

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS**

The Council convened in regular Session in the Council Chambers, City Hall Building, at 7:30 p.m., Monday, March 22, 2010.

The Meeting was opened by Pledging Allegiance to the Flag followed by Silent Prayer.

The Meeting was called to order by the Mayor who directed the City Clerk to call the roll and the following members answered present:

Aldermen: Judy Stearns, Kevin Huette, David Sage, Jennifer McDade, Steven Purcell, Karen Schmidt, Jim Fruin and Mayor Stephen F. Stockton.

Aldermen Absent: Bernie Anderson and John Hanson.

City Manager David Hales, City Clerk Tracey Covert, and Asst. Corporate Counsel George Boyle were also present.

Staff Absent: Todd Greenburg, Corporation Counsel.

Motion by Alderman Schmidt, seconded by Alderman McDade to amend the Regular Agenda by placing discussion of the *Downtown Bloomington Strategy* after the Approval of Agreement with the Salvation Army.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

The following was presented:

SUBJECT: Council Proceedings of March 26, 2007 and January 12, 2009, Executive Session and Work Session for January 11, 2010

RECOMMENDATION: That the reading of the minutes of the previous Council Proceedings of March 26, 2007 and January 12, 2009, Executive Session and Work Session for January 11, 2010 be dispensed with and the minutes approved as printed.

BACKGROUND: The Council Proceedings of March 26, 2007 and January 12, 2009, Executive Session and Work Session for January 11, 2010 have been reviewed and certified as correct and complete by the City Clerk.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted for Council consideration.

Prepared by:

Recommended by:

Tracey Covert
City Clerk

David A. Hales
City Manager

Motion by Alderman McDade, seconded by Alderman Purcell that the reading of the minutes of the previous Council Meeting of March 26, 2007 and January 12, 2009, and the Executive Session and Work Session for January 11, 2010 be dispensed with and the minutes approved as printed.

The Mayor directed the clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Aldermen Stearns, Huette, Schmidt, McDade, Sage, Fruin and Purcell.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

SUBJECT: Bills and Payroll

RECOMMENDATION: That the bills and payroll be allowed and orders drawn on the Treasurer for the various amounts as funds are available.

BACKGROUND: The list of bills and payrolls will be furnished to you on Friday, March 19, 2010 by posting via the City's web site.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Respectfully submitted for Council consideration.

Prepared by:

Recommended by:

Timothy Ervin
Director of Finance

David A. Hales
City Manager

(ON FILE IN CLERK'S OFFICE)

Motion by Alderman McDade, seconded by Alderman Purcell that the bills and payroll be allowed and orders drawn on the Treasurer for the various amounts as funds are available.

The Mayor directed the clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Aldermen Stearns, Huette, Schmidt, McDade, Sage, Fruin and Purcell.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

SUBJECT: Payments from Various Municipal Departments

RECOMMENDATION: That the payments be approved.

BACKGROUND: All of the described payments are for planned and budgeted contracts previously approved by the City Council.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: As follows:

1. The twenty-fourth partial payment to Town of Normal in the amount of \$284,691.83 on a percentage basis contract of which \$5,180,817.08 will have been paid to date for work certified as ongoing for the Metro Zone Sales Tax Rebate. Completion date – Ongoing.
2. The twentieth partial payment to Interchange City West in the amount of \$144,876.47 on a contract amount of \$3,700,487.08 of which \$2,518,068.43 (\$11,254.99 in reimburseables) will have been paid to date for work certified as 68% complete for the Metro Zone Tax Rebate. Completion date – November 2010.
3. The eleventh partial payment to Economic Development Council of Bloomington/Normal in the amount of \$6,666.66 on a contract amount of \$80,000 of which \$73,333.26 will have been paid to date for work certified as 92% complete for the McLean County Economic Development. Completion date – April 2010.
4. The eleventh partial payment to Technical Design Services in the amount of \$13,214 on a contract amount of \$99,619 of which \$88,219.06 (\$6,290.06 in reimburseables) will have been paid to date for work certified as 82% complete for the Enterprise Resource Planning Full System Selection Process – Phase 1. Completion date – February 2010.

5. The twelfth partial payment to Technical Design Services in the amount of \$2,100 on a contract amount of \$99,619 of which \$90,319.06 (\$6,290.06 in reimburseables) will have been paid to date for work certified as 84% complete for the Enterprise Resource Planning Full System Selection Process – Phase 1. Completion date – February 2010.
6. The ninth partial payment to the Pantagraph in the amount of \$1,592.08 on a contract amount of \$46,580.16 of which \$36,678.28 will have been paid to date for work certified as 79% complete for the 2009-2010 Seasonal Advertising Services. Completion date – April 2010.
7. The sixth and final payment to McLean County Regional Planning Commission in the amount of \$25,069.44 on a contract amount of \$300,541.43 of which \$287,947.88 will have been paid to date for work certified as 100% complete for the Pinnacle Mapping Technologies, Inc., a/k/a Aerial Photography. Completion date – April 2008.
8. The third and final payment to James Shirk/Sale Barn Properties in the amount of \$160,052.33 on a contract amount of \$480,157 of which \$480,157 will have been paid to date for work certified as 100% complete for the James Shirk – Right of Way and Easement Purchase. Completion date – March 2010.
9. The second partial payment to Testing Services Corporation in the amount of \$643.50 on a per ton and hour contract of which \$2,613.50 will have been paid to date for work certified as ongoing for the 2010-2011 Asphalt & Portland Concrete Plant Inspection & Laboratory Testing. Completion date – December 2011.

Respectfully submitted for Council consideration.

Prepared by:

Recommended by:

Tracey Covert
City Clerk

David A. Hales
City Manager

Motion by Alderman McDade, seconded by Alderman Purcell that the payments be approved.

The Mayor directed the clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Aldermen Stearns, Huette, Schmidt, McDade, Sage, Fruin and Purcell.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

SUBJECT: Report

RECOMMENDATION: That the report be received and placed on file.

BACKGROUND: The following report should be received and placed on file with the City Clerk:

1. Monthly Receipt & Expenditure Report, February 2010.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted for Council consideration.

Prepared by:

Reviewed by:

Recommended by:

Tracey Covert
City Clerk

Timothy Ervin
Director of Finance

David A. Hales
City Manager

Motion by Alderman McDade, seconded by Alderman Purcell that the report be placed on file and made a matter of record.

