

***Proceedings of the Council of the City of Joliet, Illinois
held on the 3rd day of February, A.D. 2009***

REGULAR MEETING of the Council of the City of Joliet, Illinois held on Tuesday, February 3, 2009 at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers, Joliet Municipal Building, 150 W. Jefferson Street, Joliet, Illinois.

An Invocation was delivered by Father Raymond Lescher, Sacred Heart Church, 337 S. Ottawa Street, Joliet, Illinois.

Father Lescher then led the pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: DISTRICT 5 COUNCILMAN WARREN C. DORRIS.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

COUNCILMAN TURK moved that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Joliet, Illinois held on Tuesday, January 20, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. stand approved as recorded.

Motion seconded by COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND AGENDA ITEMS

A. BASEBALL

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE said he has no Committee report but he knows the City Manager and Corporation Counsel have had meetings with the owners of the baseball team and he asked if any talks have come up about concessions or is that something we need to do later.

The City Manager said we'll be reviewing that later in the spring as we get closer to the season. He said we have broached the subject with them and let them know if there are any changes in pricing that has to come back to us for review and they will follow up on that. He said they have actually been able to renegotiate a contract with Aramark so it is much more favorable. He said it's just a sign of the economic times where he thinks a lot of the vendors that do business with the JackHammers and other businesses in our community are looking at other ways of working things out and it's been a very successful process.

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COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE said maybe at the end of February we can have a Baseball Committee Meeting and sit down with them and work it out.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE said he saw on TV that there is going to be a minor league baseball team in Zion, Illinois and asked if that was going to be in the Northern League.

The City Manager stated it will be. He said there was an announcement made today and one of the investors in the team is actor Kevin Costner. He said that will add a seventh team to the league and he believes there is some discussion about an eighth team in the near future. He said he hasn't looked at the details but it looks like they're going to be building the stadium and they are very excited about it and we are too because it helps solidify the Northern League.

B. CITY-COUNTY ADVISORY

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said we have nothing on that Committee agenda yet. He asked the City Manager if he has talked to anybody lately at the County.

The City Manager said the County is going through its space needs study and what we've asked them to do is to tell us what the square footage would be that they'll need for not only the court function but also the administrative function of all of the departments that the County has under its umbrella. He said we continue to work with the staff at the County on various issues including looking at parking issues and access and things like that. He said there is a lot of progress being made behind the scenes and he is pleased to report that the County has been very cooperative. He said he continues to meet with some of the County Board members including the newly elected ones just to let them know that the City of Joliet is very interested in keeping all of the court functions in downtown Joliet along with the administrative functions. He said that process continues to move along very well.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said he served on jury duty last month and he was in line to get into the Courthouse and he asked if there is any sense at all of maybe doing some kind of a shelter, tent or canopy type cover because it was cold and he was in line for probably 15 minutes. He said he just wondered if there was some sense in talking about that. He said maybe in the future something better will happen and there will be better accommodations or maybe they will go to two shifts and they won't have such a rush. He said they're running 500 or 600 people through in the morning and that's just ridiculous and everybody's complaining and they think it's a City function. He said we should think about the possibility of doing something along those lines as a reasonable but temporary type of shelter that doesn't cost a fortune but keeps people out of the elements.

The City Manager said we'll follow up on that; he knows the County Board members have had that same discussion with the Chief Judge's office about trying to find a way through either some kind of temporary shelter or even looking at the scheduling process. He said historically there has always been a 9 a.m. court call and that has resulted in both lawyers and litigants showing up at the same time. He said that's a big change in culture at the Courthouse but it's something that the County Board has asked and we'll certainly follow up in our conversations with the new Chief Judge Jerry Kinney. He said he knows Judge Kinney is very interested in trying to solve the problem; he's not happy about it nor are the other circuit judges.

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C. COMMUNICATION, TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

COUNCILMAN BROPHY said they have not scheduled a meeting but those with any items for either communications, technology or information systems should contact him or Mike Suppan with such items. He said we did speak about reviewing cell phone contracts and cell phone usage, etc. but other than that there are no items on the agenda and no scheduled meeting at this time.

D. FINANCE

COUNCILMAN UREMOVIC stated the Finance Committee will be holding their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 17th prior to the Regular Meeting and at that time he thinks we will have year end figures for 2008.

The City Manager said he believes those figures will be available for the next meeting.

E. LAND USE

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said the Land Use Committee met on January 26th and discussed the Theodore Commons Subdivision. He asked the Director of Community and Economic Development to explain.

