

**CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF ROCKFORD  
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS  
FEBRUARY 19, 2013  
COUNCIL CONVENED AT 6:17 P.M.**

1. The invocation was given by Chaplain Samuel Sarpiya and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by the City Council Clerk Diane Reed.
2. Roll Call:

Mayor Lawrence Morrissey

Aldermen: Mark, Wasco, Hervey, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, Johnson, Beach, Elyea -8-  
Absent: Durkee, Curran, Timm, Beck, McNeely, Robertson -6-
3. Alderman Mark moved to accept the Journal of Proceedings of February 11, 2013 seconded by Alderman Wasco. MOTION PREVAILED (Ald. Durkee, Curran, Timm, Beck, McNeely, Robertson absent).

**PUBLIC HEARING**

4. Mayor Morrissey called upon Alderman Mark to conduct a public hearing. Alderman Mark called the public hearing to order at 6:19 pm, stating that it was being held pursuant to 65 Illinois Compiled Statutes 5/11-15.1-3 for the annexation agreement for the following property: **4646 Spring Brook Road**. He asked for questions or comments from the Council members, and then from the general public and closed the hearing at 6:19 pm.

The meeting returned to regular business at 6:20 pm.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

5. Melvin Brown spoke in opposition of geographic policing and encouraged Mayor Morrissey and city leaders put aside your differences and stand united to move the City forward.
6. Antar Baker read statistic about drug users and dealers, offered his concerns with the make-up of the Integrity Task Force and again requested a federal investigation.
7. Prophet Yusef listed several local resources that make Rockford a gold mine.
8. John Brantley mentioned he transported students to North Main Manor so they could use the computers. He recited scripture and spoke about an incident that occurred at Fairgrounds.
9. Rudy Valdez provided an update on what SWIFTT is doing in parallel with city efforts for the revitalization of the southwest quadrant of Rockford.

## **PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

10. Alderman Mark submitted the Rockford Traffic Commission minutes from the meeting held on February 13, 2013. Referred to Code and Regulation Committee.
11. Alderman Wasco submitted a Memorandum from Jeremy Carter, City Traffic Engineer regarding an Intergovernmental Agreement for Winnebago County Traffic Signal Maintenance and Operation. Referred to Finance and Personnel Committee.
12. Alderman Johnson submitted four (4) requests for service. Referred to Finance and Public Works Departments and Community Development/Code Enforcement.

## **NEW COMMITTEE REPORTS**

13. Alderman Mark read a Code and Regulation Committee Report recommending the approval of the Final Plat of Bellwood Acres. LAID OVER.
14. Alderman Mark read a Code and Regulation Committee Report recommending the approval of a sanitary sewer easement through City of Rockford property. The Legal Director is hereby instructed to prepare the appropriate ordinance. LAID OVER.
15. Alderman Wasco read a Finance and Personnel Committee Report recommending approval of a Joint Purchasing contract for Panasonic Toughbook's and docking stations with CDS Office Technologies, of Itasca, Illinois in the amount of \$31,229.70. The funding source is Fire Department Capital Budget. LAID OVER.
16. Alderman Wasco read a Finance and Personnel Committee Report recommending approval of a Joint Purchasing contract for Motorola Portable Radios with Motorola, of Schaumburg, Illinois in the amount of \$54,332.50. The funding source is Fire Department Capital Budget. LAID OVER.
17. Alderman Wasco read a Finance and Personnel Committee Report recommending the award for Engineering Agreement: N. Main & Auburn Roundabout Utility Relocation (Comcast) be made to Comcast for a total not to exceed cost of \$29,818.14 for overhead utility relocation services for the N. Main and Auburn Roundabout Utility Relocation project. The funding source for this project is Sales Tax funds. LAID OVER.
18. Alderman Wasco read a Finance and Personnel Committee Report recommending the award for Engineering Agreement: W. State Street Overhead Utility Relocation (Comcast) be made to Comcast for a total not to exceed cost of \$60,413.84 for overhead utility relocation services for the W. State St. Overhead Utility Relocation project. The funding source is Sales Tax funds. LAID OVER.
19. Alderman Wasco read a Finance and Personnel Committee Report recommending a Change Order – River Edge Redevelopment Zone Grant Administration be made to EHB Consulting for grant administration an additional \$5,000.00 for a total not to exceed amount of \$15,000.00. The funding for this project will come from Sales Tax through the 2012 City Wide CIP Project Development category funds. LAID OVER.

