

***Proceedings of the Council of the City of Joliet, Illinois
held on the 5th day of October, A.D. 2009***

PRE-COUNCIL MEETING of the Council of the City of Joliet, Illinois held on Monday, October 5, 2009 at 3:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers, Joliet Municipal Building, 150 W. Jefferson Street, Joliet, Illinois.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: MAYOR ARTHUR SCHULTZ and DISTRICT 4 COUNCILWOMAN SUSIE A. BARBER, DISTRICT 2 COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY M. BROPHY, DISTRICT 5 COUNCILMAN WARREN C. DORRIS, COUNCILMAN AT LARGE THOMAS C. GIARRANTE, DISTRICT 1 COUNCILMAN JOSEPH R. SHETINA and COUNCILMAN AT LARGE MICHAEL F. TURK.

ABSENT: COUNCILWOMAN AT LARGE JAN QUILLMAN and DISTRICT 3 COUNCILMAN ANTHONY UREMOVIC.

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

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

The City Manager first explained Council Memo #875-09 dealing with Agreements with PACE and with the University of St. Francis for the Operation and Use of a Shuttle Bus between the USF Campus and the City Center.

The City Manager said this is part of a project that was started last year to assist the University of St. Francis in opening a downtown City of Joliet campus which is now open in the Rialto Square Theatre building. He said one of the issues was transportation and getting faculty and students from the main campus to downtown on a daily basis for classes. He said he had a brief conversation with Barbara Ladner from PACE and we were able to get them involved to help us provide a shuttle bus that is being used by the City and the University of St. Francis to operate between the main campus on the near west side and the downtown campus at the Rialto Theatre. He said we are pleased to report it has been operational for 3 to 4 weeks and things have been going very well. He said that was kind of a dry run but now it looks like we are ready to go full force with a final agreement. He said we have representatives of PACE present today including Board Chairman Rick Kwasneski, Barbara Ladner and April Koos.

Mr. Kwasneski said this is a unique situation in that a university needed to have this service available and with the way they're structured, they needed to partner with a municipality and they've been able to put a couple of different agreements together to provide this service. He said this is great and another opportunity for them to work with the City of Joliet. He said earlier today they unveiled some Paratransit vehicles and some new buses that are going to be operating in Joliet and Will County and they are very excited to be working with the City of Joliet on the multi-modal transit center.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked for an explanation of the insurance in terms of the hold harmless and who's covering it and how.

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The City Manager said in the agreement with PACE, there are certain obligations that we must meet as far as having a driver with a CDL license with certain conditions such as being subject to drug testing and the usual criteria that PACE imposes on all of its grantees. He said we then take all of our responsibilities and have a second agreement with the University of St. Francis to make sure they help us enforce all of the rules that are in place. He said there is a very nominal cost of \$100 a month for the bus itself so it's a great deal for the City of Joliet. He said as far as liability coverage, there is an insurance policy that USF has that will be primary that will cover not only USF but the City of Joliet and PACE.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked how many vehicles there are.

The City Manager said there is only one shuttle bus that carries 15 people and there are about 40-50 riders per day. He said we have seen it working the streets and they do make other stops; it will stop at Union Station to pick up students who are doing the reverse commute and it's used for faculty to get back and forth to class downtown.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked what it looks like.

Ms. Ladner said it's a van looking vehicle with a PACE logo on it and she believes USF has applied a magnetic sign to it as well.

The City Manager said it is a little understated right now and we probably need to dress it up a little so everybody knows it's the USF shuttle bus. He said he thinks there was a naming contest and Nancy Pullman is here on behalf of the University.

Ms. Pullman thanked everyone and said the students are enjoying it immensely. She said it runs every 20 minutes from about 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and stops at the Health and Wellness Center and Union Station. She said they are in the midst of a naming contest for the shuttle.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked if there was room for sponsorship and Ms. Ladner said she is not sure, they would have to look into that.

It was requested that these items be voted on today.

1. A RESOLUTION Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement Between the City of Joliet and PACE for the Provision of a Shuttle Bus was presented and read.
(Council Memo #875-09)
(RESOLUTION NO. 6303)
2. A RESOLUTION Approving an Agreement Between the City of Joliet and the University of St. Francis for the Operation and Use of a Shuttle Bus Between the USF Campus and the City Center was presented and read.
(Council Memo #875-09)
(RESOLUTION NO. 6304)

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE moved that said Resolutions be adopted.