The Director of Community and Economic Development stated Theodore Commons is at the northwest corner of Drauden Road and Theodore Street and is currently owned by Ron Schelling who did Drauden Pointe Center on Drauden and Caton Farm Road. He said when we annexed it in we zoned it R-2 Single-Family. He said it's a triangular piece bisected by high tension lines to the rear and they are asking that it be changed to a B-1 Neighborhood Business Zoning. He said what they are proposing for that particular corner is most likely a gas station with a Dairy Queen or something like that, a strip commercial center with the possibility of some office buildings and a day care center farther to the north. He said they've done a lot of due diligence on this project and have gone to many of the homeowners groups around there. He said they also talked to Bill and Maryann Eisenbrandt who live to the south and dedicated most of the properties for the schools that are over there and sold off much of that property for development. He said they have done a lot of homework and don't have any fierce opposition to it. He said they have done traffic reports which say at the worst there would be 400 cars an hour during the very peak when all of the schools are coming and going and they have said that this development wouldn't really generate any new traffic, it would most likely just accommodate the people that live out there now. He said they wanted to review their plans with the Land Use Committee before it goes to the next Plan Commission meeting which is scheduled for February 19th.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said the parcel in question has a triangular shape with high tension lines going all the way back to the next subdivision and it seems as though this is a pretty reasonable use for this and it would be great if something like that would occur now. He said he thinks a gas station along with a Dairy Queen would be a great asset there. He said he picks up his granddaughter at Orenic School and he doesn't have much of a problem driving on Theodore Street in that 3:00 to 5:00 time frame. He said he doesn't think they will have a big change in traffic; there will probably be just the people that are driving to school and that kind of thing.

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The Director of Community and Economic Development said the most critical thing is the fact that we're obligating this developer to put up half of future traffic signalization money for that intersection and the other half would come when and if that property to the south ever develops or we could do it as maybe an NIP or some other way to fund it.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked when the developer puts up cash for the light is there an actual cash deposit made that is then transferred to a purchaser.

The Corporation Counsel said it usually depends on how much progress the developer makes in subdividing or developing the site and we do have flexibility. He said our standard practice is that when a property is annexed we put signalization escrow requirements in the annexation agreement but they are not payable at the time of annexation because nothing has really changed. He said when the property is subdivided then that expense would be added to the list of public improvements for which a Letter of Credit must be posted. He said that's the standard practice. He said here he doesn't think we're going to see a subdivision; he doesn't know that that's been finally decided but the site is fairly small so we'll need to attach that condition to a Special Use Permit or a zoning request. He said he thinks the payment responsibility, unless there is other thoughts because of development at the other corner, probably would be triggered by some change in the land use of the property so a construction permit would trigger it.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY said it is transferrable with title obviously from party to party.

The Corporation Counsel said yes, he would consider that a responsibility that would remain with the land and so the buyer would have it.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked about the boundary agreement extensions and what cities are we talking about extensions with.

The City Manager said we've had requests from most of our neighbors to look at boundary agreement issues including Elwood, Channahon, Shorewood and a new agreement with Minooka. He said Minooka's boundary with us is really defined by our agreements with Channahon and Shorewood so we already have lines on the map for dealing with Minooka but we would formalize it by bringing it back to the City Council. He said it is the staff's recommendation that we look at formalizing the extensions, and we will have security for the next 20 years as far as where the City will be allowed to grow and the same thing with our neighbors. He said he thinks in the case of Elwood the issue is coming to the forefront now because of some of the CenterPoint construction issues. He said there is a new road that will be built by CenterPoint in unincorporated Will County through Army-owned property and that will be Baseline Road extended. He said that is on the Elwood side of the line and Elwood is being asked to take jurisdiction over that roadway when it's built and they are very interested in cooperating, but they want to make sure that the boundary agreement is extended so when they do take over maintenance responsibility they'll have that responsibility for the full 20 years and not have this open up in nine years when the agreement expires and have Joliet annex an area that they've been maintaining. He said it is a reasonable request.

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The City Manager said our 20 year agreement with Channahon is expiring this year and we've had preliminary meetings with their Mayor and Administrator and there are no specific changes being requested. He said Councilman Shetina had asked him to look into one small area and we're looking into that as far as trying to straighten that line out.

The City Manager said with Shorewood we have a few years to run on that but we also have some other issues pending with them which we'd like to bring back to the Council later which will help us define our relationship with them with respect to sewage treatment issues and some common areas of road maintenance, especially with the construction of the interchange for the Bridge Street project. He said there are a lot of issues in common and it would make sense for us to consider an extension of that boundary agreement.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked for an update on the neighborhood stabilization plan.

The Director of Neighborhood Services stated he spent the day in Chicago meeting with HUD and he is going back tomorrow to talk about our implementation of the neighborhood stabilization plan. He said we are awaiting a letter from HUD and that agreement so we can start drawing on the funds. He said our plan calls for a certain targeted area from Midland Avenue east. He said we laid it out at the Land Use Committee how we are going to offer down payment assistance and purchase foreclosed homes in areas where the homes may not move as fast as in other areas. He said we have to target a certain amount of funds to those that are at 50% or below the area median income. He said they also talked today about the opportunity for State funds so we are looking to maybe develop a joint application with the County and maybe some other agencies and maybe private developers to do some in-fill or some other projects if we can leverage some State funds and bring some more into this area as well.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said we also talked about business retention and it may be stretching the point a little bit but the Courthouse is a good example of that. He said they have a problem and we probably can provide an answer to their problem at least in part and we need to work with them about how we approach it and if they want to work with us on it he thinks they would probably be glad to do that. He said we want to keep them here and keep them downtown. He said they've been offered other locations in the County and it's important that we keep them here.