20. Alderman Wasco read a Finance and Personnel Committee Report recommending Change Order – CDBG “IKE” Disaster Recovery Economic Development Program be made to EHB Consulting for an additional \$6,500.00 for a total not to exceed amount of \$16,400.00. The funding for this project will come from sales tax under the 2012 City Wide CIP Project Development category. LAID OVER.

21. Alderman Wasco read a Finance and Personnel Committee Report recommending the award for Automotive Parts be made to the low bidders as summarized:  
Lakeside International                      Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
Rock Valley Distributors                  Loves Park, Illinois  
NAPA    Rockford, Illinois

The total estimated annual value of this contract is \$70,000. The funding source is Garage Fund. LAID OVER.

22. Alderman Wasco moved the adoption of a Finance and Personnel Committee Report recommending approval of the total vouchers for the week of February 19, 2013 in the amount of \$2,070,638.84. MOTION PREVAILED by a Roll Call vote of:

Ayes:            Mark, Wasco, Hervey, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, Johnson, Beach,  
                         Elyea -8-  
Nays:            -0-  
Absent:        Durkee, Curran, Timm, Beck, McNeely, Robertson -6-

### **OFFICERS REPORTS**

23. Mayor Morrissey invited forward Jim Ryan, City Administrator, and Tim Hanson, Director of Public Works, to make a presentation from the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) for the Riverwalk Project to McClure Engineering and city engineers.

Jim Ryan reported two weeks ago he accepted on behalf of the City of Rockford a Special Achievement Award for the Rockford Riverwalk Museum Campus Project from the ACEC. He thanked council members for their commitment to invest in our water and transportation systems, making it possible to leverage more federal dollars.

Jim Ryan presented Matt Vittner, City Engineer, and Jim Hankins, McClure Engineering, with the Special Achievement Award for the Rockford Riverwalk Museum Campus Project. 56 entries were judged resulting in 33 merit awards, 11 special achievement award and 12 honor awards.

Jim Hankins, McClure Engineering, thanked the City of Rockford for the opportunity to work on the Rockford Riverwalk Museum Campus Project.

24. Mayor Morrissey reported today he attended a reception at the Chicago/Rockford International Airport celebrating the retirement of Congressman Donald Manzullo, who served two decades as Rockford’s congressman. Community members thanked him for his advocacy in northern Illinois by and named a terminal in his honor, “Donald A. Manzullo International Terminal”.

25. Mayor Morrissey announced he is vetoing Ordinance 2013-028-O passed on February 11, 2013 (EDEEN Agreement) and read a portion of the veto message. The municipal code requires the matter be automatically laid over until the next council meeting. The item will appear on the agenda for the February 25, 2013 meeting. The complete veto message is attached.
26. Alderman Mark announced on February 22, 2013 from 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm will be a City Market Vendor Workshop at the Millennium Center. He encouraged any vendors considering a booth at the City Market to attend this informational workshop.
27. Alderman Johnson asked for an explanation of the "Certification by Elected Officials" form received by each alderman.

Julia Valdez explained the certification form is the outcome of an IMRF audit. The auditor requested that our elected officials fill out a form verifying 600 hours worked on an annual basis, meeting the requirements to qualify for IMRF as well as being vested working 8 years.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **2013-075CR**

28. Alderman Mark moved the adoption of a Code and Regulation Committee Report recommending the approval of the sale of vacant lot PIN #11-06-326-002 adjacent to the west of 6750 Porter Road for a minimum bid of \$500.00. MOTION PREVAILED by a Roll Call vote of:

Ayes: Mark, Wasco, Hervey, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, Johnson, Beach, Elyea -8-  
 Nays: -0-  
 Absent: Durkee, Curran, Timm, Beck, McNeely, Robertson -6-

#### **2013-031-O**

29. Alderman Mark moved the adoption of an Ordinance amending Article 63 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Rockford for a Special Use Permit for community based housing on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor for a maximum of sixteen (16) residents in a C-4, Urban Mixed-Use Zoning District at 526 West State Street. Approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. Meeting all building and fire codes.
2. That the community based housing on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor shall comply with a maximum of sixteen (16) residents.
3. The interior layout of the business shall be consistent with the submitted interior floor plan Exhibit E.