The Mayor directed the clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Aldermen Stearns, Huette, Schmidt, McDade, Sage, Fruin and Purcell.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

SUBJECT: Amendment for Project Agreement Grant with Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for Gaelic Park

RECOMMENDATION: That the amendment to the Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Grant for Gaelic Park be approved and the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents.

BACKGROUND: Following the January 25, 2010 Council meeting, staff was successful in obtaining a two (2) year extension for the \$400,000 OSLAD Grant for Gaelic Park. Staff

submitted the necessary documents on February 1, 2010 and was recently notified of approval by the IDNR Grant Administration. The new deadline for this grant is now December 31, 2012.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: Illinois Department of Natural Resources Grant Administration.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted for Council consideration.

Prepared by:

John Kennedy
Director of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts

Reviewed by:

Barbara J. Adkins
Deputy City Manager

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Department of Natural Resources

Reviewed as to legal sufficiency:

J. Todd Greenburg
Corporation Counsel

Recommended by:

David A. Hales
City Manager

Sponsor: City of Bloomington
Project Amendment #: OS 08-1581.1

AMENDMENT TO PROJECT AGREEMENT

THIS AMENDMENT TO Project Agreement # OS 08-1581 is hereby made and agreed upon by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and by the City of Bloomington pursuant to the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Act, as amended, (525 ILCS, 35/1, et. Seq.).

The Sponsor and the IDNR, in mutual consideration of the promises made herein and in the Project Agreement of which this is an amendment, do promise as follows: **The original project ending date has been extended from June 30, 2010 to December 31, 2012. The original grant amount of \$400,000 remains the same.**

That the rationale for making the contract amendment is as follows:

- [X] The circumstances that necessitate the change in performance were not reasonably foreseeable at the time the contract was signed.
- [X] The circumstances that necessitate the change in performance were not within the contemplation of the contract as signed.

[X] The circumstances that necessitate the change in performance are in the best interest of the unit of State or local government and authorized by law.

Specific circumstances requiring this amendment are:

A copy of the letter request from the City of Bloomington dated February 1, 2010 to extend the ending date of this grant is attached and incorporated by reference as Exhibit "A".

In all other respects the Project Agreement of which this is an amendment, and the plans and specifications relevant thereto, shall remain in full force and effect. In witness whereof, the parties hereto have executed this amendment as of the date entered below.

PROJECT SPONSOR

City of Bloomington
Agency

Stephen F. Stockton
Mayor

March 23, 2010

STATE OF ILLINOIS

IL Department of Natural Resources
Agency

(ATTACHMENT A – CERTIFICATIONS AND EXHIBIT A – LETTER ON FILE IN CLERK’S OFFICE)

Motion by Alderman McDade, seconded by Alderman Purcell that the Amendment to the Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Grant for Gaelic Park be approved, and the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized the execute the necessary documents.

The Mayor directed the clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Aldermen Stearns, Huette, Schmidt, McDade, Sage, Fruin and Purcell.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

SUBJECT: Replacement of Forty (40) Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) for Police Vehicles

RECOMMENDATION: That forty (40) MDT’s be purchased from PTC Select in the amount of \$149,000, and the Purchasing Agent authorized to issue a Purchase Order for same.

BACKGROUND: The Police Department uses MDT's within each police vehicle for critical communications between officers and State of Illinois, McLean County and City network based resources. These computers connect officers to the E911 Dispatch Center, the State of Illinois Wireless Information Network (IWIN) and Law Enforcement Agency Data System (LEADS) networks; the McLean County E-Justice (EJS) records management system; the Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit "Vault" system; the City enterprise email system, and many other network resources. These MDT's are a critical tool used by officers twenty-four (24) hours per day.

The original forty (40) MDT's were purchased in June 2005. They are Panasonic Toughbook computers, which are "hardened" laptops designed to withstand extreme environments and a high degree of vibration throughout their lifespan. They have performed well, but are aging and have been experiencing a higher than normal percentage of failure. Performance has also become a limiting factor. Processing speed and memory capacity of the current MDT's limits the degree to which the officers are able to take advantage of all the applications available from their vehicles.

Staff sought proposals to purchase forty (40) replacement MDT's and received the following:

| | | | |
|---|-------------------|--------------|----------------|
| PTC Select | Peoria, IL | \$149,000.00 | ***recommended |
| CDS Office Technologies State of Illinois Contract | Peoria, IL | \$149,040.00 | |
| MNJ Technologies Direct | Buffalo Grove, IL | \$149,290.00 | |
| CDWG Inc | Vernon Hills, IL | \$160,080.00 | |
| eXpansys, Inc. | Bloomington, IL | \$166,800.00 | |

Staff respectfully recommends that Council approve the purchase forty (40) replacement MDT computers used in the Police Department's squad cars and other vehicles for \$149,000.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Staff did not originally plan to replace these computers until FY 2011. Due to slight delays in the City's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) project, dollars budgeted in FY 2010 are available for this purchase.

These funds have been budgeted for FY 2010 within the Information Services G11610-72120 account code.

Respectfully submitted for Council consideration.

Prepared by:

Recommended by:

Scott A. Sprouls
Director of Information Services

David A. Hales
City Manager

Alderman Purcell questioned the cost over the five (5) year life of the equipment. Scott Sprouls, Information Services Director, addressed the Council. The Panasonic tough books were built to military standards. They can function in extreme environments. Five (5) years was a long time for computer equipment. These terminals were the fastest available according to the specifications. The cost was below state contract pricing.

Motion by Alderman McDade, seconded by Alderman Purcell that the forty (40) MDT's be purchased from PTC Select in the amount of \$149,000, and the Purchasing Agent be authorized to issue a Purchase Order for same.

The Mayor directed the clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Aldermen Stearns, Huette, Schmidt, McDade, Sage, Fruin and Purcell.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

SUBJECT: Variance from Chapter 38, Section 123(a) of City Code to allow a 45 ft. Wide Driveway at 2012 Bunn Street, Lot 3 in Flatbush Subdivision (Ward 1)

RECOMMENDATION: That the Variance be approved.

BACKGROUND: Staff has received a request from Tom Kirk, owner of 2012 Bunn Street, to grant a variance to Chapter 38, Section 123(a) of City Code to allow a forty-five foot (45') wide driveway. Driveway variances are granted on a case by case basis after evaluation of criteria such as sight distance, width of adjacent roadway and amount of property frontage.

