

URBANA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 25, 2012

The Urbana City Council Regular Session Meeting of Tuesday, September 25, 2012, was called to order at 7:00PM by **Council President Marty Hess**, in Court Chambers/The Municipal Building.

Attendance – All Council Members were present with the exception of Mr. Doug Hoffman.

City Staff – Mayor Bill Bean; Mr. Kerry Brugger, Director of Administration; Mr. Brad Bodenmiller; Police Chief Matt Lingrell; Mr. Robert Munch (Absent: Mr. Doug Crabill and Mr. Lee Williams)

Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Robert Thorpe moved to approve the UCC Regular Session Minutes (September 11, 2012), and the UCC Work Session Minutes (September 18, 2012); Mr. Eugene Fields seconded. Motion carried without objection.

Communications

1.

Mr. Larry Lokai moved to place the Notification of filing of Audit Report from Mr. Dave Yost, OH Auditor of State via email of September 4, 2012, to the Urbana City Council Office with attachments (Single Audit for the Year Ended December 31, 2011/City of Urbana/Champaign County; Transmittal Letter to Mr. Lee Williams, Finance Director; and Management Letter from Mr. Dave Yost, Auditor of State) on file; Mr. Thorpe seconded. Motion carried without objection.

Discussion –

Mr. Al Evans asked, “Are we going to have some type of meeting to have him (Mr. Williams) kind of go through that?”

“I could schedule it...we could schedule that at a Work Session, if you’d like...or...” Mr. Kerry Brugger replied.

“...or did anybody have any questions about that?” asked Mr. Evans.

Mr. Brugger said this communication will be posted on the website for full review, once it is accepted by Council.

“So...if we have any questions, try to deal with them (with Lee, first), and then if we need to have a...how does Council want to do that?” asked Mr. Evans.

Mr. Lokai said he feels Council can individually go over questions with Mr. Williams.

“Yeah—I don’t think we’ll need to have a Work Session,” Mr. Evans said.

Council President Hess said that if the next Regular Session is a short meeting, Council may elect to have a short Work Session following.

“I think it’s kind of good...if you have a question, somebody else may not have thought of that...and that way, they could have that question answered too...so...if you don’t mind...it’s up to you guys, but that’s my suggestion,” stated Council President Hess.

Mr. Lokai said, “I would concur if we have any questions that are real important...then maybe after the next meeting we can get those questions out, and have a mini-Work Session...”

2.

Mr. Thorpe moved to place the City of Urbana Shade Tree Commission Minutes (July & August 2012) on file; Mr. Fields seconded. Motion carried without objection.

Discussion –

Mr. Evans stated:

“We’re just in the process of wrapping up...we’ve got the inventory done ...we need to get the inventory corrections onto the database...I guess over the weekend we lost a few more trees out there, so we need to get out there...and kind of ‘x’ them off. We’re in the planning stages right now (and I believe Doug has called a meeting for tomorrow). Next year in April, Urbana (as a Tree City) will host the annual ‘Tree City Awards’ ...and it’s a pretty good deal for tree city communities, and we’re going to be doing it out at the University...so we’re going to be having our first organizational meeting about that function tomorrow here at 2:30. I think what we’re going to do...Elmo (Mr. Layman) and Doug (Crabill), and some of the other members...we’re going to put together some recommendations, and maybe ask to have some time to kind of put forward a comprehensive program to...we’ve got some troubled trees in the city, and we need to get them out of there...and we need to deal with the additional Ash Borer problem, with the Ash Trees. We’re going to kind of put together a program (and maybe bring it to Council)...”

Mr. Evans explained the need/importance to replace trees as others are removed. He said Council may be approached about solutions to/cost of tree replacement in the future.

Council President Hess said, “Last week (after the Work Session at the Cemetery), several people asked me how it went...and one thing they all (not all, but the majority of the people) would like to see more trees in the new area...and I don’t know if that’s something...if service clubs have extra money laying around (or something that they can donate specifically to that fund to put trees out there)...because had we put those trees in 25 years ago, it would be a nicely wooded area now...so...”