The City Manager said one other point is we have a small project going on with Chief Judge Kinney's office and former Chief Judge White dealing with putting a video in the jury waiting room. He said the purchase of a couple of flat panel TVs have been commissioned by the courts and we've been working through the Visitor's Bureau to have a video made of what's available in downtown Joliet weekdays around noon time when the jurors take a break for lunch and highlighting the restaurants, the museum and some of the key places. He said they asked us to go a little easy on Harrah's so we don't lose the jurors to the casino for the afternoon, but they've been very cooperative in helping us with that which will help us promote the good things we've got to offer including the library, the museum and of course all of the restaurants.

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COUNCILMAN SHETINA said the other thing they talked about was residential design standards and we didn't think it was appropriate to be talking about pushing anything at this point in terms of upgrading anything. He said we have a good memo from the staff on residential design and it has some recommendations and we'll look at those the next time we have a meeting.

F. PUBLIC SAFETY

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE said the Public Safety Committee met yesterday afternoon with one item on the agenda, the tornado siren project. He said they are requesting four new sirens for the following locations: Heritage Lake Subdivision, Fire Station No. 10, Aux Sable Sewer Treatment Plant and the Joliet Park District Stadium. He said the siren at Inwood Golf Course would be moved to Splash Station and they would replace the one at Public Works at 818 E. Cass Street. He said the cost is \$166,882.00 which is in the budget.

G. PUBLIC SERVICE

COUNCILMAN TURK said the Public Service Committee met this morning and reviewed the contracts, change orders, pay estimates and final payments and found them all to be in order and recommended their approval. He said they also reviewed the six public hearings for Special Service Areas No. 1 through 6 that are on the agenda tonight. He said they are all capped at a \$300.00 cost per property owner and they also recommend their approval.

There were no other Committee reports.

RECOGNITION OF CITY EMPLOYEE

The City Manager stated we are recognizing a City employee this evening and he asked Jim Anderson of the Roadways Division to step up to the podium. He said our employees do a lot of great things during working hours and they also do some really good things when they're off duty, but some people stand out and do some great things, and in this case Jim Anderson has done something great - he is the 2008 National Champion of the United Midget Auto Racing of America. He also introduced Bob Guess, the owner of the car.

Mr. Anderson thanked the Mayor and Council for their recognition.

AGENDA ITEMS AND REPORTS

- A. Authorization to Transfer Funds to the Joliet City Center Partnership LLC for the Match Funding Portion of the Illinois Bureau of Tourism Marketing Partnership Grant, "I Played in Joliet...You Should Too!" Campaign
(Council Memo #86-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council approve and authorize the transfer of funds in the amount of \$43,938.95 to the Joliet City Center Partnership LLC for the City of Joliet match funding portion of the Illinois Bureau of Tourism Marketing Partnership Grant.

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COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE moved that the recommendation of the City Manager be concurred in.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN TURK.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE.

- B. Authorization to Reimburse the Joliet City Center Partnership LLC for a Cooperative Comcast Cable Television Commercial Purchase
(Council Memo #87-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council approve and authorize the reimbursement payment of \$10,432.00 to the Joliet City Center Partnership LLC for Comcast Cable Television Commercials.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY moved that the recommendation of the City Manager be concurred in.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN TURK.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE.

- C. Bid Process – Approve the Purchase of Natural Gas
(Council Memo #88-09)

A report on proposals received from three natural gas suppliers for the purchase of natural gas was accompanied by a recommendation from the City Manager that this contract be awarded to Direct Energy for the 100% Swing Contract option in the amount of \$0.59 per therm for the term of 18 months beginning March 1, 2009.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA moved that the recommendation of the City Manager be concurred in.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN UREMOVIC.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE.

Prior to his vote, COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked for an explanation of the addendum.

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The City Manager said this was discussed yesterday at the Pre-Council Meeting and the Director of Management and Budget had recommended that we look at the opportunity to lock in a cost per therm for an 18 month period. He said our current vendor and other vendors were interested in submitting proposals and we received those this morning. He said at the bid opening the current provider was able to come in at \$0.59 per therm or as much gas as we would like to consume and that price would be locked in for 18 months. He said the chart that we looked at yesterday shows that the \$0.59 would be well below the historic levels of natural gas and if the gas goes up to where it did a couple of times of over \$1.20 or \$1.30 per therm, we'll only be paying \$0.59 per therm. He said we view this as a good opportunity to lock in prices and have some predictability especially in a very unstable economy where the cost of natural gas has fluctuated through the years. He said it is staff's recommendation we award the contract as presented.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY said unlike road salt it is a little easier to deliver this product.