The subject location is a vacant commercial lot located in the county on lot 3 of Flatbush Subdivision. Though the lot is in the county, Bunn Street is within the City Limits and City Code only allows a thirty-five foot (35') wide driveway to commercial lots. Mr. Kirk has requested a wider driveway to enable easier access for trucks which will be parked on the lot. Truck traffic is allowed on Bunn Street in this area. Staff respectfully recommends that Council approve a variance to Chapter 38, Section 123(a) of City Code to allow a forty-five foot (45') wide driveway at 2012 Bunn Street, Lot 3 in Flatbush Subdivision contingent upon the owner obtaining all required permits.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: Tom Kirk.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted for Council consideration.

Prepared by:

Reviewed as to legal sufficiency:

Recommended by:

Jim Karch
Director of Public Works

Todd Greenburg
Corporation Counsel

David A. Hales
City Manager

Motion by Alderman McDade, seconded by Alderman Purcell that the Variance be approved

The Mayor directed the clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Aldermen Stearns, Huette, Schmidt, McDade, Sage, Fruin and Purcell.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

SUBJECT: Approval of Agreement with The Salvation Army

RECOMMENDATION: That the Agreement be approved and the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents.

BACKGROUND: On December 17, 2009, Deutsche Bank deeded a foreclosed property to the City. This property is located at 601 W. Jefferson, directly across the street from the Salvation Army's Safe Harbor shelter. This three (3) unit property is in disrepair. Community Development is proposing to rehabilitate and maintain the three (3) unit building this summer with Community Block Grant Funds (CDBG). Once completed, the City would deed the property to the Salvation Army to operate and maintain as a transitional house for homeless individuals or families.

Property acquired by the City through the use of CDBG cannot be used for the general conduct of government (24 CFR Sec. 570.207 (a) (1)). It is the opinion of the Legal Department that property acquired through PACE's Community Development Division should not be considered City property, or more importantly, "surplus" City property, since it was never available for general use by the City. CDBG funds may be used only for program purposes, which have the broad purpose of making housing available for persons of low to moderate income.

Pursuant to 24 CFR Sec. 84.31(c) (3), HUD has approved the transfer of the property which is the subject of this Agreement to the Salvation Army. This activity is consistent with the needs outlined in the 2010 Consolidated Plan. The transitional housing will address a Strategic Plan goal of strengthening neighborhoods. This housing program will stabilize the lives of homeless families and assist them with becoming self sufficient citizens in the community.

Staff respectfully recommends the approval of the agreement for the rehabilitation and deeding of 601 W. Jefferson Street, for the purpose of operating a transitional housing program.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: The Salvation Army has already signed and approved the agreement. Personal Assistance Telephone Help (PATH) has fully endorsed the need and importance of this activity.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: No City General Funds will be utilized on this project. To date, the City has only expended \$1,245.09 in CDBG funds (x22440-79010) for 2008 real estate taxes. Staff estimates that the rehabilitation project will cost \$50,000 in CDBG funds (x22430-79130).

Disposition of real property after the term of the grant, or any change in use of the property during the term of the grant, is subject to government-wide regulations governing real property disposition (see 24 CFR parts 84 and 85). 24 CFR Sec. 570.200 (j) (5).

The Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution requires all state and local governments abide by federal law, it is the opinion of the Legal Department that the City does not have the authority to impose restriction on the disposal of property acquired through the use of CDBG funds which are more onerous than the federal regulations. The City should not, and in fact, cannot impose a requirement that such property first be declared surplus before conveying the property. In other words, the City Council has the authority to approve this conveyance through a simple majority vote.

Respectfully submitted for Council consideration.

Prepared by:

Reviewed as to legal sufficiency

Mark R. Huber
Director of PACE

J. Todd Greenburg
Corporation Counsel

Recommended by:

David A. Hales
City Manager

PROPERTY DONATION AND AGREEMENT CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, PLANNING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT AND THE SALVATION ARMY

This agreement is made this 24th day of March, 2010, between the City of Bloomington, a municipal corporation, Department of Planning and Code Enforcement, Code Enforcement Division, hereafter called "City" with its principal place of business at 115 East Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois and the Salvation Army. City hereby enters into a property donation and agreement with The Salvation Army.

WHEREAS, the City wishes to donate the property located at 601 W. Jefferson to The Salvation Army for the purpose of administering a transitional housing program for the homeless.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is agreed between the parties hereto that:

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CITY AND THE SALVATION ARMY:

1. The City and The Salvation Army will collaborate together to facilitate and complete the renovation of 601 W. Jefferson, for the purpose of Transitional Housing.
2. The City will prepare the plans and specifications for the construction of the project in collaboration and agreement with The Salvation Army.
3. The City will obtain competitive bids, prepare written construction contracts, obtain all related permits, oversee the construction project and make all related payouts to contractors. In addition, the City will complete all inspections, as required by the Department of Planning and Code Enforcement Department.
4. The cost of the City's renovation project at 601 W. Jefferson will be paid out of Community Development Block Grant Funds and will be a grant to the Salvation Army Transitional Housing Program.
5. The City agrees to maintain the property throughout its ownership period; until such time that the property is deeded to The Salvation Army.
6. The City will maintain insurance on the dwelling throughout its period of ownership, until such time that the property is deeded to The Salvation Army
7. The City will maintain all necessary utilities and pay any real estate taxes throughout its period of ownership, until such time that the property is deeded to The Salvation Army.
8. Construction is to begin on or after May 1, 2010. The renovation project is to be completed and property deeded over to The Salvation Army on or before November 1, 2010.

II. NOTICES

Communications and details concerning this contract shall be directed to the following contract representatives:

City of Bloomington:

Sharon Walker, Fiscal Officer
Planning and Code Enforcement Department
P.O. Box 3157
Bloomington, IL 61702-3157

Phone 309-434-2342, Fax 309-434-2801

The Salvation Army:
Tom Fullop
Director of Social Services
611 W. Washington Street
Bloomington IL 61701
Phone 309-829-9476, Fax 309-829-3680

III. AMENDMENTS

The City or The Salvation Army may amend this Agreement at any time provided that such amendments make specific reference to this Agreement, and are executed in writing, signed by a duly authorized representative of each organization, and approved by the Bloomington City Council. Such amendments shall not invalidate this Agreement, nor relieve or release the City or The Salvation Army from its obligations under this Agreement.

The City may, at its discretion, amend this Agreement to conform with federal, state or local governmental guideline & policies and available funding amounts, or for other reasons. If such amendments result in a change in the funding, the scope of services, or schedule of, the activities to be undertaken as part of this Agreement, such modifications will be effective only by mutual written amendment of this Agreement by the City or The Salvation Army.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this construction agreement as of the date first written above.