“All the new trees that are out there were planted by the Tree Commission...one of the problems with...most of the trees out there are lining the avenues...one of the problems about putting trees out there in the middle, is we have gravesites out there...so...are we going to plot gravesites around the trees, or are we going to put trees where the gravesites are?” asked Mr. Evans. “That’s something that has to be worked out—with a master plan.”

Mr. Brugger stated, “The gravesites have already been platted, so it’s just a matter of identifying...”

“...and there’s always...(you know) we don’t get trees for free,” said Mr. Evans. “That would be included with this presentation as far as having a separate budget for trees.”

Administrative Reports – Board of Control

Mr. Thorpe moved to authorize a purchase order to Purvis Brothers in the amount of \$50,000 for fuel for the remainder of 2012 at the Airport (This will be charged to the Airport, and is not in the 2012 Budget); Mr. Fields seconded. Motion carried without objection.

Discussion –

Mr. Brugger stated, “This is kind of tough to budget...for how much fuel you’re going to need based on usage, so...the amount we had planned for, obviously we kind of exceeded that...pretty busy Spring, so...this is a plan to try to get us through the year, and get us out, on into 2013.”

Mr. Thorpe asked, “Purvis—was there another bid for fuel, or...?”

“Purvis had to have been...I think, it was last year (or the year before) they went out for a bid...for like a 3 year period, so Purvis owns the contract now,” replied Mr. Brugger.

Mr. Lokai said, “I think everybody is well aware that we do not sell the fuel at cost—we do make a small mark up on it...and to let you know that the Airport has been very busy the last year with a lot of activities...and to provide fuel for future customers and projects, we need to have enough to get through the year...so I think it’s only wise that we go ahead, and purchase this fuel...it would be very wise to move forward with this.”

Mr. Dwight Paul said, “I agree with Mr. Lokai—other than that, nothing else to add.”

Mr. Fields added, “This is just like a pass through—we buy it and sell it...and get a little money on it.”

“Take a little mark up,” Mr. Brugger agreed.

“This is one of the things that helps the Airport be self-sufficient...so...” said Council President Hess. “Profit’s not a bad word.”

Mr. Thorpe asked, “The fuel dispersement—is most of it credit card?”

Mr. Brugger replied, “There’s about 3 different methods (that depending on)...you know, whether it’s somebody from out of state, out of town, or if they’re local...so it’s a combination...generally, about 89% of it of it is credit card.”

Citizen Comments

Mr. John Shutway, 573 E. Church St., addressed Council regarding the property previously discussed on Twain Ave. He briefly mentioned perhaps looking into ‘Moving Ohio Forward.’

Mr. Bill Kelley (DP&L) told Council of him impending retirement from DP&L as of 9-28-2012.

He said, “I wanted to thank all of you, and previous administrations (and Council Members)...everybody here has been very good to me...I’ve enjoyed working with you over the last 6 ½ years or so. I also wanted to let you know that...just this morning...everything was finalized on hiring my replacement...he’s going to start on October 15th...and then I’m going to come back for a few hours here and there, to work with him on training and so forth...and in the meantime (on my email and voicemail) there will be a number for my boss in Dayton, who will handle any questions or problems that come up during that time...but I’ve enjoyed it...and I thank you very much for how gracious you all have been to me.”

Several members of Council voiced a ‘good luck,’ while Mrs. Virginia Smith asked, “Where’s the party?”

Ordinances and Resolutions

Third Reading –

There were no Third Readings at this Meeting.

Second Reading –

RESOLUTION NO. 2374 – (REVISED)

Discussion –

Mr. Brugger stated, “Lee asked if I could share...just a real quick overview of what happened...he had put in his request...about \$468,000 is what he anticipated coming back. Somewhere there was a calculation that didn’t quite work out...the First Reading had a lower number...about \$366,000 (or thereabouts), but it was based on a two-mill...and they went back, talked to Karen...recalculated, based on a different millage that was supposed to be 2.7...”

Mr. Brugger noted that Mr. Lee Williams wanted to request a suspension of the rules, and passage of this Resolution at this meeting.

Mr. Lokai moved to suspend the rules on three readings; Mr. Paul seconded.

