

RULES AND PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

DATE: July 1, 2008

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 5:51 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDING MEMBERS

Robert Lutz, Chairman
Bob Cockrum
Ed Coleman
Monroe Gray, Jr.
Angela Mansfield
Lincoln Plowman
Mike Speedy

ABSENT MEMBERS

Joanne Sanders

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 307, 2008 - agrees to support and provide resources necessary for the City of Indianapolis to host the NCAA Final Four Women's Basketball Championship
"Do Pass" Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 308, 2008 - agrees to support and provide resources necessary for the City of Indianapolis to host the NCAA Final Four Men's Basketball Championship
"Do Pass" Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 309, 2008 - amends the Revised Code of the Consolidated City and County by adding a new Article II in Chapter 282 regarding Common Construction Wage Committees
"Do Pass As Amended" Vote: 7-0

PROPOSAL NO. 326, 2008 - allows taxpayers to pay the 2006-pay 2007 tax reconciliation bills in installments
"Tabled" Vote: 5-0

RULES AND PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

The Rules and Public Policy Committee of the City-County Council met on Tuesday, July 1, 2008. Chairman Robert Lutz called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present: Bob Cockrum, Ed Coleman, Lincoln Plowman, and Mike Speedy. Monroe Gray, Jr. and Angela Mansfield arrived shortly thereafter. Joanne Sanders was absent. Robert G. Elrod, General Counsel, represented Council staff.

Chairman Lutz asked Councillors to introduce themselves and the districts they represent. He then asked for consent to move Proposal No. 326, 2008 first on the agenda. Consent was given.

PROPOSAL NO. 326, 2008 - allows taxpayers to pay the 2006-pay 2007 tax reconciliation bills in installments

Chairman Lutz stated that there has been considerable discussion regarding this proposal, but due to timing issues and an impact that has not yet been fully explored, he feels it would be best to table the proposal.

Councillor Cockrum moved, seconded by Councillor Speedy, to "Table" Proposal No. 326, 2008. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 307, 2008 - agrees to support and provide resources necessary for the City of Indianapolis to host the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) Final Four Women's Basketball Championship

John Cochran, Special Counsel to the Mayor, stated that this resolution was originated by the Mayor's Office. The proposal formalizes what the city already provides for large events, such as public safety, traffic regulation and trash pickup. He said that this proposal will simply augment the city's bid to host these types of large-scale events by providing in writing a commitment to provide reasonable services. He added that this language is very similar to a previous resolution passed to help secure the bid for the SuperBowl.

[Clerk's Note: Councillor Mansfield arrived at 5:33 p.m.]

Councillor Speedy said that the proposal references the years between 2012 and 2016 and asked if this resolution will remain in effect during that time, or if it sunsets and will have to be renewed. Mr. Cochran said that the intent is that it remain effective with a commitment to host those events through 2016. Councillor Speedy asked if there is language included to protect the city, so that the only services promised are things like public safety, traffic control, and barricades. Mr. Cochran said that one of the "Whereas" statements refers to reasonable services, which is the only commitment. He said that the process is very competitive, and eight of the eleven cities that have bid to host the NCAA events have formalized this commitment in writing. The city felt it should

also do so in order to remain competitive in the process. Councillor Cockrum stated that the NCAA has requested this for past events, and this is nothing new or different.

Councillor Cockrum moved, seconded by Councillor Plowman, to send Proposal No. 307, 2008 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

[Clerk's Note: Councillor Gray arrived at 5:36 p.m.]

PROPOSAL NO. 308, 2008 - agrees to support and provide resources necessary for the City of Indianapolis to host the NCAA Final Four Men's Basketball Championship

Mr. Cochran said that this is basically the same resolution as Proposal No. 307, 2008, but is for the bid to host the men's championship, instead of the women's. Councillor Speedy asked if these events have already been awarded to the city. Mr. Cochran said that the bid has been submitted and the city has already been chosen as host for some of these years, but not all of them have yet been granted. Councillor Speedy stated that when the resolution was passed to commit to these services for the SuperBowl bid, the Governor also signed a resolution. He asked if that will be the same with these bids. Mr. Cochran said that he is not aware of those plans.

Councillor Lutz asked if Mr. Cochran has any numbers available on the economic impact of a Final Four competition on the city. Mr. Cochran said that he does not have this information with him, but could research that and let the committee know what the impact was during the last Final Four competition the city hosted.