Steve Stockton, Mayor
City of Bloomington

Date: March 23, 2010

Sharon Walker, Fiscal Officer
Department of Planning and Code Enforcement

Date: March 24, 2010

James Hoskin
Secretary
The Salvation Army
An Illinois Corporation

Date: February 23, 2010

David Hales, City Manager, introduced Mark Huber, Director – PACE, and Sharon Walker, Fiscal Officer. This item was placed on the Regular Agenda because it involved the disposition of property. Federal funds were involved. Ms. Walker noted that this item involved 601 W. Jefferson St. This property was involved in a foreclosure proceeding. The property was located adjacent to the Salvation Army’s Safe Harbor (homeless shelter). The original plan was to demolish the structure and donate the lot to either Habitat for Humanity or YouthBuild for redevelopment. Staff recommended that this site be used for transitional housing. The property would be deeded to the Salvation Army after

rehabilitation. The current zoning, R – 3B, Multi Family Residence District, was adequate. The existing use would continue.

Alderman Sage questioned if grant dollars would be used for this project. He stated his belief that no General Fund dollars would be involved. Ms. Walker responded affirmatively.

Alderman Schmidt noted that the structure was in disrepair. She questioned if the building was salvageable. Ms. Walker responded affirmatively.

Alderman Stearns noted that CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) dollars was the funding source. He questioned the contractor for this project. Ms. Walker informed the Council that this project would be put out for bid. Community Development has a list of qualified contractors. Each contractor must be reputable. Over fifty (50) different disciplines were on the list.

Mr. Hales noted that this item could move forward with a majority vote as only federal dollars were involved.

Motion by Alderman Sage, seconded by Alderman Schmidt to suspend the rules to allow someone to speak.

Motion carried.

Cpt. Scott Shelbourne, 611 W. Washington, addressed the Council. The Salvation Army intended to use this property for transitional housing. Currently, there was a similar program on Mason St. Salvation Army staff provided assistance with budget planning. Staff prepared the client to move on and out of transitional housing. The location's proximity to Safe Harbor would allow ease of monitoring. This was an opportunity for the Salvation Army to assist the homeless.

Tom Fullop, Salvation Army's Director – Social Services, 611 W. Washington, also addressed the Council. He addressed transitional housing programs. Transitional housing provided coeducational housing. It was difficult to move from a shelter to the community. Salvation Army's goal was successful transitions. The property would be rehabilitated.

Mayor Stockton noted the proximity of this property to Safe Harbor. Mr. Fullop added that case management, supervision and security would be easier for the Salvation Army's staff. Transitional housing programs have guidelines.

Alderman Schmidt expressed her appreciation to the Salvation Army for its work in the neighborhood. She noted its ability to meet its clients' needs.

Dick Fasig, 610 E. Douglas, addressed the Council. He believed the term transitional was broad. He expressed interest in a time line. He questioned property damage and the responsible party. Cpt. Shelbourne readdressed the Council. The

Salvation Army worked with local churches in the area of repair and maintenance and utility costs. These items were incorporated into the Salvation Army's budget. These items were situation dependent. Mr. Fullop added that in his seven (7) years of experience the maximum stay had been two (2) years. Currently, the Salvation Army has had a family in transitional housing for the past fourteen to fifteen (14 – 15) months. A key component to this program was savings. Participants were required to save fifty percent (50%) of their earnings. The goal was better money management. Generally, participants spend twelve (12) months in the program.

Ms. Walker noted the time table to rehabilitate the property was summer 2010. The property would be turned over to the Salvation Army in the fall 2010.

Motion by Alderman McDade, seconded by Alderman Schmidt to return to order.

Motion carried.

Alderman Stearns noted that this property was distressed. She welcomed the improvement to same. She cited its proximity to the Downtown. The neighborhood appeared to be supportive. It appeared to be a positive program.

Motion by Alderman McDade, seconded by Alderman Purcell that the Agreement be approved and the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the necessary documents.

The Mayor directed the clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Aldermen Stearns, Huette, Schmidt, McDade, Sage, Fruin and Purcell.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

Discussion of the *Downtown Bloomington Strategy*.

Mayor Stockton informed the Council that there would be a presentation this evening. There was the possibility of this topic being also addressed as a Work Session.

David Hales, City Manager, informed the Council of his intention of having a Work Session on April 12, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. The topic would be the Downtown Bloomington Strategy. The focus would be on implementation. An Executive Session may also be held that evening at 5:00 p.m. He believed that there were members of the public present who hoped to address the Council. The Council may choose to hold a public hearing at a future date. Public hearings are advertised in advance of same.

Alderman Stearns expressed her support to hear from the public this evening.

Alderman Huette stated his opinion that the Council accept comments at a future date. He recommended that interested persons hear tonight's presentation, attend the Work Session, and address the Council at a public hearing.

Alderman McDade stated her understanding that there would be no action taken this evening. The City planned to hold a Work Session on April 12, 2010. In addition, a public hearing would also be scheduled. She assumed that the Council would hear from the public before voting on this issue.

Mayor Stockton recommended that if the Council agreed to hear from the public, comments should be brief. He added that a Work Session was not a public hearing.

Alderman Schmidt believed that the public was confused.

Mr. Hales introduced Doug Farr, Farr Associates. The Council had been given the draft report. Mr. Farr had made a presentation to the Planning Commission.

Motion by Alderman Purcell, seconded by Alderman Stearns to suspend the rules to allow someone to speak.

Motion carried.

Mr. Farr introduced Kristin Ihnchak, Farr & Associates Project Manager. She had worked on this project for the last eighteen (18) months. A number of public hearings were held. The Planning Commission had recommended approval. The plan consisted of six (6) major sections: 1.) Project Overview; 2.) Illustrative Master Plan; 3.) Zoning & Land Use Recommendations; 4.) Parking Policy Framework; 5.) Transportation Component; and 6.) Implementation Strategy. In addition, there was an Appendix which addressed the following: 1.) Market Study; 2.) Parking Inventory & Occupancy; 3.) Parking Recommendations; and 4.) Transportation Report. The plan included funding ideas. It identified strengths and weaknesses. Needs were identified. In addition, this project involved a zoning overlay which would be revealed in the near future.