Roll call vote to approve suspension: Mr. Fields, yes; Mr. Evans, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; Mrs. Smith, yes; Mr. Lokai, yes; Mr. Thorpe, yes (6-0)

Mr. Lokai moved to place Resolution No. 2374 on the business floor for discussion and passage; Mr. Paul seconded.

Roll call vote to approve passage: Mr. Evans, yes; Mr. Paul, yes; Mrs. Smith, yes; Mr. Lokai, yes; Mr. Thorpe, yes; Mr. Fields, yes (6-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 2375 – (*Read and declared a Second Reading)

Discussion –

Mr. Lokai said:

“I went up today to look at the property...and I agree that there are some problems with the property...I’m not so sure that it completely justifies us (the City of Urbana) to pay \$8,600 in taxes...I know, one responsibility we have as a Council Member, is to kind of watch the tax dollars for the city. I also know that the property...whoever owns the property...is actually liable for the taxes, and uh... would like to see some kind of variance, because we’re talking about one municipality charging taxes to another municipality. I would think (somewhere down the road) that we should be able to get a variance on that. I know...originally it was understood that way, but...I do not think it’s a good suggestion, or a good thing for the City to say, ‘Habitat for Humanity—you can have the property, and we’re going to pay the taxes.’ That’s not (in my opinion) good use of taxpayer dollars—there’s other ways to use that money. If Habitat for Humanity would pay the taxes (back taxes) then...I would be in favor of it! But I’m adamantly opposed as is...and a few other people in this city that have brought it to my attention are like, ‘Why are you paying back taxes on the something that was given to us?’ The schools—if they thought it was such a great deal—the schools could’ve picked up that property...and by all means, the County who is assessing the taxes (and they’re going to get...you know...that money sent to them...metered out)...they could’ve taken the property, so my question to all the Council Members (and everybody else) is...if this was such a good deal, why didn’t they jump on it? Why did we get stuck with it? We had to take it obviously...so I just don’t think we need to pass this thing, if we’ve got to pay the taxes. If—Habitat for Humanity will pay the taxes, then I think we should go forward with it. They’re not in the business to lose money—they’re not going to lose money on it—they’re going to charge enough on the property to break even, so I would say that...let’s pursue the avenue of either having them pay the taxes...or lay it on the table until we get a variance on this property. I just don’t think it’s a wise thing for us to cough up \$8,600 for something we didn’t accrue as a property owner.”

Mr. Brugger said, “If I could just...a couple things...first of all (just to make sure it’s clear that), the property was acquired through a vote of Council. Second of all—we did talk with Habitat yesterday, and they’re willing to go half on the back taxes...up to \$4,400...so they’re asking if we could consider that.”

“Why wouldn’t they go full?” asked Mr. Lokai.

“Because they said they would go half,” Mr. Brugger responded. “I don’t know why they didn’t go full.”

“Just out of curiosity...when they (Habitat for Humanity) put a property out there, they’re going to get their money back...correct?” asked Mr. Lokai.

“I don’t know how the business operates,” answered Mr. Brugger.

“They’re not going to...it’s not a...maybe I misunderstand how this works...they’re not going to lose money on this...somebody is going to have to pay for it somewhere down the road,” Mr. Lokai said.

“Well—you might want to visit with Jim Ballard to get all the specifics,” said Mr. Evans. “From my understanding, the way Habitat for Humanity works...the labor is volunteer, most of the materials are...the person that’s going to obtain the home has sweat equity in it...they actually help participate in the building of it...so, I’m not so sure that Habitat for Humanity makes any money on giving people houses. I think they rely on donations/in-kind services, and things like that...so I don’t think that they would make...any money that they would pay (I think) even \$4,400 would probably be money that they had donated to them. They run a store out there they call ‘Restore,’ but they take donations out there and resell them to generate...so they’re a non-profit...so...I’m sure they have donations, but...that gives you an idea...”

“Before the Third Reading—I’ll go into depth, and study it...” Mr. Lokai emphasized. Mr. Evans told Mr. Lokai he should sit down with Jim Ballard to get ‘the ins and outs.’ “I still stand firm on what I believe (and what other people believe)—we should not have to pay \$1. for taxes!” stated Mr. Lokai.

