

DEPARTMENT OF CITY CLERK

CITY HALL

FEBRUARY 7, 1996

The Committee on Urban Redevelopment, Renewal & Planning meets this day in Committee Room "A", Department of City Clerk at 5:00 o'clock p.m.

PRESENT: Chairwoman Josephine DiRuzzo; Vice Chairwoman Patricia Nolan; Councilman David Igliazzi; Councilman Kevin Jackson-4.

ABSENT: Councilman John Rollins.

Also present are Thomas Deller, Deputy Director of Planning & Development; Barbara A. Poirier, Second Deputy City Clerk and Anna M. Stetson, Assistant Clerk.

**AN ORDINANCE IN AMENDMENT OF AND IN ADDITION TO CHAPTER 1983-4 OF THE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE APPROVED FEBRUARY 18, 1983, AND ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE OFFICIAL REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE SILVER LAKE REVITALIZATION PROJECT" FOR ADDITIONAL ACQUISITION, THE EXTENSION OF THE PROJECT BOUNDARY AND THE REVISION OF THE REGULATIONS AND CONTROLS IN THE SILVER LAKE REVITALIZATION PROJECT.**

MR. DELLER: This was tabled the last time we discussed this at the request of Councilman Igliazzi so he could do some further discussion with the neighborhood, and there is a letter in the package dated November 15th asking that this proposed Ordinance amendment be withdrawn, so I would recommend that you table this indefinitely.

CHAIRWOMAN DIRUZZO: Is this the Calise Bakery?

COUNCILMAN IGLIAZZI: Yes. It appears that Calise Bakery has ongoing attempted to buy two parcels that have houses on them. Both of which have been residents of the 7th Ward and the Silver Lake neighborhood for 45 years. They refuse to sell it to them, so they figured they would have us take it away from them. They made offers and their offers were refused, so they figured we would take it away from them. When they approached me at the meeting, I said I will have nothing to do with that. If anything I am supporting these people. They made a request based upon a business pursuit. They are entitled to make a request. When I found out what they were doing, if they were vacant land lots, obviously, I would move to approve it, but they are not, they are people who just refuse to move.

On motion of Councilwoman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Igliazzi, it is voted to table indefinitely the above matter.

Motion carries.

COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI: I left it on a positive note with Calise Bakery. In the event that these people move or pass away, and the families want to sell it, then we will help them in that regard, but I wouldn't take property away from people who are living and wants to keep their property because they couldn't negotiate a good price. That's what happened. The person said I will sell it to you for X. They said no they won't pay that, we'll have the city take it for Y.

**AN ORDINANCE IN AMENDMENT OF AND IN ADDITION TO CHAPTER 1977-15 OF THE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE APPROVED APRIL 27, 1977, ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE OFFICIAL REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR FEDERAL HILL EAST" FOR THE DELETION OF PROPERTY.**

CHAIRWOMAN DIRUZZO: This Ordinance amends the Redevelopment Plan for Federal Hill East.

MR. DELLER: If you remember there was a Public Hearing and Councilman Lombardi asked us to go ahead and amend the Redevelopment Plan to adopt this property and at the time the owner of the property said they would go forward and make improvements, and if they made the improvements we said we would amend the redevelopment ordinance to delete. This was the plan that they submitted to us (Mr. Deller shows the committee a drawing of the plan), they are in the process of making improvements. The new restaurant will be opened on March 1, 1996.

COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI: Shouldn't we not table it indefinitely.

MR. DELLER: The issue here is that you have to delete the old ordinance. What this ordinance says is we are going to delete Ordinance #673, Chapter 1995-25. Under State Law and the modification of the Redevelopment Plan, there is no requirement for a public hearing, that is a decision of the council, if you want to have a public hearing or not, but if you do vote on this and it goes back, it's still going to take two passages of the council before it is official and it's going to have to be signed, so that if it gets reported out of this committee, the council meeting is the 15th and if the business isn't opened on March 1st like it is supposed to, you don't have to give it second passage. Councilman Lombardi feels comfortable with this.

COUNCILWOMAN DIRUZZO: Let me just say this, I did receive communication from Mr. Napolitano subsequent to the previous letter which was sent in November of 1995 with the plans attached. We received a letter from Mr. Napolitano, and I have misplaced it, but he had requested that I place in writing....

MR. DELLER: He did the same to me and I sent him a letter back saying you didn't do anything until January because I wanted to see that progress is being made in the building. Progress is now being made. We will submit an Ordinance. If all goes according to the usual process, it won't be until April 1st that it is deleted. I think that they are moving forward in good faith. They have signed the lease, we are happy with the tenants, we are happy with what's happening. Councilman Lombardi is happy. That's why this Ordinance is here. If, for some reason, there is a delay, the next council meeting is the 15th. If you vote this out tonight, we will have one passage, then your second passage wouldn't be until March 7th and by that time, they should be open, and if they are not Councilman Lombardi can ask that that second vote be tabled until..... I see no reason that this should not move forward.

On motion of Councilman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Igliozi, it is voted to approve the foregoing matter.

Motion carries.

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 20 OF THE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE, ENTITLED "REDEVELOPMENT AREAS", AS AMENDED.**

MR. DELLER: Under State Law before a City can do a Redevelopment Plan and spend money in an area, they have to have designated, a community must designate Redevelopment Areas. Through the years, since 1947, when the first Redevelopment Area was designated, up until recently when we added the Gorham site, there have been something like 62 different Redevelopment Areas created in the city and it's making it very difficult for us to figure out what the different areas are. All this Ordinance does is delete all those previous 62 areas and re-create 4 very concise areas.