Ms. Ihnchak addressed recommendations. She cited the retail plan. Bars/taverns would be located into two (2) districts at the north and south ends of the Downtown. Zoning would be content sensitive in order to protect the Downtown's character and allow for appropriate in-fill development which supported existing uses. Parking was addressed. Public garages were currently under utilized. The City needed to emphasize the availability of same. Pricing must be appropriate. In addition, parking meters should be reinstalled in the Downtown. Private parking was also addressed. Surface lots needed to be minimized. The City needed to establish a maximum size for same. Transportation was the next topic. Main and Center St. should be returned to two (2) way traffic. Both were currently one (1) way streets. The US 51 one (1) way couplet, (Madison and East St.), was described as a safety hazard. It was acknowledged that this decision was made by the

Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). The report recommended bike lanes, a Constitution Trail connection, and a streetscape program. A Downtown ambassadors program was also included.

Implementation of the plan included funding sources. Key sources identified were the City, an SSA (Special Services Area), and/or a new TIF (Tax Increment Financing) District. A TIF would provide a long term funding source. Two (2) organizations were cited, (the City and the Downtown Bloomington Association).

Alderman Schmidt questioned bars/taverns located outside of the two (2) areas cited. She cited the prescriptive nature of the zoning districts. Ms. Ihnchak noted that the report called for two (2) districts. Existing establishments could be grandfathered regardless if there was a change of ownership. Alderman Schmidt believed that the intent was to aggregate similar uses. Mayor Stockton noted that the Liquor Commission had been supportive of this approach. He also cited the City's investment in the US Cellular Coliseum and the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts. He noted that there were not many restaurants located in the Downtown's south end. He added his belief that the Downtown's north end was better suited for restaurants.

Alderman Sage questioned if Farr & Associates would be present at the Council's April 12th Work Session. Mr. Hales noted that the Work Session would be for the Council's review. He questioned the Council's comfort level with the plan. He hoped to obtain answers to the Council's questions. City staff would be involved in the Work Session. In addition, the City needed to involve District 87 in the financing structure.

Alderman Sage questioned if the Main St. businesses had been engaged and understood this plan. Ms. Ihnchak responded negatively. This plan was limited to the Downtown study area. Alderman Sage cited other concerns such as a Form Based Code. He questioned the characteristics of same and how Farr & Associates planned to address same. He expressed his interest in a collaboration/partnership with the various stakeholders.

Mayor Stockton cited a possible historical overlay and façade regulations. He noted that the City and the Town of Normal had established a Main St. Task Force. A key question was balance. The City needed a plan to address revitalization and improvement. Tonight the Council was being presented with an overview. The Council had received the plan. There would be no vote and no public hearing this evening.

Alderman Purcell expressed his concerns regarding the transportation plan.

Alderman Fruin expressed support for a discussion. He requested that the list of questions with comments/responses be provided to the Council prior to the April 12th Work Session.

Alderman Stearns noted that individuals were present this evening. She requested that the Council hear from the public at this time. She supported the idea of holding a

Work Session on April 12th. In addition, she believed that the Council should also hold a public hearing. In addition, she expressed her concerns regarding the cost and the scope. She noted the proposal for a new TIF district. She questioned the timing of same. She expressed concern for District 87. Another basic issue was private property rights, (the use of and control).

Mayor Stockton restated his belief that this evening was not the time for detailed comments.

Alderman McDade noted that eight (8) individuals testified before the Planning Commission. She added that this item was approved by the Commission by a unanimous vote.

Greg Koos, Downtown Business Association's (DBA) Past President, 305 Woodland, addressed the Council. He was employed as the McLean County History Museum's Executive Director which was located at 200 N. Main St. The Council needed to take a long view. This strategy was the Downtown's comprehensive plan. Mr. Farr had a history of working with various consultants. His firm retained various professional planners. Mr. Koos had read the plan. He described the process as open. Stakeholders' opinions were solicited through a number of public meetings. A partnership had been created.

Phil Boulds, 1 Palm Ct., addressed the Council. He was the owner/operator of Mugsy's located at 1310 N. Main St. and Main St. Business Association's President. He read from the plan. He believed that it threatened property rights. The Downtown was consisted of individuals. He expressed his concern regarding regulation which control private property. Mayor Stockton noted that the Main St. plan was separate from the Downtown plan.

Dick Fasig, 610 E. Douglas, addressed the Council. He questioned if this process had engaged the Downtown's business owners. Mayor Stockton restated that numerous public meetings were held.

Don Herrin, 1504 Julie Dr., addressed the Council. He expressed his concern as a taxpayer and citizen. He noted that the term Form Based Code had been removed from the plan. He questioned the intent of the zoning overlay and the outcome of same. This plan was not the Main St. one. This plan included a ninety-six (96) square block area within the Downtown. He cited the area targeted. The City needed to hold a public hearing to involve all City residents.

Kathy Michaels, 2818 Juniper Ln., addressed the Council. She currently served as a consultant to the Main St. Business Association. US 51 was a thoroughfare for vehicles. She cited the property rights of business owners. She did not attend the Planning Commission's meeting. The cost to implement this plan was unknown. She noted an incorrect citation involving the Jimmy Johns located at 203 W. Market St. She believed that this plan was a new urbanism form based code. She cited the City of Peoria and the issues regarding its Knoxville project.

Jamie Mathy, 1611 E. Washington, addressed the Council. He was the co-owner/operator of Kelly's Bakery & Café located at 113 N. Center St. and Mavidea Technology Group, LLC located at 200 W. Monroe, Suite 102. He expressed his support for the plan. It was a long term plan, (fifteen to twenty years). He compared this report to the previous one prepared by Camiros. The City needed a new plan to accomplish its goal. He did not see a form based code within the plan. The goal was to protect what the City had.

Mark Finley, 19330 Deer Haven Dr., addressed the Council. He expressed his support of the Downtown. He believed due diligence had been given to the plan. It would be a process. He questioned the Downtown's future.

Bruce Nafzinger, 1503 Tamarack Trail, Normal, addressed the Council. He had lived in the area for fifty-five (55) years. He expressed his concern regarding property rights. He believed that his rights would be infringed upon. He also expressed concern regarding parking meters. He addressed the US 51 couplet. Individuals have the ability to travel into the Downtown or pass it by. He was also concerned about taxes. He did not believe that the City was listening. He questioned whose agenda was being served.

Julie Kubsch, 1315 Ironwood, Normal, addressed the Council. She was the owner/operator of Specs Around Town Optical Boutique located at 317 N. Center St. Her business was located in a restored 100 year old building. The past three (3) DBA Directors have worked on a Downtown plan. Farr & Associates had been retained eighteen (18) months ago. She wanted to see the City follow through. There were reasons for individuals to come to the Downtown. She cited a recent sales event which earned her \$34,000 in sales in two (2) days. The Downtown needed niche retail. She noted the importance of the Farmer's Market. The plan could save the City's core.