The City Manager said it is and we've learned a lesson. He said we may be looking at something similar for road salt too and finding a source that will be locked in where we can get a hold of it a lot earlier than winter time.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing re: Annexation of 39.51 Acres South of Route 6 and East of Terry Drive

1. Resolution re: Approving an Annexation Agreement for 39.51 Acres South of Route 6 and East of Terry Drive (#A-90-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
2. Ordinance re: Approving the Annexation of 39.51 Acres South of Route 6 and East of Terry Drive (#A-90-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
3. Ordinance re: Approving the Classification of 39.51 Acres South of Route 6 and East of Terry Drive to I-2 Zoning (#A-90-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)

B. Public Hearing re: Annexation of 13.9 Acres South of Route 6 and East of Terry Drive

1. Resolution re: Approving the Annexation Agreement for 13.9 Acres South of Route 6 and East of Terry Drive (#A-91-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
2. Ordinance re: Approving the Annexation of 13.9 Acres South of Route 6 and East of Terry Drive (#A-91-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)

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3. Ordinance re: Approving the Classification of 13.9 Acres South of Route 6 and East of Terry Drive to I-2 Zoning (#A-91-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
- C. Public Hearing re: Annexation of 11.88 Acres South of Route 6 and East of Terry Drive
1. Resolution re: Approving the Annexation Agreement for 11.88 Acres South of Route 6 and East of Terry Drive (#A-92-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
 2. Ordinance re: Approving the Annexation of 11.88 Acres South of Route 6 and East of Terry Drive (#A-92-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
 3. Ordinance re: Approving the Classification of 11.88 Acres South of Route 6 and East of Terry Drive to I-2 Zoning (#A-92-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
- D. Public Hearing re: Annexation of 36.58 Acres South of Terry Drive
1. Resolution re: Approving the Annexation Agreement for 36.58 Acres South of Terry Drive (#A-93-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
 2. Ordinance re: Approving the Annexation of 36.58 Acres South of Terry Drive (#A-93-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
 3. Ordinance re: Approving the Classification of 36.58 Acres South of Terry Drive to I-2 Zoning (#A-93-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
- E. Public Hearing re: Annexation of 14.38 Acres South of Terry Drive
1. Resolution re: Approving the Annexation Agreement for 14.38 Acres South of Terry Drive (#A-94-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
 2. Ordinance re: Approving the Annexation of 14.38 Acres South of Terry Drive (#A-94-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
 3. Ordinance re: Approving the Classification of 14.38 Acres South of Terry Drive to I-2 Zoning (#A-94-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)

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F. Public Hearing re: Annexation of 23.02 Acres South of Terry Drive

1. Resolution re: Approving the Annexation Agreement for 23.02 Acres South of Terry Drive (#A-95-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
2. Ordinance re: Approving the Annexation of 23.02 Acres South of Terry Drive (#A-95-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
3. Ordinance re: Approving the Classification of 23.02 Acres South of Terry Drive to I-2 Zoning (#A-95-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)

G. Public Hearing re: Annexation of 11.43 Acres South of Terry Drive

1. Resolution re: Approving the Annexation Agreement for 11.43 Acres South of Terry Drive (#A-96-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
2. Ordinance re: Approving the Annexation of 11.43 Acres South of Terry Drive (#A-96-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
3. Ordinance re: Approving the Classification of 11.43 Acres South of Terry Drive to I-2 Zoning (#A-96-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)

H. Public Hearing re: Annexation of 22.31 Acres South of Route 6

1. Resolution re: Approving the Annexation Agreement for 22.31 Acres South of Route 6 (#A-97-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
2. Ordinance re: Approving the Annexation of 22.31 Acres South of Route 6 (#A-97-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)
3. Ordinance re: Approving the Classification of 22.31 Acres South of Route 6 to I-2 Zoning (#A-97-08/Dist. #3)
(Council Memo #92-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained a request by the petitioner, CenterPoint Joliet LLC, that said items be tabled to the City Council meeting to be held on March 17, 2009.

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COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN moved that said items be tabled to the March 17, 2009 City Council meeting.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN BROPHY.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE.

I. Public Hearing re: Establishing the 2009 Joliet Special Service Area No. 1 – West Acres Road (Midland – Catherine)

1. AN ORDINANCE Approving the Establishment of the 2009 Joliet Special Service Area No. 1 – West Acres Road (Midland – Catherine) was presented and read.
(Council Memo #93-09)
(ORDINANCE NO. 16419)

J. Public Hearing re: Establishing the 2009 Joliet Special Service Area No. 2 – Stryker Avenue (Ferris – I-80)

1. AN ORDINANCE Approving the Establishment of the 2009 Joliet Special Service Area No. 2 – Stryker Avenue (Ferris – I-80) was presented and read.
(Council Memo #94-09)
(ORDINANCE NO. 16420)

K. Public Hearing re: Establishing the 2009 Joliet Special Service Area No. 3 – Oakland Avenue (Mason – Ruby)

1. AN ORDINANCE Approving the Establishment of the 2009 Joliet Special Service Area No. 3 – Oakland Avenue (Mason – Ruby) was presented and read.
(Council Memo #95-09)
(ORDINANCE NO. 16421)