Mr. Paul said, “Well, the property is definitely an eyesore—it’s not going to get any better until something is done! Mr. Shutway brought up the ‘Moving Ohio Forward’...I thought that came up when we talked about this before!”

“It did—it did—Brad is working very closely with the County,” Mr. Brugger replied. “Brad and Doug are working for the local properties...there are a lot of properties out there that are...in real bad shape, and so there’s a limit...you cannot be able to go through and say, ‘I want everything I’ve got—gone.’ So we’ve got to prioritize, and look for opportunities...so at some point down the road (as we mentioned at the last meeting)... ‘Well, what if we just tear it down, and sit on it?’ That’s fine—but sooner or later (if you ever transfer it) those taxes are sitting there...so any cost we add to it at this point...we’re just kicking the can down the street...until at some point down the road...unless we get a...a...different order from the Court!...I can’t fix anything that happened in the past—all we can do is deal with what we have on our plate.”

“So—Brad (if I could ask you that)—this ‘Moving Ohio Forward,’ would that cover demolition of the property possibly? What would that cover as far as this particular property?” asked Mr. Paul.

Mr. Brad Bodenmiller answered, “I think possibly, but (as Kerry indicated) we’re working on a number of properties...I don’t mean to make it sound like we have blights around every corner of the city...we’ve really done a nice job of addressing those, but I think there are other pieces of property that are a higher priority than this one...”

Mr. Bodenmiller pointed to a figure of \$250,000 that ‘gets split amongst every community, township, village, city, and the county.’

Again, based upon his inspections, Mr. Bodenmiller did not rate the Twain Ave. property as a priority property.

“They (Habitat) are willing to go halves with us, but the taxes aren’t going to go away—it’s just a fact,” stated Mr. Paul. “From where I sit right now—I know this is a Second

Reading, but from where I sit right now (for \$4,400) that seems like a drop in the bucket. It's a blight—the property is awful. It's awful!"

"I might also add—if we did demolition, demolition would normally be between \$3,000-\$8,000.," said Mr. Bodenmiller, also explaining the complications involved.

"In an effort to try to get some clarity—I did talk with the Auditor about the process of transferring a piece of property, and I do know for a fact that...when a piece of property is transferred, the taxes follow that property," Mr. Evans stated. "\$8,600 is the amount that we're talking about, but there also was a discussion about assessments...and from what I understand (currently) there are assessments...\$8,600...waiting for a ruling from the Judge. I understand that...in order for Habitat to take possession of it with a clear deed, someone has to pay the taxes...whether they pay for it, or we pay...the taxes have to be satisfied before anybody can get a clear deed on it."

Mr. Evans asked (regarding demolition), "Have we been in there, and do we have an asbestos problem? Do we have a situation that's going to drive up the cost of the demolition?"

Mr. Bodenmiller responded, "I'm not sure...I've only been through the property with the Building Dept....they said, 'Yes, there are structural issues here. There are safety concerns here'...that the house should be demolished."

"So—basically, if we keep the property...and we're taken to Court by our Zoning Dept. for abatement, and we have to tear it down...we could be looking at an asbestos problem...possibly," said Mr. Evans.

"Possibly," Mr. Bodenmiller replied.

"Would it increase the cost of demolition?" asked Mr. Evans.

"Correct," answered Mr. Bodenmiller.

Mr. Evans said:

"Wow—if we auction it off to the highest bidder...I know there's been a couple attempts to have a Sheriff's Sale...currently we have no money other than...maintenance invested...in the previous...I've got some questions, so...the \$8,600, are there any liens that we put on that property (when it was under the owner) that we mowed, or we did something with that property that we assess in taxes?"

"We mowed the property—we assessed the taxes—I don't know whether that amount is included in there," replied Mr. Bodenmiller. "Obviously, we're..."

"So we've got in a situation where...we looked at what...we forgive our part of it, to lower it...is there a number on how much we've attached?" asked Mr. Evans.

"I think you'd really have to get a breakdown from the Auditor's Office," said Mr. Bodenmiller.

"See—this is my point, Mr. Brugger—my point is, we've got more questions than we have answers...so I would move that we table this, until we get some of these questions answered," stated Mr. Evans.

"Second," Mr. Lokai said.

"Can I ask for a clarification?" asked Mr. Paul.