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Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN DORRIS.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILWOMAN BARBER, COUNCILMEN BROPHY, DORRIS,
GIARRANTE, SHETINA, TURK and MAYOR SCHULTZ.

NAYS: NONE.

The City Manager then explained Council Memo #860-09 dealing with an Agreement for Health, Dental and Life Insurance Consulting and Brokerage Services and Renewal of the Group Health, Dental and Life Insurance Program. He said a decision was made to continue the City's relationship with Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BCBS) under the PPO plan that is administered by them. He said because of the size of the workforce that we have and the number of retirees, we have received about \$48 million in hospital discounts by participating in the PPO over the last 16 years. He said our staff has negotiated an agreement with BCBS and we will have a substantial savings of about \$300,000 for the year through the new plan that has been negotiated directly with BCBS.

The City Manager said the second part of the Council Memo is a report on the staff's effort to solicit proposals from consulting firms experienced in healthcare to help guide us through this very complicated area. He said we invited 18 firms to submit proposals and we received 10 submittals. He said the Human Resources Department went through all 10 proposals and narrowed it down to four, conducted in-person interviews with those four companies and then made a recommendation for a finalist. He said he met with the principal of the firm of the finalist along with Hugh Brennan and they concurred with the Human Resources staff's recommendation of ProSource Financial of Westchester, Illinois. He said we are confident that they have the background and staff and they are well experienced with BCBS to handle the job.

The City Manager said the annual cost for the consulting and brokerage services will be a little over \$78,000 per year which is a flat fee proposal and that will cover all of the items that we were seeking coverage for as far as consulting services. He said ProSource will be helping us with the transition on January 1st as we start having our employees contribute \$50 per paycheck for the health insurance plan and also will be helping us with a few of the other items that we negotiated such as the spousal carve-out.

Mr. Phil Algozino of ProSource Financial was present to respond to questions.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked about the benefit of awarding this contract for three years.

The City Manager said this is a professional services contract where a lot of things need to happen and this is an area that is changing outside the City of Joliet. He said we're going through a tremendous amount of change because of our negotiations with the collective bargaining units and having employees contribute. He said what we really need is to develop a 3 year plan for dealing with health insurance, dental and life insurance and not that it will change anything that's been negotiated, but we need somebody to come in and help us with cost saving measures that we can do independent of the employees and to be a little bit smarter in how we present ourselves to BCBS and work out a 3 year strategy. He said we looked at doing it on a 1 year basis but that really isn't enough time to fully realize the savings that a company can come in and help us with.

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COUNCILMAN BROPHY said we talked at one point about moving this function in-house and doing away with any brokerage help at all and working directly with Blue Cross, yet we're signing a 3 year deal. He said he could understand a 1 year with renewables for up to 3 years where we wouldn't go shopping with anybody else, but he would like the opportunity to get out after a year. He said that's his opinion and he doesn't know what the ins and outs are and the details of the bid.

The City Manager said he thinks the more that we got into this the more we realized that we are probably fairly behind the curve right now in how we present health insurance coverage to our employees. He said most governmental agencies our size have a web based delivery system and we don't. He said we don't have any way of communicating with our employees via the internet and trying to get online registrations and things like that. He said a company can come in and help us set that up and ProSource can do that; they've done that with all of their clients. He said he thinks this is something we saw would benefit us to at least have a 3 year goal and set benchmarks to be met each year and make sure that we develop a relationship that will have us be a lot better in working with our employees and saving costs at the same time without sacrificing the quality of healthcare that we provide to our employees and retirees.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE asked if they are going to open up a local branch for people who have problems or questions.

The City Manager said we didn't talk about actually opening up an office in Joliet. He said Mr. Algozino will be a hands on person and we will deal with him, not someone else. He said with a couple of the other firms, we did meet with the principal but it was clear we were going to be dealing with somebody else. He said what we liked about Phil's company is that what we saw is what we'll get, he'll be here to help us and we can certainly have meetings at City Hall or at other City facilities. He said part of it though is finding a way to communicate with our employees other than just in-person meetings. He said a lot of us are willing to do it on the web and do enrollments on the web and he will help us set that up and make sure we get the word out so we can communicate a lot better and a lot quicker.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE asked how enrollments will be handled.