L. Public Hearing re: Establishing the 2009 Joliet Special Service Area No. 4 – Carson Avenue (U.S. 30 – Glenwood/Division)

1. AN ORDINANCE Approving the Establishment of the 2009 Joliet Special Service Area No. 4 – Carson Avenue (U.S. 30 – Glenwood/Division) was presented and read.
(Council Memo #96-09)
(ORDINANCE NO. 16422)

M. Public Hearing re: Establishing the 2009 Joliet Special Service Area No. 5 – Dewey Avenue – (McDonough – Morgan)

1. AN ORDINANCE Approving the Establishment of the 2009 Joliet Special Service Area No. 5 – Dewey Avenue (McDonough – Morgan) was presented and read.
(Council Memo #97-09)
(ORDINANCE NO. 16423)

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N. Public Hearing re: Establishing the 2009 Joliet Special Service Area No. 6 – Holmes Avenue (Woodruff – 500' South)

1. AN ORDINANCE Approving the Establishment of the 2009 Joliet Special Service Area No. 6 – Holmes Avenue (Woodruff – 500' South) was presented and read.
(Council Memo #98-09)
(ORDINANCE NO. 16424)

The City Clerk noted that this is a public hearing so any comments would be in order at this time.

MAYOR SCHULTZ asked if there were any comments, and being none, he closed the public hearing.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE moved that said Ordinances be adopted.

Motion seconded by COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR CURRENT BILLS

- A. Regular Payroll – December 13 – December 31, 2008 - \$4,058,407.32
(Council Memo #99-09)

Biweekly Payroll Summary Reports of the total cost of regular salaries for the period December 13, 2008 through December 31, 2008 and additions to regular salaries for the period December 5, 2008 through December 18, 2008 including a 2008 Overtime Budget Status Report and a Biweekly Summary of Overtime and Temporary Assignments were accompanied by a recommendation from the City Manager that said Regular Payroll be allowed.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA moved that the recommendation of the City Manager be concurred in.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN UREMOVIC.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A. ORDINANCES

1. Ordinance re: Accepting Dedication of Right-of-Way in Association with the Reconstruction of Stryker Avenue (Ferris – I-80)
(Council Memo #100-09)

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The City Clerk noted that this item was taken off of the agenda.

B. RESOLUTIONS

1. A RESOLUTION Appropriating Motor Fuel Tax Funds in the amount of \$104,181.00 for Improvements at the Intersection of I-55 and Route 59 was presented and read. (Section No. 08-00409-00-FP)
(Council Memo #104-09)
(RESOLUTION NO. 6234)

2. A RESOLUTION Appropriating Additional Funds for Improvements at the Intersection of I-55 and Route 59 was presented and read.
(Council Memo #104-09)
(RESOLUTION NO. 6235)

COUNCILMAN TURK moved that said Resolutions be adopted.

Motion seconded by COUNCILWOMAN BARBER.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE.

Prior to her vote, COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN asked the City Manager for a summary.

The City Manager stated several months ago we participated with IDOT on a project that IDOT is currently pursuing at the intersection of IL Rt. 59 and I-55. He said as part of the Bridge Street Town Centre project we asked IDOT to expand the scope of that project to include the elevation of Seil Road so it would not be an at-grade intersection and someday it would cross I-55 to help us with access to Bridge Street Centre. He said the original estimates came in just over \$2 million for the additional costs asked for by the City and now that IDOT has progressed through the project IDOT has come back to us and said their bids came in substantially higher and they have asked for an additional \$800,000.00 in funding for the elevation of the intersection. He said what this Resolution does is authorize the expenditure of Motor Fuel Tax Funds to cover the additional costs and staff is recommending its approval.

3. A RESOLUTION Approving the City of Joliet Economic Development Stimulus Plan was presented and read.
(Council Memo #105-09)

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN moved that said Resolution be adopted.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN TURK.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE.

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Prior to his vote, COUNCILMAN BROPHY stated he appreciates the work that went into this and he thinks it's wise that we get out in front on it.

Prior to his vote, COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked for an explanation.

The City Manager said everybody's been following what's been going on in Washington D.C. with the stimulus package and there was a bill that was passed out of the House last week, the Senate is debating its version of the bill this week and we're seeing that the President is hoping to have a bill signed by President's Day. He said there will be billions of dollars made available to municipalities, counties and other local agencies for infrastructure projects. He said what we've done as a staff is presented to the Mayor and City Council several projects that are actual necessary projects, things that are either mandated by IEPA directive or other governmental agencies or projects that are necessitated by the volume of traffic we now have with the population boom that we've had over the last 15 years. He said what we've done is try to prioritize a list of projects and present it to the Council. He said yesterday at the Pre-Council meeting we reviewed the projects and tonight the Council is being asked to approve the list which we will submit to our Federal Legislators Congresswoman Halverson, Senator Durbin, Senator Burris and others to help us push through our request for this funding. He said this list will be on our website within a matter of a few days so if any citizens would like to look at it it will be there for their review.

