

**City Council of the City of Carbondale, Illinois**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**March 7, 2006**

The City Council of the City of Carbondale, Illinois, held a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 7, 2006, in City Council Chambers of the Carbondale Civic Center, 200 S. Illinois Avenue. Following a meeting of the Local Liquor Control Commission, Mayor Brad Cole called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m. with the following-named members of the City Council present/absent:

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Councilwoman Sheila Simon, Councilwoman Corene McDaniel, Councilman Joel Fritzler, Councilman Chris Wissmann, Councilman Steven Haynes, Councilman Lance Jack and Mayor Brad Cole.

Absent: None

Also present were City Clerk Janet M. Vaught, City Manager Jeffrey W. Doherty and various members of the City's administrative staff.

**2. General Announcements and Proclamations**

Mayor Cole proclaimed April 2006 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month". The proclamation was presented to Jesslyn Jobe.

Councilman Wissmann announced that the Health Care Justice Act provides for a series of public hearings to be held across the State of Illinois to discuss issues related to health care. The local public hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 8, at 4:00 p.m. at John A. Logan College.

City Manager Doherty introduced Donald W. Presley, a new Carbondale fire fighter.

**3. Citizen Comments and Questions**

Ed VanAwken, 1009 W. Sycamore, asked that the City encourage the Park District to develop the Hickory Lodge Park grounds into a "Central Park" area that would especially benefit seniors. He also asked that the Park District be encouraged to continue renting the building to Carbondale Community Arts and Keep Carbondale Beautiful. He read a letter from Anita Ragsdale which expressed the hope that the Hickory Lodge location would remain as a park.

Robert Burns, Jackson County Sheriff, spoke in support of the March 21st referendum which would implement a Public Safety Tax. He asked for City-wide support of the referendum.

**4. Public Hearings**

There were no public hearings.

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**5. Consent Agenda**

Presented for Council approval on the Consent Agenda were the following items and corresponding recommendations:

1. Approval of Minutes. Recommendation: Approve minutes of the Regular City Council meeting held on February 21, 2006.
2. Warrant. Recommendation: Approve Warrant #973 for the period ended February 13, 2006, in the amount of \$1,411,352.16. (Exhibit A-3-7-06)
3. Acceptance of minutes of boards, commissions and committees. Recommendation: Accept Planning Commission of February 1, 2006.
4. Illinois Municipal League Legislative Bulletins 2006-06 and 2-6-07. Recommendation: Accept and place on file.
5. Removed from Consent.
6. Resolution approving and authorizing the City Manager to Submit a Contract Renewal Request and Approving and Authorizing the Execution of the Annual Contributions Contract and Rent Schedule for the Mill Street Apartments Section 8 Project for the period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. Recommendation: Approve. (Res. 2006-R-10; Exhibit B-3-7-06)
7. Approval of Budget Adjustment for Funds from Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority for Station Adjustment Program. Recommendation: Approve budget adjustment to Agencies and Organizations in the amount of \$30,650.
8. Removed from Consent.
9. Removed from Consent.

Mayor Cole asked if anyone would like any items removed from the Consent Agenda. Councilman Jack asked that Item 5.5 be removed; Councilwoman Simon asked that Item 5.9 be removed; Councilman Haynes asked that Item 5.8 be removed.

S. Simon moved, C. McDaniel seconded, that the Council approve Consent Agenda Items 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.6 and 5.7. VOTE: Ayes: C. Wissmann, S. Haynes, L. Jack, S. Simon, C. McDaniel, J. Fritzler and B. Cole. Nays: None. Motion declared carried.

**5.5. Resolution declaring Fair Days for the Tenth Annual Carbondale Main Street Pig Out**

L. Jack moved, S. Simon seconded, that the Council approve the Resolution granting Fair Days for the Tenth Annual Carbondale Main Street Pig Out on September 15-16, 2006, in the area commonly referred to as the 710 Bookstore, B & A Travel and Campus Shopping Center parking lots. VOTE: Ayes: S. Simon, C. McDaniel, J. Fritzler, C. Wissmann, S. Haynes, L. Jack and B. Cole. Nays: None. Motion declared carried. (Res. 2006-R-11; Exhibit C-3-7-06)

**5.8 Resolution accepting Illinois Housing Development Authority Single-Family Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Grant**