Dave Capodice, 2820 Capodice Rd., addressed the Council. He cited the US 51 couplet. This was a major north/south corridor. It served as a major artery to move men and materials. It has worked well over the past forty (40) years. He cited the cost of doing business and the impact upon emergency vehicles. Another concern involved traffic bottle necks. The US 51 corridor impacted more than the Downtown.

Patrick Fruin, 903 N. Linden, Normal, addressed the Council. He was the owner/operator of Flinger's Pizza located at 608 N. Main St. He supported the plan. He addressed the parking plan. He noted that the Jimmy John's located at 203 W. Market St., recently opened.

Russell Francois, 15864 E 910 N Rd., addressed the Council. He was the owner/operator of Francois Associates located at 118 W. Washington. He had worked in the Downtown for the past thirty-eight (38) years. He had had friends speak in support of and against the plan. He expressed his support for same and noted that it was not perfect. A plan was needed. A concerted effort had been made. There had been less demolition in the Downtown. The Downtown's architecture was welcoming. He had a passion for its past and future.

Motion by Alderman Purcell, seconded by Alderman McDade to return to order.

Motion carried.

Mayor Stockton noted that there had been three (3) themes: 1.) parking; 2.) form based code, (application of); and 3.) Main St. couplet, which was used by the entire community but created an island which impacted the Downtown. On April 12th the Council would hold a Work Session. He encouraged those present to communicate with the Council as it worked towards a decision regarding adoption. He hoped that the Council would reach a decision in the next four to six (4 – 6) weeks.

Alderman McDade thanked those present for their feedback. She understood the concerns raised regarding a form based code. She noted that there were two (2) separate plans: 1.) Main St. Corridor and 2.) Downtown. She acknowledged that there appeared to be some overlap. The Downtown Plan had the support of Downtown businesses and residents. She had attended a number of the meetings. The Council had been a part of the process. Hundreds of people had participated. She addressed the US 51 couplet which was a state route. IDOT would have a key role. The process was not simple. Parking needed to address the variety of uses within the Downtown. She noted the time devoted to this plan.

The following was presented:

SUBJECT: A Resolution in Opposition to Illinois Governor Patrick Quinn's 2011 Budget Proposal which would Reduce Local Government Distributive Funds (LGDF) to Municipalities by Thirty Percent (30%)

RECOMMENDATION: That the Resolution be adopted.

BACKGROUND: On Wednesday, March 10, 2010, Illinois Governor Patrick Quinn proposed significant budget cuts in his FY 2011 Budget Address; including calls for a \$300 million reduction in the amount of income tax revenue the State shares with local governments.

Under current law, ten percent (10%) of income taxes are returned to the municipality from which they were paid (the new budget would decrease this to seven percent (7%). The other ninety percent (90%) goes to the state. The shared revenue municipalities receive from the state income tax has been a critical part of their budgets since the tax was first adopted and the revenue sharing program was created in state statute more than forty (40) years ago.

The impact of a thirty percent (30%) reduction in LGDF to the City means a loss of approximately \$1.7 million, and would represent a full two and a half percent (2.5%) of the forecasted general fund revenue for next year. The City has already experienced a sixteen point seven percent (16.7%) decline in LGDF funds the past three (3) years due to the economic downturn. The proposed Resolution urges the Governor to reconsider this funding cut, and appeal to the General Assembly to not support the LGDF reduction as proposed in the State budget.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The impact of a thirty percent (30%) reduction in LGDF to the City means a loss of \$1.7 million to the City, and a full two and a half percent (2.5%) of the forecasted general fund revenue for next year.

Respectfully submitted for Council consideration.

Prepared by:

Reviewed by:

Recommended by:

Rosalee Dodson
Assistant Corporation Counsel

Timothy Ervin
Director, Finance

David A. Hales
City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. 2010 - 14

A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO ILLINOIS GOVERNOR PATRICK QUINN'S 2011 BUDGET PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD REDUCE LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISTRIBUTIVE FUNDS TO MUNICIPALITIES BY 30%

WHEREAS, Illinois Governor Patrick Quinn in his 2011 Budget Address proposed a 30% reduction in the Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) to municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the impact of a 30% reduction in LGDF funds to the City means a loss of approximately \$1.7 million to the City, and a full 2.5% of the forecasted general fund revenue for next year; and

WHEREAS, the City has already experienced a 16.7% decline in LGDF funds the past three years due to the economic downturn; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS, that:

By the adoption of this resolution, Mayor Stephen F. Stockton and the City Council urge the Governor to reconsider this funding cut, and appeal to the General Assembly to not support the LGDF reduction as proposed in the State Budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be mailed to our State Senators, State Representatives and Governor Patrick Quinn for immediate consideration; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the City Clerk of Bloomington shall attest the same after signature of the Mayor.

PASSED this 22nd day of March, 2010.

APPROVED this 23rd day of March, 2010.

APPROVED:

Stephen F. Stockton
Mayor

ATTEST:

Tracey Covert
City Clerk

David Hales, City Manager, introduced this item for Council's consideration and approval. The City might lose \$1.7 million in state funding. This resolution would send a strong message beyond individual communication. The resolution would be sent to the Governor and area state legislators.

Alderman Purcell expressed his hope that there would not be any reduction.

Motion by Alderman Fruin, seconded by Alderman Schmidt that the Resolution be adopted.

The Mayor directed the clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Aldermen Stearns, Huette, Schmidt, McDade, Sage, Fruin and Purcell, (viva voce).

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Mayor Stockton noted that this item passed by unanimous vote.

The following was presented:

SUBJECT: Abatement of General Obligation Refunding Bond, Series 2009

RECOMMENDATION: That the Resolution be adopted.

BACKGROUND: A Resolution is required to abate property taxes for the General Obligation Refunding Bond, Series 2009. The Council passed a series of these abatements on December 28, 2009. This abatement was not included as a result of the timing of the issuance of these bonds. State law requires that McLean County levy property taxes for the payment of these bonds. A

municipality is permitted to abate the tax if sufficient funds are on hand to make the required principal and interest payments. Rather than levy a tax for the payments of this obligation, the City has budgeted sufficient sums from other sources within the General Funds to service the debt.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: In order to abate the 2009 Tax Levy, collectible in 2010, it is appropriate that Council approve the proposed abatement resolution that will certify to the McLean County Clerk that sufficient funds are on hand or will be on hand when the interest payments become due on June 1, 2010 and December 1, 2010, respectively:

1. Abatement for tax levy for \$2,840,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2009. (The last debt service payment for this issue is 12-01-2025.)