(RESOLUTION NO. 6236)

BIDS AND CONTRACTS

A. Award of Contracts

1. Authorization to Purchase Computers for the Police Department Narcotics Unit
(Council Memo #107-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council approve the purchase of 7 OptiPlex 760 desktop computers from Dell at a cost of \$6,454.00 and the purchase of 7 Microsoft Office Professional Plus 207 licenses from CDW-G at a cost of \$2,109.38.

2. Authorization to Purchase Tornado Sirens and Maintenance
(Council Memo #108-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council award the contract to Braniff Communications, Inc. in the amount of \$166,882.80.

3. Authorization to Purchase 150 Hanging Baskets and Materials for 20 Planter Boxes for the Streetscape Beautification Program
(Council Memo #109-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council award the contract to Granby's Greenhouse in the amount of \$13,000.00.

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COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN said she's all for beautification and everything but right now she thinks \$13,000.00 is a little bit excessive. She asked if we have asked the City Center Partnership to partake in some of the cost of this since the downtown merchants are requesting this.

The City Manager said he doesn't think that request has been made; he thinks historically it has been a City expense. He said he knows the City Center Partnership is very supportive of the project but we could certainly review it.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN said we could afford it last time but she thinks it is a bit excessive right now.

The City Manager said it is something that gave us some cause for concern but it is a successful project and really does do a great job for beautifying downtown and it is very well received by the merchants. He said if this is something we need to broach with City Center Partnership, we talk with them frequently and we can certainly follow up with them.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN said she would ask that he does that. She said she doesn't know if the rest of the Council agrees but \$13,000.00 for flowers that are only going to last a couple of months is a lot of money when charities are hurting. She said that's just her opinion.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE said he's gotten a lot of compliments on the baskets and he agrees that maybe we should talk to them but he wouldn't vote to not do it if they didn't want to jump in because we're trying to sell downtown and he thinks this goes a long way. He said if you want to talk to them he agrees but he doesn't think we should not do it if they don't want to help out.

The City Manager said we have asked the City Center Partnership board to contribute to other projects and other special events that were historically the City's responsibility and actually it's a very substantial amount with the special events and a lot of things we used to cover that he doesn't think we're in a position to cover in the future. He said the City Center Partnership has included money in its budget to cover those costs so they have been cooperative and this would be one more so it won't be something new but we can certainly do that. He said he thinks it's a worthwhile project and he knows times are much more challenging than they have been for the last 15 years but this does receive a lot of support and we can talk to the City Center Partnership and see if they are willing to participate.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said he would have to agree with COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE on this, and he respects what COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN said that money is money, but of all of the things we do in downtown that is the one thing we get a lot of good feedback on. He said if we're looking at the downtown development people and the City Center Partnership picking up some of the costs we would have picked up but can't, he thinks this is probably something we could do that's important that we keep this looking good and he thinks it's important that we keep doing this. He said nobody is more aware of the fact that we are in financial straits, but he thinks this is money well spent in trying to keep things going. He said we have a big money maker downtown with Harrah's and he thinks we need to keep that nice for that purpose alone in addition to all the other businesses downtown that still do a good job.

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COUNCILMAN TURK said the Public Service Committee looked at this contract this morning and the price is the same as last year, there is not a price increase. He said had there been a substantial increase he thinks we would have taken a second look at it but he agrees that it does add a lot to the quality of downtown. He said if you want to approach the City Center Partnership and they give us something that's great.

The City Manager said the original proposal from the vendor came in higher than the proposed amount and the Planning Director talked to the vendor and the vendor agreed to hold the 2008 price so there was a concession made there.

4. Authorization to Purchase the 2009 DP-1026 Enzyme Chemicals
(Council Memo #110-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council award the contract to GETUM Inc. in the amount of \$19,780.00.

5. Award of Contract for the Repair of the Hot Water System at the Eastside Sewage Treatment Plant
(Council Memo #111-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council award the contract to Cryer & Olsen Mechanical in the amount of \$21,400.00.

6. Award of Contract for the Repair of the No. 3 Final Tank at the Eastside Treatment Plant
(Council Memo #112-09)

A report on two bids received for the above contract was accompanied by a recommendation from the City Manager that the Mayor and Council award the contract to C & T Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$12,272.99.

7. Award of Contract for the Repair of the Well Pump Motor at Rock 1
(Council Memo #113-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council award the contract to Joliet Equipment Corp. in the amount of \$6,263.00.

8. Award of a Professional Engineering Services Contract for the Laraway Road (Route 53 – Illinois Central Railroad) Roadway Improvement Project
(Council Memo #114-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council award the contract to Jacob & Hefner Associates in an amount not to exceed \$40,380.00.

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9. Award a Price Agreement for the 2009 Electrical Maintenance Assistance Contract
(Council Memo #115-09)

A report on one proposal received for the above contract was accompanied by a recommendation from the City Manager that the Mayor and Council award the contract to Van Mack Electric in a time and material format not to exceed \$70,000.00.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked what was the reason we only received one bid. He said in this environment you'd think they would be hungry for work.