The City Manager said he thinks initially when we have our enrollment period we will set up hours when Mr. Algozino will be here to help for example if an employee has a working spouse and they want to understand what that working spouse needs to do at his or her employment. He said once we go through that, that's locked in for the year unless there is a change in employment for the working spouse. He said periodically like we do with our consultants for deferred compensation, they will come in and have office hours and we'll do the same with ProSource. He said no one will have to drive to Westchester, it's all going to be here in Joliet.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said there is plenty of vacant space here to give them an office so there's no reason why they can't set up here. He said he's been asked about the \$250.00 per person deductible and he asked how that works when a person has a doctor visit.

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The City Manager said once the employee has reached the out-of-pocket deductible then they will stop paying for it. He said Blue Cross/Blue Shield will assist us with that. He said he doesn't think anybody's going to be paying that \$250 right at the office visit; they will do the billing and it will be collected like any other co-pay. He said once they meet the maximum, BCBS will know not to send that bill to the employee.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said he thinks that's going to get complicated.

The City Manager said BCBS does this with most of its customers; almost everybody has a deductible so he's sure they have a system in place that handles it without complication. He said he knows it's new for us and that's why ProSource and our HR staff will be available to help all of our employees. He said we will expect our employees to call the HR staff first and if it's something we can answer and help them with we'll do that, and if it's something that requires ProSource's assistance we'll ask ProSource to intervene and help us with it.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked if this is hospital only, or is it doctor or dentist or whatever.

The City Manager said it's whatever the policy covers.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked who is going to bill who.

The City Manager said the healthcare provider will deal with BCBS and then BCBS will let the healthcare provider know if it's a bill that needs to be paid by the employee.

Mr. Algozino said the City is under a Preferred Provider contract with Blue Cross, so when a member goes to a provider, whether it be a doctor or a hospital, if it's a PPO provider the member is not required to pay any money at the point of service. He said the provider submits a claim to Blue Cross and Blue Shield and they record that service. He said the employee or their dependent will receive an EOB (Evidence of Benefits) and it tracks their deductible, what they have met to date, and it will advise the employee that they have "x" dollars left on their deductible or their deductible has been satisfied. He said the provider is not asking for funds up front from employees and they are not billing them unless it's a non-PPO provider because that's out of contract so it is tracked through Blue Cross and is administered by Blue Cross and the employees are informed by Blue Cross through their benefits statement.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked if we have any office visit co-pay at this moment.

Director of Human Resources Mike Suppan said there is a 20% co-pay.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked when the 20% comes into play.

The City Manager said that's been in position for many, many years. He said this is probably a very common provision in most health plans and that will continue on as it's been applied in the past.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked for a copy of the bids that were received for both the one year and the three year contracts.

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The City Manager then explained Council Memo #864-09 dealing with a Special Use Permit to Allow Additional Antennae on an Existing Monopole at 150 W. Jefferson Street and a Communications Site Lease Agreement with Clear Wireless.

The City Manager also explained Council Memo #865-09 dealing with a Special Use Permit to Allow Additional Antennae on an Existing Multi-Story Building at 102 S. Stryker Avenue, and Council Memo #866-09 dealing with a Special Use Permit to Allow Additional Antennae on an Existing Monopole at 115 Republic Avenue.

Ms. Kathy Farina of Clear Wireless was present on behalf of the petitions.

The City Manager said the lease agreement with Clear Wireless calls for a \$15,000 sign-on fee along with rent of \$2,200 per month which would increase by 3% each year. He said initially he had proposed it as a five-year agreement with five five-year renewal options, and in speaking with Clear Wireless, because we had asked for the sign-on fee, they are asking for an initial 10 year period rather than five years and that was the subject of an addendum that was distributed today.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said we're becoming the antenna capital of the world and he asked if there is any problem with the electrical transmissions going through the air because we have so many of these. He also asked if there is a bond in place for the two poles that aren't on City property to remove them if they are abandoned.

The City Manager said the two poles on property not owned by the City of Joliet will require a bond to be posted by Clear Wireless to cover abandonment costs.

Director of Management and Budget Ken Mihelich said staff reviewed the specifications and determined that it does not conflict with any of our present communications.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said since these are so popular with respect to piggy backing, he would like to know what it would cost to find a site and put up a monopole. He said if somebody is worried about paying \$2,200 a month with a \$15,000 up front fee, the only way to compare that is to find out what it would cost for them to go do that on their own. He said he thinks it would be very, very expensive and difficult to find a piece of ground and the monopole has got to cost a lot of money.