MOTION PREVAILED by a Roll Call vote of:

Ayes: Mark, Wasco, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, Johnson, Beach, Elyea, Mayor Morrissey -8-  
 Nays: Hervey -1-  
 Absent: Durkee, Curran, Timm, Beck, McNeely, Robertson -6-

30. Alderman Mark moved the adoption of an Ordinance for the Annexation of property commonly known as 4646 Spring Brook Road.

Alderman Mark made a motion to lay the Ordinance over for one week, seconded by Alderman Hervey. MOTION PREVAILED (Ald. Durkee, Curran, Timm, Beck, McNeely, Robertson absent).

The Ordinance was LAID OVER.

**2013-076CR**

31. Alderman Wasco moved the adoption of a Finance and Personnel Committee Report recommending the award for Tree Removal be made to Flying W Tree Service, of Belvidere, Illinois and Tree Care Enterprises, of Rockford, Illinois. The estimated annual total contract is \$500,000 with an estimated total of \$350,000 to Flying W Tree Service as primary contractor for tree removal and \$150,000 to Tree Care Enterprises as secondary contract for tree removal, emergency storm damage work, and pruning. The funding source is Street Division Operating Budget. MOTION PREVAILED by a Roll Call vote of:

Ayes: Mark, Wasco, Hervey, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, Johnson, Beach, Elyea -8-  
Nays: -0-  
Absent: Durkee, Curran, Timm, Beck, McNeely, Robertson -6-

**2013-077CR**

32. Alderman Wasco moved the adoption of a Finance and Personnel Committee Report recommending the award for Guardrail Installation & Repair Service be made to the sole bidder, Northern Contracting, of Sycamore, Illinois for their hourly rates as shown on tabulation. The estimated annual value of this contract is \$12,000. The funding source is Street Division Operating Budget/Risk Management Fund. MOTION PREVAILED by a Roll Call vote of:

Ayes: Mark, Wasco, Hervey, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, Johnson, Beach, Elyea -8-  
Nays: -0-  
Absent: Durkee, Curran, Timm, Beck, McNeely, Robertson -6-

**2013-078CR**

33. Alderman Wasco moved the adoption of a Finance and Personnel Committee Report recommending the award for Engineering Agreement: NBIS Biennial Bridge Inspection 2013 be made to HR Green for a total not to exceed cost of \$123,608.60. The project includes the biennial inspection of the bridges under the City's jurisdiction including digital documentation, completion of IDOT forms, updating of the City's bridge database and a summary of required repairs. The funding source is Sales Tax. MOTION PREVAILED by a Roll Call vote of:

Ayes: Mark, Wasco, Hervey, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, Johnson, Beach, Elyea -8-  
Nays: -0-  
Absent: Durkee, Curran, Timm, Beck, McNeely, Robertson -6-

**2013-079CR**

34. Alderman Wasco moved the adoption of a Finance and Personnel Committee Report recommending approval of a Change Order for Data Center Switch Upgrade to Sentinel Technologies in the amount of \$12,832.00. The funding source is Information Technology Operating Budget. MOTION PREVAILED by a Roll Call vote of:

Ayes: Mark, Wasco, Hervey, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, Johnson, Beach, Elyea -8-  
Nays: -0-  
Absent: Durkee, Curran, Timm, Beck, McNeely, Robertson -6-

**2013-080CR**

35. Alderman Wasco moved the adoption of a Finance and Personnel Committee Report recommending a need for confidentiality still exists for the following closed session minutes, as the cases and matters are still pending:

11/5/07, 11/13/07, 2/25/08, 9/21/09, 10/9/12, and 11/13/12

The following Closed session Minutes related to labor negotiations will not be included in future Committee Reports:

10/20/08

But that the minutes for session on the following dates be open to the Public: 2/25/08 Minutes related to non-union salaries (The minutes related to labor negotiations will not be included in future committee reports). MOTION PREVAILED by a Roll Call vote of:

Ayes: Mark, Wasco, Hervey, Jacobson, Thompson-Kelly, Johnson, Beach, Elyea -8-  
Nays: -0-  
Absent: Durkee, Curran, Timm, Beck, McNeely, Robertson -6-

**MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

**2013-018R**

36. Alderman Mark, on behalf of the Code and Regulation Committee, moved the adoption of a Resolution from Healing Pathways Cancer Resource Center requesting a special event permit for the Bow Tie 2013 March and 5k Run for Men's Cancer Awareness to be held on Saturday, June 8, 2013 from 6:45 am – 12:00 (noon) at Home Depot, 6930 Argus Drive. MOTION PREVAILED (Ald. Durkee, Curran, Timm, Beck, McNeely, Robertson absent).

**2013-019R**

37. Alderman Mark, on behalf of the Code and Regulation Committee, moved the adoption of a Resolution from Rock River Development Partnership requesting a special event permit and liquor permit for consumption of liquor outdoors on public property ("SP" license) for Rockford City Market (Farmer's Market) to be held downtown Rockford beginning May 31, 2013 until October 11, 2013. Event hours are 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm May 31, 2013 – August 30, 2013 and 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm September 6, 2013 – October

11, 2013. MOTION PREVAILED (Ald. Durkee, Curran, Timm, Beck, McNeely, Robertson absent).

38. Alderman Mark, on behalf of the Code and Regulation Committee, moved the adoption of a Resolution, that the Mayor and Legal Director are authorized to execute the Annexation Agreement for 4646 Spring Brook Road by and between Laurent House Foundation, Inc., and Illinois non-for-profit Corporation, and the City of Rockford, a municipal corporation. HELD OUT.

**2013-020R**

39. Alderman Wasco, on behalf of the Finance and Personnel Committee, moved the adoption of a Resolution authorizing the Central Services Manager to take bids/proposals for the following:
- A. RFP: Comprehensive Health & Wellness Plan – On Site/Near Site Clinic Center, funding source: Health Fund
  - B. RFP: Fire Apparatus Lease, funding source: Fire Department Capital Budget
  - C. Bid: Tree Purchase, funding source: CIP Sales Tax
  - D. Bid: Painting Services, funding source: Property Fund

MOTION PREVAILED (Ald. Durkee, Curran, Timm, Beach, Beck, McNeely, Robertson absent).

**NEW BUSINESS**

40. Alderman Mark introduced and read an Ordinance for the sale of City owned property, the vacant lot adjacent to the east of 6750 Porter Road, PIN #11-06-326-002, at a minimum bid of \$500.00 with preference to the adjoining property owner. LAID OVER.
41. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Reed  
City Council Clerk

[The meeting was taped in its entirety, and the tape is on file in the Legal Department]

**CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS**  
**City Council Chambers, 2<sup>ND</sup> floor City Hall**  
**425 E. State Street, Rockford**  
**February 25, 2013**  
**6:00 P.M.**  
**AGENDA**

The following represents, in general, the chronological order of proceedings at the City Council meeting:

- Call to Order by the Mayor
- Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call and determination of quorum
- Acceptance of Journal of Proceedings
- Public Hearing
- Petitions and Communications
- Committee Reports
- Officers Reports

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**I. COMMITTEE REPORTS LAID OVER FEBRUARY 19, 2013**