"Yes--sure," said Council President Hess.

"What are you making a motion to do?" asked Mr. Paul.

Mr. Evans said, "To table this, until we get some of these questions answered."

"So you view this as a Second Reading," said Mr. Paul.

"Why are you tabling this as a Second Reading, Al?" asked Mr. Thorpe.

“You can table it any time you want,” replied Mr. Evans.

“I understand that, but...” said Mr. Thorpe.

“You’ll get a shot at getting your answers,” said Council President Hess.

“Get our answers...maybe the Judge will rule...” Mr. Evans said.

Mr. Lokai clarified, “The reason for tabling the motion is very simple...you’re lacking information...you need more time to find out things...put it on the table...get the questions answered...bring it off the table, and act on it! Right now, there are a lot of questions that we should get answered...and Al, I appreciate you doing that...I was going to do that, I’ll let you do it...I think...this is a reason to table...”

“Would you consider waiting...until...?” Mr. Paul began.

Council President Hess said, “We already have a Second.”

Mayor Bill Bean said, “I’m sitting here, and I’m a bit confused...what are the questions?”

Mr. Evans answered, “Well, you know...the Judge hasn’t ruled yet...we don’t know for sure whether we will even owe the taxes, or if there’s some type of variance.”

“Correct,” said Mayor Bean.

Mr. Evans stated:

“As far as I’m concerned, there’s questions about what the cost of demolition would be if we were to keep the property...I mean...he (Mr. Bodenmiller) says that it could be \$3,000-\$8,000...if there’s asbestos in there (that’s an ‘if’)...I’d just like to have some more information...I’d like to be able to meet with the Auditor, to get clarification on what actually is owed...and how much of that is taxes...how much of that is...add ons.”

Mr. Brugger interjected:

“If I could just make a request—so far I’m hearing demolition cost, and actual assessments or other fees...what I’d like to do is make sure (I’m going to go do my homework) that I know what the homework assignment is! If those are the 2 items that need answers, that’s okay. If there’s more, I’d like to have an email like within 48 hours!”

Mr. Evans said, “About demolition...and about the \$8,600...what assessments...what are they...and how much of it is actually property tax.”

Mr. Brugger referred to a print out with a current statement of \$8,952.29, and he noted he did not see any assessment penalties listed.

“It shows delinquent real estate, but again—I don’t know what that breakout is,” said Mr. Brugger, referring to the website, a numbers differential, and the point of transfer.

He said that when the property is transferred, numbers are forced back to the date in time that the Court orders the transfer.

“...and then the other...” Mr. Evans began.

Council President Hess reminded Mr. Evans, “He’s asked for questions...you can email it to him...so if you have any.”

“No—I can make another statement—I still have the floor!” said Mr. Evans.

“But he’s asking, if you still have...” Council President Hess said.

“Yeah, I gotcha—the other thing is—wouldn’t it be prudent for us to wait for the Judge to make a ruling?” asked Mr. Evans.

“That’s exactly what we’re here for—we’re asking,” said Mr. Brugger. “...and you have the obligation to do what you feel is right.”

“Mr. Fields—did you have any questions?” asked Council President Hess.

“The only—Al kind of covered the question I had, as to whether or not we had any assessments as far as going...if we could forgive,” said Mr. Fields.

“Okay—we have a motion on the floor to table this,” said Council President Hess.

“I have a question—if we’re going to wait for the Judge, how long do we have to wait on that Judge to make a decision?” asked Mrs. Virginia Smith.

Mr. Brugger responded, “Until the Judge is finished.”

“So—that could be a year from now?” asked Mrs. Smith.

“The current Judge leaves the position at the end of the year,” replied Mr. Brugger.

“Oh—okay,” said Mrs. Smith.

“How that transpires—I don’t know if he’s obligated to clear the docket, or pass it on—I can’t speak to that,” Mr. Brugger said.

Mr. Thorpe (recognized By Council President Hess as having his hand up) began, “You gave a figure of...eighty...”

“It’s around \$8,600 (is what the current price will be), and they’re willing to go halves up to \$4,400...if it’s \$8,600, they’ll put in \$4,300...”said Mr. Brugger.