Ms. Kathy Farina said constructing a new site would cost about \$500,000. She said they have worked with other property owners in this area and the lease rates are about \$1,500 a month versus \$2,200.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE said a while back we were looking for new sources of revenue and he brought up a tax for using these towers, and he asked what's happening with that.

The City Manager said we've got that on our list of potential revenue sources, but it's like any other landlord/tenant relationship where long term leases don't anticipate those kinds of fees being added. He said we still have it on our list and are working on it.

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COUNCILWOMAN BARBER questioned what the bond is for each of the facilities.

The City Manager said there will be a bond of \$5,000 posted for each of the facilities so if by some chance there is a new technology that doesn't require monopoles any more and this company walks away from their facilities on those poles, we'll have a bond to use to take those facilities off of the pole and eventually take the pole down. He said he thinks it will be a while yet before we get to that kind of technology. He said he thinks we're all benefitting from that technology by having as much wireless capacity as we have right now for everyone taking advantage of wireless.

It was requested that these items be voted on today.

3. AN ORDINANCE Approving a Special Use Permit to Allow Additional Antennae on an Existing 150' Monopole and the Installation of an Equipment Cabinet Located at 150 W. Jefferson Street as recommended by the Zoning Board of Appeals subject to the following conditions was presented and read: 1) The applicant shall post a bond in the amount of \$5,000.00 prior to the issuance of the building permit for the proposed work. The bond will be utilized for the removal of the antennae and equipment associated with this applicant in the event of future abandonment; and 2) The applicant enter into a lease agreement with the City of Joliet for the use of the monopole on the property. (#2009-49/Dist. #5)
(Council Memo #864-09)
(ORDINANCE NO. 16532)
4. A RESOLUTION Approving a Communications Site Lease Agreement with Clear Wireless LLC was presented and read.
(Council Memo #864-09)
(RESOLUTION NO. 6305)
5. AN ORDINANCE Approving a Special Use Permit to Allow Additional Antennae and an Equipment Cabinet on an Existing Multi-Story Building Located at 102 S. Stryker Avenue as recommended by the Zoning Board of Appeals subject to the following condition was presented and read: The applicant shall post a bond in the amount of \$5,000.00 prior to the issuance of the building permit for the proposed work. The bond will be utilized for the removal of the antennae and equipment associated with this applicant in the event of future abandonment. (#2009-50/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #865-09)
(ORDINANCE NO. 16533)

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6. AN ORDINANCE Approving a Special Use Permit to Allow Additional Antennae and an Equipment Cabinet on an Existing 124' Monopole Located at 115 Republic Avenue as recommended by the Zoning Board of Appeals subject to the following condition was presented and read: The applicant shall post a bond in the amount of \$5,000.00 prior to the issuance of the building permit for the proposed work. The bond will be utilized for the removal of the antennae and equipment associated with this applicant in the event of future abandonment.
 (#2009-51/Dist. #2)
(Council Memo #866-09)
(ORDINANCE NO. 16534)

COUNCILMAN DORRIS moved that said Ordinances and Resolution be adopted as recommended.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEN DORRIS, GIARRANTE, SHETINA, TURK,
 COUNCILWOMAN BARBER, COUNCILMAN BROPHY and MAYOR
 SCHULTZ.

NAYS: NONE.

The City Manager then explained Council Memo #863-09 dealing with a Special Use Permit to Allow an Auto Repair and Car Wash Facility on a Vacant Portion of 405 Ward Avenue. He said one of the conditions for approval is to repave the existing concrete parking lot with concrete or asphalt within two years.

Mr. Jose Villa and Mr. Moises Munoz, the petitioners, and Mr. John Calderon, the owner, were present on behalf of the petition.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said the memo states this will be on a portion of the lot and he asked what that meant.

The City Manager said the Calderon property has two separate units, the Currency Exchange and the car wash facility in the back. He said it's on the same lot and same building and connected just like a strip center would be. He said this will have two users in one building. He said the building and the lot are owned by the corporation that Mr. Calderon has formed and these gentlemen will be leasing part of the building and part of the lot from Mr. Calderon and his corporation.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY said two years to repave the parking lot seems to be a long time and he asked if it is the concrete in the back that needs to be repaved.