1. Mark - Code and Regulation - Approval of the Final Plat of Bellwood Acres.
2. Mark - Code and Regulation - Approval of a sanitary sewer easement through City of Rockford property. The Legal Director is hereby instructed to prepare the appropriate ordinance.
3. Wasco - Finance and Personnel - Approval of a Joint Purchasing contract for Panasonic Toughbook's and docking stations with CDS Office Technologies, of Itasca, Illinois in the amount of \$31,229.70. The funding source is Fire Department Capital Budget.
4. Wasco - Finance and Personnel - Approval of a Joint Purchasing contract for Motorola Portable Radios with Motorola, of Schaumburg, Illinois in the amount of \$54,332.50. The funding source is Fire Department Capital Budget.
5. Wasco - Finance and Personnel - Award for Engineering Agreement: N. Main & Auburn Roundabout Utility Relocation (Comcast) be made to Comcast for a total not to exceed cost of \$29,818.14 for overhead utility relocation services for the N. Main and Auburn Roundabout Utility Relocation project. The funding source for this project is Sales Tax funds.
6. Wasco - Finance and Personnel - Award for Engineering Agreement: W. State Street Overhead Utility Relocation (Comcast) be made to Comcast for a total not to exceed cost of \$60,413.84 for overhead utility relocation services for the W. State St. Overhead Utility Relocation project. The funding source is Sales Tax funds.

7. Wasco - Finance and Personnel - Change Order – River Edge Redevelopment Zone Grant Administration be made to EHB Consulting for grant administration an additional \$5,000.00 for a total not to exceed amount of \$15,000.00. The funding for this project will come from Sales Tax through the 2012 City Wide CIP Project Development category funds.
8. Wasco - Finance and Personnel - Change Order – CDBG “IKE” Disaster Recovery Economic Development Program be made to EHB Consulting for an additional \$6,500.00 for a total not to exceed amount of \$16,400.00. The funding for this project will come from sales tax under the 2012 City Wide CIP Project Development category.
9. Wasco - Finance and Personnel - Award for Automotive Parts be made to the low bidders as summarized:

Lakeside International	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Rock Valley Distributors	Loves Park, Illinois
NAPA	Rockford, Illinois

The total estimated annual value of this contract is \$70,000. The funding source is Garage Fund.

## **II. ORDINANCES LAID OVER FEBRUARY 19, 2013**

1. Mark - Ordinance - Annexation of property commonly known as 4646 Spring Brook Road.
2. Mark - Ordinance – Sale of City owned property, the vacant lot adjacent to the east of 6750 Porter Road, PIN #11-06-326-002, at a minimum bid of \$500.00 with preference to the adjoining property owner.
3. Jacobson - Ordinance - First Amendment to the Master Agreement of the City of Rockford’s Commercial District Economic Development, Education and Entrepreneurship Network (EDEEN).

## **III. APPOINTMENTS HELD OUT FEBRUARY 19, 2013**

- 1.\* Mayor Morrissey – Appointment - Historic Preservation Commission, Mr. Gary G. Carlson, for a three-year term ending February 2016. (Pursuant to Rule 18, this item is up for passage on March 11, 2013).

## **IV. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS HELD OUT FEBRUARY 19, 2013.**

1. Mark, on behalf of the Code and Regulation Committee, moved the adoption of a Resolution, that the Mayor and Legal Director are authorized to execute the Annexation Agreement for 4646 Spring Brook Road by and between Laurent House Foundation, Inc., and Illinois non-for-profit Corporation, and the City of Rockford, a municipal corporation.

**V. NEW BUSINESS** (note: Ordinances may be read in under New Business and Rule 11 suspended and final vote taken. Committee Reports would have previously been voted on).

1. Mark – Ordinance - Sanitary sewer easement through City of Rockford property.

\* same action taken before

• Adjournment

\* \* \* \* \*

**POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL ITEMS:**

The following items appear on the City Council Standing Committee Agendas as noted. Items may receive a vote at committee and come before the first City Council meeting held after the committee meeting. Rule 11 can be suspended and final vote taken on said items at the City Council meeting (no rule suspension is necessary to take a vote on vouchers).