Public Utilities Director Jim Eggen said he's really not sure why we didn't get more unless some of these people just don't like this type of work. He said this is repair work and some like to bid on a lighting job or a traffic signal job where they know what the issues are. He said here you never know what you're going to get into, you may actually have to repair a foundation besides putting up a light or putting up a new mast arm.

The City Manager asked him if these prices are consistent with what we've had in previous years.

Mr. Eggen said yes they are.

COUNCILMAN TURK moved that the recommendations of the City Manager be concurred in.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE. (COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN voted no on Council Memo #109-09).

Prior to her vote, COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN stated she votes yes on all of them except Council Memo #109-09. She said she just thinks we need to revisit this; she is not against the beautification of downtown Joliet, she thinks we need it, but she thinks it's excessive at this point so she votes no.

B. Change Orders and Payments

1. Approve Change Order No. 1 for the 2008 Parkway Tree Hazardous Tree Removal and Trim Program Contract
(Council Memo #120-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council approve Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$17,000.00 on behalf of Homer Tree Service.

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2. Approve Payment to Motorola – STARCOM21 Network for the Tri-County Auto Theft Unit
(Council Memo #121-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council approve payment in the amount of \$6,201.00 on behalf of Motorola STARCOM21 Network.

3. Approve Change Order No. 17 for the Municipal Center Phase 2 Remodeling Project
(Council Memo #122-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council approve Change Order No. 17 in the amount of \$5,877.00 on behalf of R.L. Sohol.

4. Approve Payment to the Plainfield Public Library District
(Council Memo #123-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council approve the payment of \$259,777.20 to the Plainfield Public Library District. The District will return to the City of Joliet an amount equal to 20% of the residential tax which is estimated to be \$50,672.14.

5. Authorization for Payment of Snow Removal (Storm on January 14, 2009)
(Council Memo #124-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council approve the following snow removal payouts for a total of \$52,159.35: 1) Gregg Dobczyk Excavating - \$3,880.00; 2) Construction by Camco, Inc. - \$6,130.50; 3) P.T. Ferro Construction Co. - \$15,816.85; 4) G-Three Construction Corp. - \$8,459.00; 5) Allied Landscaping, Inc. - \$7,040.00; and 6) John Russ & Co. - \$10,833.00.

6. Approve Payment No. 2 and Final to EJ&E Railroad for the Theodore Street At-Grade Crossing Improvements
(Council Memo #125-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council approve Payment No. 2 and Final in the amount of \$94,115.29 on behalf of EJ&E Railway.

7. Approve Change Order No. 2 and Payment No. 3 and Final for the Deer Run Estates Culvert Installation – 2008 Neighborhood Improvement Program
(Council Memo #126-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council approve Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$3,940.00 and Payment No. 3 and Final in the amount of \$5,736.05 on behalf of Austin Tyler Construction.

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8. Approve Change Order No. 2 and Payment No. 1 and Final for Plumbing Services
(Council Memo #127-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council take the following actions: 1) Approve Change Order No. 2, an increase to Purchase Order No. 98007 in the amount of \$4,820.51; and 2) Approve Payment No. 1 and Final in the amount of \$8,320.51 on behalf of Cryer & Olsen Mechanical.

9. Approve Amendments and Payments for Professional Services Agreements Related to the Disposal of Biosolids Materials
(Council Memo #128-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council approve the following: 1) An amendment to the agreement with Drinker Biddle & Reath in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00; 2) An amendment to the agreement with Rogina & Associates in an amount not to exceed \$8,000.00; 3) Pay Estimate No. 14 in the amount of \$4,275.33 on behalf of Drinker Biddle & Reath; and 4) Pay Estimate No. 13 in the amount of \$6,650.00 on behalf of Rogina & Associates.

10. Approve Progress Payment No. 2 for Demolition of Non-City Owned Properties
(Council Memo #129-09)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that the Mayor and Council approve Progress Payment No. 2 in the amount of \$11,060.00 to M.E.P. Excavations.

COUNCILMAN TURK moved that the recommendations of the City Manager be concurred in.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked the City Manager if he could indicate to the 6 or 7 independent contractors who helped us with the snow removal that they have all done a good job for us. He said we have had a real trying time this year so far and maybe the back of winter is broken. He said he wanted to thank them for coming out when we needed them. He said we've had a few complaints but for the most part we have had a pretty good response to what we did.

The City Manager said he'll pass the word along; he knows it has been a challenge especially in some of the far west subdivisions. He said Roadways Engineer Mike Eulitz has done a great job of calling people back and trying to be responsive. He said he knows we're not going to make everybody happy but we're learning and we're getting better at it and we'll continue to strive to improve.

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COUNCILMAN SHETINA said maybe Public Information Coordinator Kevin Hegarty or somebody could work on it. He said he drove all of those subdivisions when we had the heavy events and some people will just not pull their cars up into their driveway. He said in some cases there are five or six. He said there are 2 or 3 cars sitting in the cul-de-sac and you just can't get a truck in there and you can't get the trash removal people in there or our snowplows. He said it's not like they don't have room in their driveway. He said most of them have double car garages and double driveways and we need to get people educated on getting those cars and trucks off the street. He said Cumberland and Cumberland South and some of those areas are just loaded with cars so we should encourage them to get them off the streets so we can do our job. He said he hopes we don't have to get to the point of doing something with a sign in the subdivisions to keep the cars off the street during a snow event because that's seriously a lot of money when you start putting up all of those signs up and try to maintain them.