S. Haynes moved, L. Jack seconded, that the Council approve a Resolution accepting the HOME Single Family Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Grant from the Illinois Housing Development Authority and authorizing the execution of grant documents. VOTE: Ayes: S. Simon, C. McDaniel, J. Fritzler, C. Wissmann, S. Haynes, L. Jack and B. Cole. Nays: None. Motion declared carried. (Res. 2006-R-12; Exhibit D-3-7-06)

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5.9 Resolution of Intent to Issue General Obligation Bonds for the Street Improvement Program

S. Haynes moved, C. Wissmann seconded, that the Council approve the Resolution of Intent to issue General Obligation Bonds for the City's Street Improvement Program with the intent to retire a portion of the bonds including interest from the City's annual allotment of Motor Fuel Tax Funds. DISCUSSION: Councilwoman Simon said she would be voting against the Resolution because she did not believe the need to spend this amount of money has been justified. VOTE: Ayes: C. McDaniel, C. Wissmann, S. Haynes, L. Jack and B. Cole. Nays: S. Simon and J. Fritzler. Motion declared carried. (Res. 2006-R-13; Exhibit E-3-7-06)

6. General Business

1. Resolution declaring "Fair Days" for the Southern Illinois Irish Festival

S. Simon moved, L. Jack seconded, that the Council approve the Resolution granting Fair Days for the Southern Illinois Irish Festival between 12 noon and 6:00 p.m. on April 29, 2009, inside a fenced-in area within Lenus Turley Park. DISCUSSION: Councilwoman McDaniel said she could not support alcohol in the parks. VOTE: Ayes: S. Simon, J. Fritzler, C. Wissmann, S. Haynes, L. Jack and B. Cole. Nays: C. McDaniel. Motion declared carried. (Res. 2006-R-14; Exhibit F-3-7-06)

2. Resolution approving CenBen USA as the City's Group Health Insurance Administrator Effective May 1, 2006

C. Wissmann moved, S. Simon seconded, that the Council approve the Resolution approving the selection of CenBen USA as the City's Group Health Insurance Administrator effective May 1, 2006 through April 30, 2007. DISCUSSION: Mayor Cole questioned the variances in costs and expected claims exposure from the companies that submitted proposals, the lack of bids from the larger companies and the terminal liability. He said that the entire health insurance package should have been opened up for competitive bids. VOTE: Ayes: S. Simon, C. McDaniel, J. Fritzler, C. Wissmann, S. Haynes and L. Jack. Nays: B. Cole. Motion declared carried. (Res. 2006-R-15; Exhibit G-3-7-06)

3. Resolution approving and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement with Livingston Group, LLC for Government Affairs Representation and Lobbying Service before the Federal Government regarding the Joint-Use Law Enforcement and Public Safety Center

S. Simon moved, L. Jack seconded, that the Council approve a Resolution approving and authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement with Livingston Group, LLC for Government Affairs Representation and Lobbying Services before the Federal Government regarding the Joint-Use Law Enforcement and Public Safety Center. DISCUSSION: Councilman Fritzler questioned why a lobbyist should be retained to do the job that are our elected officials should do. He also expressed concern about the cost of the contract without having any guarantee of

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success as well as the selection of this particular firm, adding that proposals should have been solicited. Mayor Cole responded that the firm has the technical expertise to work the elected officials. The Mayor also noted that the City Code does not require that professional services be put out for bid, adding that this firm is charging one-third of its regular fee. VOTE: Ayes: S. Simon, C. McDaniel, C. Wissmann, S. Haynes, L. Jack and B. Cole. Nays: J. Fritzler. Motion declared carried. (Res. 2006-R-16; Exhibit H-3-7-06)

4. Resolution supporting Illinois General Assembly House Bill 4316, Enterprise Zone - Carbondale

S. Haynes moved, C. McDaniel seconded, that the Council approve a Resolution endorsing HB 4316, Enterprise Zone - Carbondale. DISCUSSION: Councilman Fritzler questioned whether an enterprise zone is required in order to get new businesses or the expansion of existing businesses. He also said he was unaware that Representative Bost was being asked to introduce this legislation and asked that in the future the Council be made aware if legislation is being requested. Councilwoman McDaniel supported the expansion of the enterprise zone to acquire new businesses and jobs for young people. In response to Council questions, Mayor Cole noted that the bill would allow the City of Carbondale to expand the enterprise zone within the current City limits of Carbondale, but the zone would not be expanded until the City Council voted to do so. Councilman Wissmann suggested that the South 51 business district would benefit from being added to the enterprise zone. Councilwoman Simon said she received e-mails from citizens opposing the enterprise zone. She said that her concern is with the process, noting that the Council received information regarding this proposal only about a month ago but the legislation was introduced in December with no information to the Council. She also expressed concern with the fact that the issue was apparently discussed with school officials before it was discussed with Council members. She said although this may be something on which the community could agree, she believes that not enough information has been provided to the community to allow the community to convey its opinions to Council members. As a result, she cannot support the legislation at this time. Melvin Turley and Charlie Howe asked questions regarding the enterprise zone. VOTE ON MOTION: Ayes: C. McDaniel, C. Wissmann, S. Haynes, L. Jack and B. Cole. Nays: S. Simon and J. Fritzler. Motion declared carried. (Res. 2006-R-17; Exhibit I-3-7-06)

