

***Proceedings of the Council of the City of Joliet, Illinois
held on the 25th day of June, A.D. 2008***

SPECIAL MEETING of the Council of the City of Joliet, Illinois held on Wednesday, June 25, 2008 at 4:00 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, 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, DIRECTOR OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET KENNETH R. MIHELICH and DIRECTOR OF FINANCE HUGH BRENNAN.

COUNCILMAN GIARRANTE moved that the Council recess to closed session at 4:03 p.m. to discuss litigation, land acquisition and personnel after which the meeting will be reconvened.

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.

The meeting was reconvened at 4:35 p.m.

1. Position Vacancy
(Council Memo #787-08)

A communication from the City Manager contained his recommendation that he be authorized to fill the position of Fire Chief and any subsequent vacancies directly related to this position.

COUNCILWOMAN QUILLMAN 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.

2. Status Report – Various Projects

The City Manager advised that the petitioner for the Spencer Road Industrial Park Subdivision and a Special Use Permit to allow an over-the-road semi-truck

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maintenance facility at Spencer Road and Briggs Street will be requesting that these items be tabled to the July 15, 2008 Council meeting.

The City Manager also advised that Cornerstone Services will be requesting that their petition for a Special Use Permit for the construction of an 8-unit apartment building for individuals with disabilities at 3110 Thomas Hickey Avenue be tabled indefinitely, as they would like to look at other potential sites in the City.

3. CenterPoint Project Review Schedule

The City Manager advised that the Plan Commission has scheduled a meeting on July 17 at 4:00 p.m. to discuss CenterPoint's proposed plan to build an intermodal rail yard and industrial park on about 3,600 acres on the south end of Joliet, and he suggested that the Land Use Committee also meet around this date to consider this matter.

Several area property owners were in attendance and raised concerns about what CenterPoint is offering to pay for their homes.

Ms. Cynthia Rodriguez, whose one acre home is directly across the street from the development, said some property owners have been getting more than five times the value of their land, and she would hope to get a similar deal.

It was agreed that a Land Use Committee meeting will be held on July 16 at 4:00 p.m. to discuss the proposed CenterPoint Project. The Committee meeting will include a bus tour of the area following the meeting at City Hall.

The Council also agreed to hold a special meeting on Tuesday, July 29 at 6:00 p.m. with the CenterPoint Project being the only item on the agenda.

4. Mid-Year Budget Review

Director of Management and Budget Ken Mihelich explained a report he distributed of the City's actual revenues and expenses through May 2008 which showed an estimated deficit of \$7 million by the end of the year if revenues don't increase. He noted that construction related revenue is down, including water and sewer tap-on fees, impact fees and real estate transfer taxes. He estimated that gaming revenues would be down by about \$3.4 million by the end of the year, which is slightly more than projected, due to the economy and the smoking ban.

Mr. Mihelich outlined potential sources totaling \$15.8 million to cover the deficit if necessary, including revenue reserve and unallocated NIP, and delaying some projects such as the Master Communications Plan, the Rock Run Interceptor, CSO Elimination and New Well Development.

The City Manager said that the budget is sound and no severe cuts will have to be made. He said there are several projects that can be deferred such as those mentioned by Mr. Mihelich, and also some expenses can be cut.

The City Manager said we are not proposing to reduce any of the proposed school funding this year even with the drop in gaming revenue. He suggested that we look at those allocations when we work on the 2009 budget.

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The Mayor and Council agreed not to reduce the schools' share of riverboat gaming revenue this year. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the schools advising them of this.

The Director of Management and Budget advised that he would keep the Mayor and Council up-to-date on the City's expenses and revenues on a monthly basis.

5. Appointment of New Fire Chief

The City Manager announced the selection of Interim Fire Chief Joe Formhals as the new Fire Chief, replacing Richard Marose.

Fire Chief Formhals thanked the Mayor and City Council for his appointment and said he hopes to serve the City as Fire Chief for a long time.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

ARTHUR SCHULTZ
MAYOR

JANET K. TRAVEN
CITY CLERK