The City Manager said we took the suggestion of contacting all of the homeowners associations which the Planning staff did. He said we sent hard copies, e-mails and whatever we could to get the word out through the associations. He said as we go out to neighborhood organization meetings we'll make sure we talk about this particular item even if it's in the middle of summer. He said he thinks we'll be equipped at some point in the near future, maybe sometime in 2009, to be able to communicate with people by e-mail and if we have a snow event coming we'll be able to notify them in advance and remind them to pull their cars into their driveways. He said the school systems are using that type of a communication device and it really is penetrating a lot of households and it's not that expensive. He said we'll be bringing a proposal back to you in the near future to be able to do that.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

A. Mayor Schultz - Appointments

MAYOR SCHULTZ placed in nomination the appointment of Frank Stewart to replace Oscar Edmon on the Joliet Public Library Board.

COUNCILMAN TURK moved that the appointment of Frank Stewart to the Joliet Public Library Board be confirmed.

Motion seconded by COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE.

COUNCILMAN UREMOVIC stated he wanted to thank the City Manager and Mike Eulitz for their quick response to the e-mails he received. He said it was a really good job and they appreciate that communication. He then wished everyone a wonderful Valentine's Day.

COUNCILMAN TURK stated he is happy to see the Cass Street bridge is re-opened.

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COUNCILMAN SHETINA said he just wanted to comment that the City of Joliet, all cities and municipal bodies and companies are going through some tough times right now. He said our income is down and our expenses haven't gone down. He said we're making all kinds of efforts to cut where we can by attrition and by not promoting where promotions would be normally done so we are making every effort as a city to at least come out as close as we can to keeping the employee complement as close as we can keep it. He said hopefully we won't get into a situation where we get to the point that we have to let people go. He said in the main he thinks our staff has grabbed this bull by the horns and has a good handle on it. He said he thinks the City Council has a good handle on it but he thinks patience is necessary and there may be some cases where we all have our pet things we like to do and some things probably won't be getting done. He said we may not be able to participate in some of the events that we have in the past. He said we're asking for patience, we are aware of the concerns of the citizenry and we're doing everything we can to keep our city intact, keep our employee complement as intact as we can and make sure we function properly so all he is asking for is some patience on behalf of the citizenry.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN gave her condolences to the Louise Ray family. She said she was a great lady and did a lot of good for this community and for the youth and she will be missed.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN also thanked the staff for their quick response to the issue last night at a homeowners meeting where a home was torn down and a big gaping hole was left right by a school. She said people were contacted and a fence was put up around there today and it did become a public safety issue with children around there and she thanked them for their quick response.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN then wished her niece Katie a Happy 16th Birthday on Friday.

COUNCILWOMAN BARBER also gave the Ray family her condolences.

COUNCILWOMAN BARBER said she echoes what COUNCILMAN SHETINA was saying tonight. She said the Council is working very hard in order to make the City a better place in all areas.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY thanked the team from the Police Department for their work with 108 Edie Lane in Parkview Subdivision. He said it was a drug deal house kind of place and he thinks late last fall that home was purchased, remodeled and sold for \$180,000.00. He said there is a family living there now and the neighbor tells him they're wonderful so there are some good news stories. He said COUNCILMAN SHETINA said he started working on that problem when it was in District 1 and then it went to District 3 and then to District 2 so it took a long time to get it solved, but people really appreciate it and he's grateful for the work they put in it.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY said he wanted to make a report in his role as liaison to the Joliet Area Historical Museum Board and talk a little bit about the Houbolt Exhibit progress. He said we should be proud that we're taking the lifework of a Jolietan and putting it on display for the benefit of all people to learn, especially the children in Joliet. He said in 1970 we had a parade honoring John Houbolt and nothing since. He said as we work on the exhibit we're cataloguing the

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progress and the videos and pictures that will be used and collecting it on a DVD and CD and are sending copies out to John and Mary Houbolt. He said they received a letter from Mary Houbolt and he read a portion of it expressing her appreciation and describing John's pleasure in watching the video.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN asked if Mr. Houbolt will be able to attend the unveiling.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY said he will not and will never be able to travel. He said experiencing these parts as we go along is very important to him and hopefully he'll see the final product as soon as we get it done.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN asked if we could film the opening of it and send it to him.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY said yes, we're going to document as much as possible because he will not be able to attend but his family will.

ADJOURNMENT

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE moved that the Council recess at 7:22 p.m. to closed session to discuss personnel after which the meeting will be adjourned.

Motion seconded by COUNCILWOMAN BARBER.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE.

ARTHUR SCHULTZ
Mayor

JANET K. TRAVEN
City Clerk

Recorded on Tape