Councillor Gray asked why the city is doing this so far in advance. Mr. Cochran said that they want to include these resolutions in the bid packets as a commitment to provide city services. Councillor Gray said that this is something new and they did not do a resolution the last time the city hosted a Final Four. Mr. Cochran said that he did not work for the city at that time, and is therefore not aware of what was done for the previous Final Four bid, but they did a similar resolution with the SuperBowl bid package. Councillor Gray asked if this is primarily a "feel good" resolution. Mr. Cochran said that it is a simple commitment to provide normal reasonable services that the city would already provide for such large-scale events. Councillor Gray asked if there is a way to make sure the city is capable of providing the services the event planners expect. Mr. Cochran said that they are simple services that the city normally provides for any event the city hosts. Councillor Gray asked if any requests for services outside of the normal services provided would need additional approval. Mr. Cochran answered in the affirmative.

Councillor Plowman moved, seconded by Councillor Mansfield, to send Proposal No. 308, 2008 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 309, 2008 - amends the Revised Code of the Consolidated City and County by adding a new Article II in Chapter 282 regarding Common Construction Wage Committees

Councillor Cockrum stated that there have, from time to time, arisen some issues with the timeliness of appointees to these wage committees, and some of the appointees have been found to live in the township or taxing district, but outside of the school district where the project was being constructed. He said that these committees are often formed very quickly, and the districts call and want someone appointed immediately. He said that this change to the Code will allow the Council to identify and appoint people in each district. Then, when a committee is formed, the district representatives can call the Clerk, who will keep track of the appointees, and someone can be assigned in a more timely manner.

Councillor Mansfield asked if the Council would then approve a number of individuals in advance who would be on standby to be called upon to serve as needed. Councillor Cockrum stated that this is the goal. He said that this will also help the Council office keep track and identify each district to make sure an individual is appointed to serve in each one. Councillor Mansfield asked if the appointees will still come before the committees to be appointed. Then, when the Council office receives a call about a wage committee being formed, they can provide a name that has already been approved. Councillor Cockrum stated that this is correct.

Councillor Gray stated that this is what the Council has been doing and it is nothing different. Councillor Cockrum said that there were some issues identifying what taxing district the appointed individuals actually lived in. For instance, in the case of the Town of Speedway, the taxing district for the town is the same as the school and library, but that is not always the case in every district.

Chairman Lutz asked if the library district should be added in the proposal to Sec. 282-204 (15). Robert G. Elrod, General Counsel, said that he is not sure if the public library is separate from the city taxing district. Chairman Lutz said that he believes there is a separate library tax. Mr. Elrod said that the library districts should probably be added to Speedway and Beech Grove, because they both have city libraries.

Councillor Cockrum moved, seconded by Councillor Plowman, to "Amend" Proposal No. 309, 2008 by adding ", Beech Grove Library District" after "City of Beech Grove" in item (12) and ", Speedway Library District" following "Town of Speedway" in item (15) of Sec. 282-204. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Councillor Gray asked if those appointed can only participate on wage committees for school and library projects. Councillor Cockrum said that they can participate in a wage committee for any type of construction project with bonds within that district to which they are appointed.

Mr. Elrod stated that the statute requires a separate committee for every project that meets the states criteria. The problem is that no one thinks about needing these committees until a few days before the committee needs to meet. Other appointments to these wage committees are easy appointments, which can be made quickly, but the Council's process does not afford them the flexibility to appoint a person within three days. In order to be a legal appointment, then, the Council can approve people to go on the list and then they can be assigned or delegated as already approved. As long as there are individuals appointed to each taxing district, the Clerk can keep a list and assign an individual in a more timely fashion whenever a request is made. He said that the Council will still approve appointees by resolution.

Chairman Lutz asked if the included cities and towns, such as Clermont, need to be separated out as taxing districts. Mr. Elrod said that he does not think the included cities have the authority to levy bonds for construction projects, except maybe Cumberland, which crosses the county line. He said that after the new tax bill goes into effect, there will be fewer and fewer of these projects, because they will have to go through a referendum, and there will probably not be the same volume of projects going forward.

Councillor Gray said that he appreciates what Mr. Elrod is explaining, but this process is nothing new and was already being done. He said that the custom has been to let Councillors in each district make recommendations, as opposed to the Clerk or the President making these assignments. He said that they have always extended the privilege to district Councillors to make these appointments. The problem is that people who take these appointments cannot attend meetings with short notice, due to employment obligations. Chairman Lutz asked how these recommendations will work. Councillor Gray said that if the project is located within one district, they would call the Councillor for that district for a recommendation, and if the project was within the Indianapolis Public School district or another taxing district that covered two Council districts, they could take recommendations from several Councillors and appoint more than one individual. Then, when the need arose, the Clerk could appoint whoever was available to serve from those previously approved individuals.

Councillor Cockrum moved, seconded by Councillor Gray, to send Proposal No. 309, 2008 to the full Council with a "Do Pass As Amended" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

There being no further business, and upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Lutz, Chairman