Respectfully submitted for Council consideration.

Prepared by:

Recommended by:

Timothy Ervin
Director of Finance

David A. Hales
City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. 2010 – 15

A RESOLUTION ABATING TAX LEVY FOR \$2,840,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2009

WHEREAS, the City of Bloomington is a home rule unit pursuant to the provisions of Article VII, Section 6 of the 1970 Constitution of the State of Illinois, which Section authorizes home rule units to incur debt without referendum; and

WHEREAS, the City Council on November 9, 2009 passed Ordinance No. 2009 - 75, “An Ordinance of the City of Bloomington, McLean County, Illinois, Providing for the Issuance of Taxable and/or Tax-Exempt General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2009, 2009A, etc., Providing the Details of Such Bonds and for a Levy of Taxes to Pay the Principal of and Interest on Such Bonds, and Related Matters”; and

WHEREAS, Section 8 of said Ordinance included a levy of taxes on all taxable real estate within the City of Bloomington corporate limits to pay principal and interest on the bonds issued thereby; and

WHEREAS, said Section 8 provided for the levy of \$118,400 in 2009 to pay off a portion of said principal and interest due in 2010, but the City of Bloomington has funds on hand available to pay such principal and interest.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Bloomington, McLean County, Illinois, that the levy against taxable property in the City of Bloomington for the levy year 2009 payable in 2010 and on account of the aforesaid \$2,840,000 in bonds be and the same is hereby abated for said taxable year, and the County Clerk of McLean County, Illinois is authorized and directed not to extend the remaining \$118,400 in real estate taxes for levy 2009.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be delivered to the County Clerk of McLean County, Illinois under official seal of the Clerk of the City.

ADOPTED this 22nd day of March, 2010.

APPROVED this 23rd day of March 2010.

APPROVED:

Stephen F. Stockton
Mayor

ATTEST:

Tracey Covert
City Clerk

David Hales, City Manager, introduced this item. The Council approved the refinancing of General Obligation Bonds at the time that the Tax Levy was approved. This resolution needed to be adopted to approve the abatement of same.

Motion by Alderman Schmidt, seconded by Alderman McDade that the Resolution be adopted.

The Mayor directed the clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Aldermen Stearns, Huette, Schmidt, McDade, Sage, Fruin and Purcell.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The following was presented:

SUBJECT: Participation in the Central Illinois Regional Broadband Network (CIRBN) Initiative

RECOMMENDATION: That the City's co-applicant status for the CIRBN initiative and \$30,000, split over FY 2011 and FY 2012, as the City's portion of initial matching funds be approved, and the payments be authorized.

BACKGROUND: On January 11, 2010, Council authorized two (2) letters of support for CIRBN. These initial letters of support committed the City only to providing access to existing underground conduit and pathways, and the use of City facilities for the CIRBN initiative. At that time, staff indicated that a request would be made to Council for authorization before committing any City dollars to the initiative.

Some recent developments related to CIRBN have resulted in its combination with another regional agency (the Illinois Century Network) that was also preparing an application for the grant. The combined effort will have a higher possibility of success in being selected for funding than the two (2) organizations would separately. This combined effort will be titled Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership - East Central Illinois (IBOP).

The initiative is now ready to identify all co-applicants for the grant and determine available matching funds. After searching for an equitable formula to apply to all potential co-applicants, *IBOP-East Central Illinois* settled on a cost of \$45 per full time equivalent (FTE). Based on a FTE count of 666.67, the City's initial matching cost is \$30,000. Staff respectfully requests Council's approval to commit to this initial cost and to budget \$15,000 in each of the next two (2) fiscal years in order to fully participate in the program. Staff would return to Council in FY 2012 to request the second payment of \$15,000.

The grant award will be announced between June and September of 2010. Assuming *IBOP-East Central Illinois* is successful, the City would be required to make the first payment soon after the grant is awarded.

CIRBN has requested permission for potential use of City infrastructure in support of the project. This infrastructure includes existing fiber, conduit, pathways and facilities (buildings where network nodes could be located) owned by the City. These infrastructure types would be classified as "in-kind" resources.

Staff respectfully requests that Council approve City co-applicant status for the CIRBN initiative, and to commit \$30,000, split over FY 2011 and FY 2012, as the City's portion of initial matching funds needed for the project.

COMMUNITY GROUPS/INTERESTED PERSONS CONTACTED: Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: \$15,000, budgeted in each of the next two (2) fiscal years for a total of \$30,000.

Respectfully submitted for Council consideration.

Prepared by:

Reviewed as to legal sufficiency:

Reviewed by:

Scott A. Sprouls
Director Info Services

J. Todd Greenburg
Corporation Counsel

Barbara J. Adkins
Deputy City Manager

Recommended by:

David A. Hales
City Manager

Mayor Stockton introduced this item. He noted that other cities have pursued this type of project funding. David Hales, City Manager, reviewed the past history and the recent request for City funding.

Scott Sprouls, Information Services Director, addressed the Council. He noted that Illinois State University's (ISU) representatives were present this evening. In January 2010, the Council approved letters of support to include in the federal grant application. The City's commitment at that time was in kind. He cited facilities as an example. One issue was ongoing support which was estimated at \$1 million annually. The group had hoped for a twenty percent (20%) match from state funds. The group has been invited to a state grant award ceremony. To date, approximately fifty (50) organizations had signed on. An equitable formula was established of \$45 per FTE (full time equivalent) per agency. The City's cost would be \$30,000. Payment would be in two (2) installments, (\$15,000 in the next two fiscal years). Ongoing funding needs would be assessed at \$5 per FTE per month. The project would replace the City's internet connectivity and the T1 connection to two (2) fire stations. The current cost to the City was \$3,100 per month. He believed the cost would be comparable. There would be a significant improvement and as the network grew it would provide an improved value to the City. It has the potential to be a valuable business tool.

Alderman Huette questioned the total cost. Mr. Sprouls noted that in January 2010 the cost was estimated at \$20 million. The new updated, improved project has a cost estimate of \$100 million. He added that some agencies were unable to make a commitment at this time.

Alderman Purcell questioned the return. Mr. Sprouls noted that costs would only be incurred if the grant was awarded. Fiber would be installed to other communities. Alderman Purcell questioned the need this project. He believed that this type of project was the role of the private sector.