The City Manager said it's a concrete parking area and it has seen better days. He said he thinks these gentlemen asked for a little bit of time to get their business going before they take on the expense of repaving the lot. He said we feel that it can get through the next two years without a lot of problems, and they understand that they have a commitment to have it completed by the end of the summer in 2011.

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COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked what mechanism do we have to make certain that this gets paved.

The City Manager said we always have the option of bringing this back to the Mayor and Council to revoke the Special Use Permit if the business owner does not comply with the conditions.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said that's Mr. Calderon's responsibility because he owns the land.

The City Manager said it will be the responsibility of the tenant in this case to make sure it happens. He said they will have to work that out as a landlord/tenant issue and determine whether Mr. Calderon or the tenant is paying for it. He said that's not our concern; we just need to make sure the lot gets paved.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said he thinks Mr. Calderon as the landlord receiving the rent from the operation should be involved and should have to guarantee the paving of the lot.

Mr. Calderon said that won't be a problem.

The City Manager said the Special Use Permit is recorded against the land and if Mr. Calderon tried to sell the land this Special Use Permit would come up as an exception on the title report, and whoever would be buying it would be buying it subject to the conditions that were approved as part of the Special Use Permit. He said so whoever owns it will know that the Special Use Permit requires the lot to be repaved. He said we think that these are enforceable and that it's a reasonable condition.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY said it would be enforceable on this tenant, but 18 months from now if they're out of business and we get a new operator coming in and applying, he'll ask us for two more years.

Mr. Calderon said within two years we'll have it done regardless if somebody is there or not. He said he owns two businesses there, the Currency Exchange and Calderon Liquors across the street.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE asked if he would have a problem putting that in this agreement.

Mr. Calderon said no, they just need the time to get it done.

The Corporation Counsel suggested modifying the ordinance to state that it is enforceable directly against the owner and the Currency Exchange and any occupancy of the property, and there were no objections.

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

The City Manager explained Council Memo #855-06 dealing with Authorization to Proceed with Promotional Testing for the Police and Fire Departments. He said this item was tabled at the last Pre-Council meeting for the Public Safety Committee's review. He said staff is recommending that we start the process for retesting for all promotional positions in the Fire Department as well as the Police

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Department. He said the current lists expire in 2010. He said it takes some time to gear up for getting the promotional testing underway and it is our recommendation to allow staff to start that process with the Fire and Police Board. He said the Fire and Police Board had made a recommendation to extend the existing promotional lists, and after a lot of consideration, staff is recommending the opposite and that we move forward with new promotional testing.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked if there is a recommendation from the Committee.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE said they recommend going ahead with it. He said the Committee had a lot of questions mostly concerning the filling of the existing vacancies. He said he believes the State statutes say if a vacancy occurs, that position must be filled from the list in existence during the time of the vacancy and one of the questions he had was how long does that remain in place. He said that's been answered - it's five years for the Fire Department. He said there was still a question about the Police because they were not included in the Statute.

The Corporation Counsel said on the Police Department side there is no State law that supersedes home rule authority, and the Police and Fire Board rules say that the list that's in effect for Police promotions controls who is eligible when there's a vacancy in the Police Department, so when a Sergeant retires, whoever is No. 1 on the Sergeant's list at the time of that retirement would have the first chance to get promoted. He said the question is whether there is a five year duration and the answer is no, the ordinance is silent. He said it doesn't say how long that person remains eligible and so in the absence of that he would say the person's eligibility was created by the list and so would expire when the list expires.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE said that's assuming that there's another list when that one expires.

The Corporation Counsel said yes, there has to be a second list. He said without a list no one knows who gets what promotion so no one would be eligible at that point.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said all the folks that are going to be promoted are already here, so why test.

The City Manager said the tests usually have a three year life span.

The Corporation Counsel said no more than three by State law and that's the problem, the lists are going to expire.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE said unless agreed upon by the bargaining units in the City.

The Corporation Counsel said and we don't have that agreement in hand and the lists are expiring.