COUNCILWOMAN NOLAN: What are those areas?

MR. DELLER: Basically it's the whole city, except Elmhurst, College Hill, Blackstone are excluded. Almost the rest of the city is in it. What we did is we took 146 to the river...we pretty much redefined it so it is pretty clear.

COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI: So you don't have 15-20 Ordinances.

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COUNCILWOMAN NOLAN: It would be a lot easier if there was a map so we could see these areas.

MR. DELLER: By State Law there has to be a Public Hearing on this. So there will be a map at that time. There needs to be a Public Hearing, it needs to be advertised three times. There is no need for notice. There has to be a Public Hearing saying the City of Providence is considering amending the Redevelopment areas. Really all this committee needs to do is authorize the Clerk's office to schedule a Public Hearing sometime in March because by the time we get the ads together and everything else.

COUNCILWOMAN DIRUZZO: The names of the streets that are included in the legal description....

MR. DELLER: It's not every street, it's just the boundary.

COUNCILWOMAN DIRUZZO: I don't even see any streets that look familiar to me.

MR. DELLER: You are completely included. We go completely down the Woonasquatcut River to Downtown.

COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI: They follow the city lines around the city excluding those areas that you mentioned.

MR. DELLER: Elmhurst, College Hill and Blackstone, parts of Wayland. You will see everything in the map. We felt that it was best to do four areas. We will do a big map, bring it in and you will have the four different areas shaded. I just needed to start the process.

On motion of Councilwoman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Igliazzi, it is voted to approve the foregoing matter.

MR. DELLER: I would like to do the Public Hearing sometime in March and what I really would like to do is work with the Clerk's Office to put it together in the best fashion. We need to get an ad drawn up. If you authorize the clerk to pick a date and check it with you, that would be the best way to do it.

Motion carries.

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE INTERSECTION OF CAMP STREET AND DOYLE AVENUE BE NAMED IN HONOR OF B. ALBERT FORD.**

COUNCILWOMAN DIRUZZO: This is sponsored by Councilman Jackson and Councilman Allen.

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COUNCILMAN JACKSON: The Resolution is self explanatory of what Mr. Ford has meant to Ward Three. His involvement and his social involvement in various different things.

On motion of Councilwoman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Igliazzi, it is voted to approve the foregoing matter.

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE INTERSECTION OF CAMP STREET AND CYPRESS STREET BE NAMED IN HONOR OF WILLIAM H. "DIXIE" MATTHEWS, FORMER DEPUTY CITY CLERK.**

COUNCILMAN JACKSON: Again just another very active community person. Very much involved in running of city government as a Deputy City Clerk and involved in the Democratic City Committee.

On motion of Councilwoman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Igliazzi, it is voted to approve the foregoing matter.

Motion carries.

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT WASHINGTON PARK SQUARE BE RENAMED "THE WILLIAM R. ABRAHAMSON MEMORIAL SQUARE" IN HONOR OF THE DECEASED PARK RANGER SHOT WHILE PATROLLING ROGER WILLIAMS PARK.**

COUNCILWOMAN NOLAN: Bill Abrahamson lived all his life in Washington Park and dearly loved where he lived in Washington Park and we have already gotten the money from Keep Providence Beautiful and the Parks Department is working with us on beautifying that square, and we would just like to name it after Bill Abrahamson.

On motion of Councilman Jackson, seconded by Councilman Igliazzi, it is voted to approve the foregoing matter.

COUNCILWOMAN DIRUZZO: We have a communication from the Traffic Engineer indicating no objection to this re-naming.

Motion carries.

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE FIELD LOCATED ADJACENT TO CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL BE ADOPTED BY THE ALUMNI AND THAT A PLAQUE BE ERECTED IN HONOR OF ALFRED V. MORRO, LONGTIME TEACHER AND COACH.**

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COUNCILWOMAN DIRUZZO: Councilwoman Young is not here to speak on this, but certainly Al Morro was no stranger to any of us. He spent many years at Classical High School coaching and did an outstanding job, and it was a very big loss to all of us. We have a communication from Roosevelt Benton supporting the request and signed by Arthur Zarrella, as well as Senator Palazzo.

On motion of Councilwoman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Igliazzi, it is voted to approve the foregoing matter.

Motion carries.

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE CITY COLLECTOR TO CAUSE THE TAXES TO BE ABATED ON THAT PROPERTY LOCATED ALONG 736 BROAD STREET, SAME BEING SITUATED ON ASSESSOR'S PLAT 48, LOT 1073, AS REQUESTING BY THE PROVIDENCE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS SECTION 44-7-23.**

COUNCILWOMAN DIRUZZO: I believe from my discussion with the Clerk that this Resolution should have been sent to the Finance Committee rather than the Urban Redevelopment Committee.

COUNCILMAN IGLIOZZI: I agree because we have set up a procedure by which an affidavit has to be filed and consistent with the statute. We developed that about two or three years ago.

On motion of Councilman Igliazzi, seconded by Councilwoman Nolan, it is voted to Refer the above matter to the Committee on Finance to be handled in accordance with the procedure and policy established.

Motion carries.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion of Councilman Igliazzi, seconded by Councilman Jackson, it is voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 o'clock p.m.

  
SECOND DEPUTY CITY CLERK



ASSISTANT CLERK