

***Proceedings of the Council of the City of Joliet, Illinois
held on the 6th day of March, A.D. 2006***

PRE-COUNCIL MEETING of the Council of the City of Joliet, Illinois held on Monday, March 6, 2006 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 2 COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY M. BROPHY, DISTRICT 4 COUNCILMAN ALEX LEDESMA, DISTRICT 1 COUNCILMAN JOSEPH R. SHETINA and DISTRICT 3 COUNCILMAN ANTHONY UREMOVIC.

ABSENT: DISTRICT 5 COUNCILMAN WARREN C. DORRIS, COUNCILMAN AT LARGE THOMAS C. GIARRANTE, COUNCILWOMAN AT LARGE JAN QUILLMAN and COUNCILMAN AT LARGE MICHAEL F. TURK.

ALSO PRESENT: CITY MANAGER JOHN M. MEZERA and CORPORATION COUNSEL JEFFREY S. PLYMAN.

Mr. John Leach commented on the fact that a Joliet native, and the only American, was a member of Ernest Shackleton's legendary Antarctica expedition.

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

He first explained Council Memo #220-06 dealing with the Annexation of 2423 S. Chicago Street and the Preliminary Plat of Stone City Commercial Park Subdivision.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE and COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN arrived at the meeting during the explanation.

Mr. Tom Carroll of Jacob and Hefner was present on behalf of the petition.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE asked if the City can waive the tap-on fees for the Stone City Post.

The City Manager stated that the City does not waive tap-on fees, but all non-profit organizations only pay 50% of the building permit fees.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY expressed his concerns about the safety of the right-in/right out on Route 53.

The City Manager then explained Council Memo #223-06 dealing with the Recording Plat of Caton Farm/Ridge Road Commercial Subdivision.

Attorney Pat Brankin was present on behalf of the petition.

The City Manager then explained Council Memo #224-06 dealing with the Preliminary/Final and Recording Plats of G.H. Munroe's Subdivision at 20 E. Cass Street (Relyea Building) and a Development Agreement for the use of TIF Funds. He said the petitioner wants to convert the 2nd and 3rd floors of the property to 10 market rate apartment units to compliment the existing commercial on the 1st floor.

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COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked what their cost will be for reserving parking spaces in the Scott Street Parking Deck.

The City Manager stated that they will be purchasing monthly passes at the same rate that everyone else pays.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked if there is government money involved in this.

The City Manager said only the TIF funds.

COUNCILMAN LEDESMA asked if the TIF funds apply only to an existing building or can it be applied to a new building also.

The City Manager stated that it could be applied to a new building, but it would have to be within the TIF District.

COUNCILMAN UREMOVIC asked what the status is on the old YMCA.

The City Manager stated that construction will start this summer.

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

He explained Council Memo #231-06 dealing with a Standard Research Agreement with the University of Illinois for a Kendall County Groundwater Study. He said that a new agreement must be adopted because Shorewood elected to drop out of the group and pursue Lake Michigan water, and it will cost the City an additional \$5,000 per year over a three year period.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE asked where Shorewood will connect to get lake water.

The City Manager stated that he believes they are connecting through Plainfield.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked how the water will get from Plainfield to Shorewood without going through Joliet.

The City Manager stated that they will probably go down a State right-of-way or something like that.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked if the City will still sell Shorewood sewage capacity.

The City Manager stated that is correct. He stated that they are in the process of preparing to build their own sewage treatment plant for handling much of their future growth. He said that currently they have two million gallons a day reserved that they pay for at the City plant and they are using a little over one million, so they have another million to go and then everything else will go to their new plant.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked if they have a deep well system like the City does.

The City Manager stated that they have mostly shallow wells.

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COUNCILMAN BROPHY asked if the City could use those wells once they go to the lake water.

The City Manager stated that is a possibility if they want to dispose of those wells.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA said if Shorewood goes on lake water, that will take some pressure off the City's cone of depression where the City is drawing from.

The City Manager stated that is correct. He stated that there has been a tremendous improvement in terms of the drawdown in the aquifer because of all of the people going on lake water, and there are many years of good use out of that aquifer.

COUNCILMAN UREMOVIC asked for a copy of the results of the Phase I study.

The City Manager explained Council Memo #233-06 dealing with Agreements Between the City and Certain Public and Private Entities for the Sharing and Use of Riverboat Gaming Revenue, General Corporate and Neighborhood Improvement Funds. He said funding for the schools will come back to the Council later in a separate package.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked if the outstanding obligations that the City has on an annual basis to not-for-profit organizations are listed in the budget.

The City Manager stated that information could be gathered. He stated these are voluntary contributions, and even the obligations that the City has on some of these multi-year contracts are only obligations provided that sufficient funds are available.

COUNCILMAN SHETINA asked that the information be put together so he can see what the obligations are at this point.

The Corporation Counsel stated that there are only two contracts that the City has entered into that they would have to honor formally with another agency. He said one is the agreement with the Joliet Park District, which is a \$200,000 annual contingent debt, and the other is an ongoing operating subsidy that the City gives to the museum, which has another 7 years to go and that is around \$200,000. He stated that the others are discretionary arrangements.

COUNCILMAN TURK arrived at the meeting during the discussion.

1. Citizens to be Heard

- a. Cadre Robert Iuffues Webb II re: Hispanic Immigrants, City Ordinances, Freedom of Information Act and Constitutional Abuses

Mr. Webb gave his opinion regarding high density in single-family homes in certain areas, nuisance abatement and the eviction of tenants, denial of his FOIA requests and constitutional abuses by the Police Department.

COUNCILMAN BROPHY left the meeting during Mr. Webb's remarks.

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The City Manager advised there was no need to go into closed session.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN moved that the meeting adjourn.

Motion seconded by COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE.

Motion carried by the following vote:

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

NAYS: NONE.

ARTHUR SCHULTZ
Mayor

JANET K. TRAVEN
City Clerk

Recorded on Tape