5. Ordinance amending Title Two of the Carbondale Revised Code as it relates to Alcoholic Liquor and After Hours special events

L. Jack moved, C. McDaniel seconded, that the Council approve the Ordinance amending Title Two of the Carbondale Revised Code as it relates to Alcoholic Liquor and After Hours Special Events. DISCUSSION: Council members Fritzler and Simon said they would vote against the proposal because it was not supported by the City Manager and Police Chief. Council members McDaniel and Haynes expressed concern about allowing 18-year-olds to enter and be at the events all night. Council members Wissmann and Jack supported the proposal but noted that if there were problems in the future, the policy could be revisited. Mayor Cole noted that although he had mixed feelings, he wanted to encourage non-alcoholic

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events. Lynn Chew spoke in opposition to the ordinance. Mayor Cole acknowledged letters in opposition received from Lynn Chew and Tommy Glisson.

VOTE: Ayes: C. Wissmann, S. Haynes, L. Jack and B. Cole. Nays: S. Simon, C. McDaniel and J. Fritzler. Motion declared carried. (Ord. 2006-08; Exhibit J-3-7-06)

6. Ordinance approving the City of Carbondale's request to Amend the Zoning Ordinance Text relative to Driveway Widths, Curb Cut Spacing Requirements and Surfacing Standards, for Driveways and Parking Areas with Four or Fewer Spaces

Mayor Cole suggested that this item be carried over to the April 18th City Council meeting. He asked if there was any one in the audience who would like to speak on this issue at this time; there was no one present who indicated a desire to speak. Discussion on this item was postponed to the April 18th City Council meeting.

7. Report on the Eurma C. Hayes Child Care Center

City Manager Doherty presented a status report on the Eurma C. Hayes Child Care Center. The two alternatives that were presented were to (1) agree to some level of subsidy above the amount of the rent; or (2) close the center at an appropriate time.

Speaking in support of continued operation of the Child Care Center were Melvin Turley and parent Sarah Curtis. Councilwoman Simon shared comments sent by Lori Longueville of the Child Care Resource and Referral Center which strongly supported continued operation of the Child Care Center. Councilwoman McDaniel suggested more marketing of the center and that incentives be offered to City employees to send their children to the Center. Councilman Wissmann said he had seen improvement in the Center and would support a continuing subsidy. Councilman Haynes noted that 18 months of financial history is not good enough to make a final judgement. He also suggested that the City Council make a determination on whether the Center is going to be used for financial gain or for the humanitarian interests of the community and agreed with Councilwoman McDaniel that a marketing strategy should be developed to meet the goals and objectives set by the Council. Councilman Fritzler noted that parents might wonder about the stability of the Center since closure seems to be regularly discussed. He also asked about the status of the Advisory Board. Councilman Jack noted that limiting the subsidy to rent only was a goal, adding that the Center is an investment in the community. Councilman Wissmann asked that Advisory Board minutes be sent to the City Council so the Council could keep abreast of what is going on at the Center. Mayor Cole summarized by noting that Council consensus seemed to be to include the rent subsidy in the FY 2007 budget plus whatever is necessary to make up the net loss. Council members agreed. The Mayor requested that if any Council members had any additional suggestions that they be sent to his office. He also noted that the City Manager would be asked to work on employee incentives and that they be presented as part of the next quarterly report on the Child Care Center.

There was no formal action taken on this item.

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7. Council Comments

Councilman Haynes congratulated Coach Lowery and the Saluki Basketball Team on winning the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament and Coach Miller and Terrier Basketball team for their successful season.

Councilwoman Simon expressed her endorsement for the Jackson County Public Safety Tax ballot proposal. Councilman Fritzler agreed with Councilwoman Simon's comments.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was declared adjourned at 10:20 p.m..

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Janet M. Vaught, City Clerk

Approved by the City Council on:

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