The City Manager said we don't have the unilateral authority to extend the Fire Promotional List, we would have to negotiate that with the two fire unions. He said that has not been negotiated and we don't think that it's something that we

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would successfully negotiate and that's why we are recommending that we start the process of new tests so we'll have lists that will be good for another three years. He said on the Police side, we're down to about four on the Sergeants list and one of the Council Memos today has a recommendation for promoting three people to the position of Sergeant which would then leave only one person left on the list, and it's clear that we will have a need over the next three years for filling some Sergeant positions so we really do need to get that process going. He said we also have three Captain positions that are currently vacant which have not been eliminated, nor has he recommended eliminating them, and he's recommending that we not fill them now to try to save some money on those three positions, but there will most likely come a day when we will be doing some additional promotions and we'd like to have the list completed.

The City Manager explained Council Memo #857-09 dealing with filling one Police Lieutenant position, three Police Sergeant positions and one Senior Fire Equipment Mechanic position.

The City Manager said the Police Department positions were opened up due to the retirement of the incumbents through the incentive program that was offered a few months ago. He explained the attachments to the Council Memo listing all of the personnel in the Police Department with a color coded explanation of positions that have been eliminated, positions that have been relocated and positions that are temporarily vacant and won't be filled for a while as we go through our budget crisis. He said bottom line, we have calculated the savings just in salaries alone to be a little over \$3 million a year by not filling the current vacancies in the Police Department. He said there are some other cost savings that have been achieved such as not buying any vehicles and reducing travel and training. He said we are currently working on a number to show the Council the total cost savings that we've been able to see in the Police Department by using cost containment measures. He said we are recommending that those four positions be filled by the Fire and Police Board as part of this recommendation.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE said Police Chief Hayes was supposed to get a hard number on savings and he asked if he has that.

Director of Finance Hugh Brennan provided the Mayor and Council with a spread sheet of each position, the name of the person who retired or transferred, salary, etc. which he said showed an accurate bottom line cost savings figure.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE said Chief Hayes made a good case for these promotions, he needs them out on the street and with these promotions the people will not be replaced on the bottom rung. He said also with those promotions he is still short one Commander and three Captains. He said the Committee also recommended approving this.

COUNCILMAN DORRIS said he thinks filling the Commander position in the operations department is key. He said we've already lost a lot of people through retirement and he thinks that is a key leadership position.

The City Manager said that's an opening that occurred as a result of the promotion of Deputy Chief Trafton and we understand that that's a key position. He said we are not recommending keeping that position open. He said we are willing to run with one less Commander at this point and at some point he knows the Chief would like to fill that position, but he's been very cooperative in trying to find ways to help us save money. He said he thinks the plan the Chief developed

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several months ago is effective and keeps the same level of service on the street as we had a year ago.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE said the Committee agreed on filling that Commander position.

The City Manager said also as part of this Council Memo is the filling of a Senior Fire Equipment Mechanic. He said negotiations with Local 440 were held last spring to restructure the Motor Maintenance Division and we were able to eliminate four positions through those negotiations. He said we've had several people in that department take advantage of the incentive program for retirement and we now have a need to fill one of the vacancies, the Senior Fire Mechanic. He said the person who occupies that position will be retiring in November. He said with the reconstitution of that department in the future there are positions that will be vacant that need to be filled. He said they will be filled from within and eventually we will have a vacancy at the bottom that will not be filled. He said these are positions that can get filled by people in other divisions if they're qualified so at the end there will be a vacancy in our organization. He said staff is recommending to fill this position also.

The City Manager explained Council Memo #868-09 and Council Memo #869-09 dealing with extending, respectively, the Police Patrol Officers and Firefighters eligibility lists. He said in light of our budget challenges, we've not been filling any vacancies for the original appointment positions and the Fire and Police Board recommended that we extend those lists by one year to November 2010 for the Police list and to February 2011 for the Firefighters list. He said we currently have a sufficient number of candidates to cover any needs we may have to hire any new people. He said the Public Safety Committee also recommended approval.

The City Manager advised that Council Memo #874-09 dealing with urging the Governor to rescind layoffs at Stateville Correctional Center has been placed on the agenda.

7. Resolution re: Urging Governor Pat Quinn to Rescind All Planned Layoffs at Stateville Correctional Center
(Council Memo #874-09)

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE moved that said item be tabled indefinitely.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN BROPHY.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEN GIARRANTE, SHETINA, TURK, COUNCILWOMAN BARBER, COUNCILMEN BROPHY, DORRIS and MAYOR SCHULTZ.

NAYS: NONE.