“But you gave a figure bigger than eighty-six,” Mr. Thorpe corrected.

“I’m sorry?” said Mr. Brugger.

“You gave a different figure than the eighty-six!” Mr. Thorpe said.

Mr. Brugger repeated the figure on the website, and again explained the figure rollover. Several began to speak at one time.

Mr. Lokai stated, “A motion to lay it on the table is not debatable! You either vote on it—pass it, or vote on it...and fail it! It is not a debatable motion!”

“You weren’t debating the motion,” said Council President Hess.

“Pardon?” said Mr. Lokai.

“You weren’t debating the motion,” repeated Council President Hess.

“I—i-e-e-e,” Mr. Lokai said.

Mr. Fields called for a vote.

“I was just getting ready—thank you,” said Council President Hess.

Roll call vote to approve: Mr. Paul, no; Mrs. Smith, no; Mr. Lokai, yes; Mr. Thorpe, no; Mr. Fields, no; Mr. Evans, yes (4-no to 2-yes) Motion to TABLE defeated.

Council President Hess reminded Council to forward questions to Mr. Brugger as requested, and he instructed Council to also forward the questions to the rest of Council (so that others are aware ‘of what you’re asking’).

First Reading –

ORDINANCE NO. 4387 –

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 1117.03 SINGLE NON-CONFORMING LOTS OF RECORD

(*Read and declared a First Reading)

Mr. Bodenmiller explained:

“The intent of this Ordinance is to allow for--in the rare occasion that someone has a residential property...and they buy another property...and they combine the 2 properties together...that both of the properties have equal use. For example, if I have a house and I buy my neighbor’s house...and I combine both houses (the lots that both houses are on)...that they would be allowed to take that back through BZA action to the existing, most recent configuration of the lot layout...so...it’s really just trying to help people when they do something that’s kind of unusual...”

Mr. Bodenmiller provided a few examples.

Council President Hess made reference to an 'older of section of town where this happened a long, long time ago.'

"Right—I can't even imagine a situation where this would happen...and like the southeast section of town...all those lots are maybe 100 feet long, or 100 feet wide...it's pretty unusual...a lot of our older sections of town require 60 feet of frontage..." said Mr. Bodenmiller.

Mr. Bodenmiller announced the Public Hearing to accompany this Ordinance as prior to the next Regular UCC Meeting, on October 9, 2012. Council was asked to prepare questions.

Mr. Thorpe asked, "If you combine 2 lots—does that make the 2 lots more valuable to the County...and you're going to assess a higher tax?"

"I can't speak to that—I'm not sure," replied Mr. Bodenmiller. "This just deals with the zoning, so I don't know how that works in the Auditor's world."

"When I owned 347 Scioto—that's 2 lots—no matter how big that is out there, it's very small," said Mr. Thorpe. "If I combined those 2 lots, it was going to increase my taxes."

Mr. Bodenmiller replied, "Well, it would have to be a house plus another structure...this doesn't allow for...if you buy a lot that's 40 feet wide (that has a house on it), and a vacant lot that's 20 feet wide...you actually are not allowed to (with the Zoning Code) sell that 20 foot wide lot off (if they're under the same ownership) and they equal (or come close to) that 60 foot frontage...so if you combine the 2 of them, and you come in and ask me if you're allowed to split it...BZA should say, 'No—it's not possible.'"

"Thank you," said Mr. Thorpe.

Miscellaneous Business

Mr. Thorpe moved to excuse Councilman Doug Hoffman from this Meeting; Mr. Paul seconded. All were in favor of excusing Mr. Hoffman.

Mr. Thorpe - Nothing at this time

Mr. Lokai - Said: "A point of clarification—we talked about this 3 years ago (and we talked about it again tonight)--when you take a motion off the table, or you put it on the table...I don't care what you do...you don't discuss it! You go directly to a vote! True—we were discussing things here about the motion (about the property), but the proper procedure (if we are going to follow them—we get tied up in all these proper procedures)...if you're going to lay a motion on the table, or you're going to take it off the table (either one), you don't discuss it! It goes directly to a vote—that's the end of it! I pointed that out 3 years ago, and it was kind of laughed at. I guess—while I'm on Council, I'll be a stickler on it. If you're a stickler on things, you might as well be a stickler on what's proper!"

