Clerk

Recorded on Tape