8. Citizens to be Heard

- a. Kelly Floyd re: Street Repairs

Ms. Kelly Floyd of 506 Prospect Place distributed copies of a petition submitted in October, 2008 asking that Prospect Place, Millboro Place, Cochrane Avenue and the remaining section of Jasper Street be resurfaced using Neighborhood Improvement Program funds. She also presented pictures showing the

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conditions of the streets. She asked that her neighborhood be put on the list for resurfacing.

COUNCILMAN DORRIS asked the City Manager to see if we could do something. He said we don't know what the status of the NIP is going to be next year. He said this year we cut projects that we had planned. He asked the City Manager what his outlook is for the NIP program next year.

The City Manager said the outlook is not very hopeful right now. He said he had recommended to the Council to eliminate \$3 million worth of Neighborhood Improvement funds for 2009 and he doesn't believe we'll be able to do much in 2010 either which makes it very difficult. He said that's the only program that we have available right now to help with streets like this. He said there will be very limited funding for street improvements in 2010 and he's asked staff to try to prioritize those streets by which ones need the attention the most. He said Ms. Floyd's street will be competing with several others. He said Public Works Administrator Greg Ruddy went out this afternoon to look at this area and we know it's not in very good shape. He said we are not disputing anything; we agree with her, but it's a funding issue. He said a couple of years ago we probably could have helped out a little bit better but right now it's very challenging.

COUNCILMAN DORRIS asked if we could do some temporary patching; some of those holes look like a public safety issue.

The City Manager said Public Works Director Jim Trizna will have the roadways division take a look at it and see what we can do as far as some temporary improvements, but he knows it's not anywhere close to what needs to be done. He said we'll put this on the list and after the budget is approved we'll be asking the Council to help us prioritize some of the streets that need attention and try to do a plan for the next 3 years on how we're going to tackle some of these streets, especially when we have very limited funding. He said in the old days we had gaming revenue that helped fund this program and with that dropping \$16 million this year, we had to make cuts.

Ms. Floyd said she understands and when there is money available, she would appreciate the City looking at their area as a priority.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE asked if the Councilmen at Large lost their NIP fund too.

The City Manager said there is some of that still left, and his proposal for the 2010 budget will be to take the funds from the 2009 budget that's not been spent and carry that over for each District and for the Councilmen at Large and the Mayor, but his recommendation for the 2010 budget would be no funding for the NIP program. He said we'll put it on hiatus for a year and see if we can get through the year, subject to the Council's approval, but there really is no source of funding for any type of project. He said we will have about \$2 million of MFT money available that we receive from the State that must be used on road projects, and we'll have to keep about \$600,000 of that for emergency repairs. He said we'll identify some streets for the Council's consideration and for them to prioritize which ones need attention first. He said unfortunately what will be left just won't go that far. He said it will be very limited and not even close to where we were previously when we had \$7.5 million available each year.

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COUNCILMAN TURK asked what is the ballpark cost on Prospect Place.

Mr. Trizna said it would probably be \$150,000.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY said that is not the full curb to curb treatment.

Mr. Trizna said the storm sewer work has already been done.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY said he had asked Mr. Trizna for a report of what isn't done and the total is about \$57 million of roadway that is not done yet. He said so this is one of those sections that is not done. He said we've been at it for 24 years.

Mr. Trizna said we started in about 1982. He said he thinks it might be more like \$45 million that hasn't been done yet but it's still a fair amount of the City that hasn't been reconstructed.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said the City has some borrowing power, does it not. He said that is a bad area, that's not just wear and tear. He said we're not going to be able to come up with money for everything, we need to get in some kind of a borrowing situation where we can borrow to do things that are that nasty. He said he would be raising Cain if he lived on that street. He said he thinks we should look at that specifically and do something about it regardless of where we get the money.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked Mr. Trizna for a better estimate for Ms. Floyd's area.

Mr. Trizna said we can prepare an estimate to repair all three of these streets.

The City Manager advised there was no need for a closed session.

COUNCILWOMAN BARBER moved that the meeting adjourn at 4:45 p.m.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN TURK.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEN SHETINA, TURK, COUNCILWOMAN BARBER,
COUNCILMEN BROPHY, DORRIS, GIARRANTE and MAYOR
SCHULTZ.

NAYS: NONE.

ARTHUR SCHULTZ
Mayor

JANET K. TRAVEN
City Clerk