Mrs. Smith - Expressed appreciation to Mr. Robert Munch for expeditiously dealing with a reported water problem on Hagenbuch

Mr. Paul - Again announced the Chili Cook Off & Hoopla Parade (repeated date/times/registration info & websites)

Mr. Evans - Noted receiving a call from a citizen asking, 'How many dogs can 1 person have on a property?'

Council President Hess said, "I believe that's a county issue."

Mr. Brugger said he would get more information.

Said a property on Loudon (with no house) apparently was reported as having 12 dogs; Said the dogs are not mistreated, but the neighbors are complaining about barking

“The residents in the area would like for us to help them solve this problem,” Mr. Evans emphasized.

Mr. Fields - Said, “The only thing I would say about...on what Mr. Lokai commented on...when they made the motion, I hadn’t gotten a chance to address that yet...I hadn’t had my opportunity to say anything about that property when they made the motion.”

Mr. Bodenmiller- Nothing at this time

Mr. Robert Munch –

Nothing at this time

Police Chief Matt Lingrell –

Nothing at this time

Mr. Brugger - Said, “A couple things—first of all—the intersection of Abbey Lane and North Russell St. (it’s probably a familiar intersection to a lot of people)...we have that intersection (and others that we’ve seen) continue increases of complaints about view obstruction. This one (in particular) causes substantial issues around for a lot of people...so we’ve done some evaluation...the traffic count isn’t high enough to warrant (by normal standards) a 4 way stop/all way stop. We’re working through (Tyler and Mike)—it does warrant for safety reasons that can (at least temporarily) assign that a 4 way/all way stop at that intersection...until such time that a full engineering study can be done. It’s just 1 area that continues to crop up periodically, and unfortunately we had an incident this Spring (that was rather severe). We are planning to make that intersection an all way stop—at least on an interim basis, until we can do a full evaluation...and we are looking at an opportunity to go through (on a larger scale) either Ward by Ward, or case by case (however). We do have a few obstructions throughout the city that we need to address, so it’s just an opportunity for us to (at least try to) address this issue...and then look at others as we move forward.”

Announced the administrative scheduling of another Saturday morning Retreat on October 27, 2012 (8:00/8:30AM to 11:00/11:30AM)

He said other departments that were not brought in at the previous Retreat may be brought into this one, ‘especially since we’re now getting into the Budget.’

“If there are any specifics for us that you would like to include, please forward those to us—we’ll put together an Agenda here in the next couple weeks,” he said.

“The 4th Ward Water Evaluation Project—we’ve been working through that—Thursday morning, Floyd Browne is going to be back on-site,” Mr. Brugger stated. “They’ve pulled together (what they believe) is all

the information that they can pull together...so what they'd like to do is spend a couple hours here, and they've got some areas that they'd like to confirm...and spend some time with Bob, Tyler, Mike, Chad (and anybody else from the City) that has documents that might help them fill some of their gaps/answer some of their questions."

Referred to the Phoenix Drive project—continuation to work toward completion (in favorable weather conditions) by November 26, 2012.

Said, "I appreciate the opportunity to meet with everyone at the Cemetery last Tuesday. I believe there are a lot of items to discuss. We brought up some good questions. I've been getting some feedback from the community...I appreciate the opportunity to change venues, and meet out there...and kind of talk a little more specific about that area."

Mayor Bean - Congratulated Mr. Bill Kelley (DP&L) on his retirement, and expressed appreciation to Mr. Kelley for his service to Urbana

Said, "Urbana buried one of its finest citizens today, in Judge Joe Kerns...he was a great citizen to Urbana...he served his community and his locale, and his state very well...and Judge Kerns will be sorely missed! I just wanted to thank his family for everything that he's done." Council President Hess added, "Judge Kerns was 90 years old...his wife is also 90 years old...as a married couple, that's 180 years of nothing but good for Urbana...so...great family."

Council President Hess –
Nothing further at this time

Adjournment

Mr. Thorpe moved to adjourn the UCC Regular Session at 7:52PM; Mr. Lokai seconded. All were in favor of adjournment.

Council Clerk

Council President