Mr. Sprouls noted at one point the City was targeted by Verizon for a similar project. Mayor Stockton cited the benefit to businesses and residents. Mr. Sprouls added that there would be plenty of opportunities. He cited mesh networking and bandwidth as examples. The project would bring organizations together. Various entities would be

connected. Information would be shared. He acknowledged that there would be start up costs.

Alderman McDade questioned the standard to request matching funds. The City had the opportunity to step up and be a part of a community team. She believed that the City should be involved in the promotion of intergovernmental cooperation. This was an opportunity. The City should not let technology become a barrier.

Mayor Stockton noted that the Town of Normal, Unit 5 and District 87 were on board. He added that as the number of participating agencies increased, the dollars requested would decrease. He restated that these dollars were for matching funds and operational costs. The City's in kind contribution would continue. The goal was all new fiber. The City had key locations with space available. A key component would be back up power. The Council approved the letters. At this time, the City had been asked for a financial contribution. The amount requested was modest. Money would only be spent if the grant was awarded. Interconnectivity was a must. Communities were competing for these grants. Small businesses would be impacted by providing connectivity with larger areas and towns. The dollars spent would be a wise investment.

Alderman Sage noted the loss of Verizon. He expressed his concerns regarding Frontier. Technology would impact the City's ability to be competitive. Connectivity was comparable to transportation links.

Alderman Schmidt expressed her support for this item. She could see the benefit. We were living in a data rich world. The City must stay competitive and be linked electronically.

Motion by Alderman McDade, seconded by Alderman Schmidt that the City's co-applicant status for the CIRBN initiative and \$30,000, split over FY 2011 and FY 2012, as the City's portion of initial matching funds be approved, and the payments be authorized

The Mayor directed the clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Aldermen Schmidt, McDade, Sage, Fruin and Purcell.

Nays: Aldermen Stearns and Huette.

Motion carried.

Alderman McDade thanked the ISU staff for attending this evening's meeting. Mayor Stockton thanked ISU for spear heading this effort. This project would benefit a wide variety of businesses.

MAYOR'S DISCUSSION: Mayor Stockton recognized Stephanie Pawlowski and Michelle Mantel, WJBC Radio's reporters. Ms. Pawlowski had transferred to the Town of

Normal. Ms. Mantel would be assigned to the City. He thanked Ms. Pawlowski for her coverage of the City.

CITY MANAGER'S DISCUSSION: David Hales, City Manager, informed the Council that the Constitution Trail bridge over Oakland Ave. would be set in place this Saturday, March 27, 2010.

He also extended his appreciation to Ms. Pawlowski and welcomed Ms. Mantel.

He informed the Council that there would be an Executive Session on Collective Bargaining held on Monday, April 12, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. The Work Session on the Downtown Plan would be scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

ALDERMEN'S DISCUSSION: Alderman Schmidt thanked the citizens who attended the Council's Budget Work Session and this evening's meeting regarding the Downtown Plan. The Council did listen to citizens as part of the democratic process.

Alderman Fruin also noted the Budget Work Sessions. He was willing to accept staff's recommendation to reduce funding to the Economic Development Council, (EDC), Convention and Visitors Bureau, (CVB), and Downtown Business Association (DBA), staff had recommended twenty percent (20%) reduction. He questioned the potential dollar figure to fund the SSA (Special Service Area) study. He provided no direction to staff regarding same. He expressed his concern regarding the City's relationships with other governing bodies and its relationships with the EDC, CVB and DBA. He noted that the EDC's public dollar funding would be reduced by twenty-five percent (25%). He questioned if there had been discussions held with these three (3) agencies. He believed that there were intergovernmental agreements with the EDC and CVB. These two (2) agencies were revenue generators. He encouraged City staff to take another look and consider the value of the relationship. He requested that this item be added to the Council's April 5, 2010 Work Session agenda. He recommended a ten percent (10%) reduction. All had been asked to share the pain. He cited the increase to home rule sales tax (\$600,000) receipts. Funding could be transferred from here.

Alderman Purcell requested additional information. These three (3) agencies, (EDC, CVB and DBA), had no reduction to their funding last year.

Mr. Hales informed the Council that there have been discussions with the County, Town, EDC, and CVB. He presented a twenty percent (20%) reduction recommendation. The key question was where to begin. He believed that the vote had been split last year. Capital expenditures and staffing levels had seen significant reductions. There were operating losses. The City was to the bare bones. A dialogue needed to be started.

Mayor Stockton encouraged the Council to continue to think about the City's budget. The budget was a reflection of reality. The Council needed to find the balance.

Alderman Huette informed the Council that he would be absent for the April 5th Work Session. He would honor staff's recommendations. The City should accept the Town's and the County's decisions. The City was forced to take action based upon its finances today. The City needed to make a change.

Alderman Sage informed the Council that the conversation regarding David Hales, City Manager, performance evaluation had begun. An Executive Session would be scheduled. The plan was to use the ICMA's Core Strategies and incorporate the City's Action Items from the Strategic Plan. He cited a specific concern – Council direction. He had met with Mr. Hales and planned to do so again in the next couple of week. He cited a target date of May 1, 2010. He requested Council feedback and/or comments.

Mayor Stockton noted that Alderman Sage would act as the point person. Alderman Sage was handling the homework. He encouraged the Council to work with him.

Alderman McDade welcomed Betty Rackauskas, County Board member, who was in attendance this evening.

She noted that the Council was listening. Individuals may vote aye or nay. This did not mean that they were not listening.

She reminded those present that the Budget Open House would be held on Tuesday, March 30, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts, (BCPA).

Town Hall meetings would be scheduled on a quarterly basis. There was no specific agenda at this time. The Mayor, Council and City department heads would be in attendance. The City would be divided into four (4) quadrants. This first meeting would be held on Monday, May 3, 2010 at the BCPA. The time would be determined. She requested Council feedback regarding the format. She was also interested in the Council's comments and issues. These meetings would be a joint effort of herself and Alderman Anderson. Mayor Stockton added that attendance was open to all. These meeting would not be ward specific.

Motion by Alderman Fruin, seconded by Alderman Schmidt to recess to Executive Session, Section 2(c) (2) – Collective Bargaining. Time: 10:01 p.m.

The Mayor directed the clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Aldermen Stearns, Huette, Schmidt, McDade, Sage, Fruin and Purcell.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Motion by Alderman Schmidt, seconded by Alderman McDade to return to regular session and adjourn. Time: 10:38 p.m.

Motion carried.

**Tracey Covert
City Clerk**