**CODE AND REGULATION COMMITTEE**

**Monday, February 25, 2013, 5:15 p.m.**

**Conference Room A, City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> floor (north room)**

**AGENDA**

- 1. C & R 13-33 February Traffic Commission Minutes
- 2. C & R 13-32 Closed Session for Purposes of Pending and/or Threatened Litigation

**FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**Monday, February 25, 2013, 5:15 p.m.**

**Conference Room B, City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> floor (south room)**

**AGENDA**

- 1. Purchasing and Vouchers
  - A. Award of Bid: Sprinkler Irrigation – Winterization & Spring Start-Up
  - B. Award of Bid: Weatherization Contracts (4 committee reports)
  - C. Award of Contract: Lobbying Services
  - D. Award of RFP: Emergency Solutions Grant
  - E. Emergency Repairs to 2004 International Ambulance – **Info only**
  - F. Change Order: Professional Services Agreement: Parking Deck Lighting – **Info only**

G. Resolution to take Bids/Proposals

H. Vouchers

2. Intergovernmental Agreement: Winnebago County – Traffic Signal Maintenance & Operation

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**Monday, February 25, 2013, 5:30 p.m.**

**CD Conference Room, City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> floor**

**AGENDA**

1. Memorandum from Jim Ryan, City Administrator, regarding the Perryville Promenade Development.

**LEGISLATIVE LOBBYING COMMITTEE**

**Monday, February 25, 2013, \_\_\_\_ p.m.**

**Conference Room A, City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> floor (north room)**

**AGENDA**

No Meeting Scheduled.

## COUNCIL ROOMS, CITY OF ROCKFORD

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Date: February 19, 2013

BY: Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey

To: Aldermen of the City of Rockford,

Re: Veto of Ordinance 2013-028-O of February 11, 2013, First Amendment to the Master Agreement of the City of Rockford's Commercial District Economic Development, Education and Entrepreneurship Network (EDEEN).

Tonight I am vetoing the Ordinance 2013-028-O passed on February 11, 2013, due to the amendment that was developed and added outside of the process that this Council had established for the EDEEN Network and for itself, and because of the negative results and bad precedent that it would set for our Council and the EDEEN Network.

The City Council had placed in last year's EDEEN Agreement the requirement that the EDEEN members work together in a continuous improvement model to improve the results obtained by the Network and its members. The Council also agreed with the Network that there would be metrics developed to measure the output from the Network. I fully support that approach which places the responsibility on the Network members to examine fully their shared goals and respective operations to determine how to best achieve improvements on an ongoing basis.

I also support that approach because it recognizes that in the decades prior to the creation of EDEEN, the City Council had established no method or approach to bring the organizations together and no metrics or guidelines to measure the success of these organizations. In short, prior to the creation of the EDEEN Network, the Council would routinely debate without data or metrics the respective merits of the various organizations based primarily on the relative health of a given revenue stream that was being used to fund a particular organization. The fact that the Council created EDEEN was a positive step that the Council made to establish an improved and more successful operating model.

Because the Council did not approve the 2012 EDEEN Agreement until July of last year, however, the EDEEN Network members had less than three months to work together on the issues outlined in the Agreement. In fact, it has only been about six months since the Council approved the 2012 EDEEN Agreement. Moreover, the Council eliminated the proposed administrative line item from the 2012 EDEEN budget that would have improved the Networks ability to address the goal of improving efficiencies of the Network.

Nevertheless, the EDEEN Network had numerous meetings with City Council members and staff in developing what was originally proposed for the 2013 EDEEN Budget and Agreement. That proposal went to the City's Planning and Development Committee and was approved and came to the City Council floor. Unfortunately, that same proposal that was approved by the P&D Committee failed to pass when it came up for a vote before the full City Council on February 21. Subsequently, there was apparently a meeting held on Friday, February 25 where the amendment was developed to which I have objected. That meeting was not announced to the

general public or to all of the Council members. While that meeting may have avoided a technical violation of the Open Meetings Act, it violates the spirit of the Act when it was done to avoid intentionally the scrutiny that was purposefully developed as part of the process of the original EDEEN Agreement. In other words, the public's business should be done in public.

I oppose the Amendment because it destroys the credibility of the process that this Council itself created to support collaborative decision making in a continuous improvement process. By the very fact that the EDEEN Network is less than a year old, it is unreasonable to expect that the EDEEN Network would do in that time what the City Council had never done. The great irony is that since the Council established EDEEN, there has been a rush to apply to EDEEN a standard of conduct that the Council had never applied to itself. In other words, Council members seem quick to attack EDEEN for failing to improve efficiencies or failing to achieve results when the Council itself never achieved those results.

Furthermore, the cuts to the individual organizations identified in the Amended Agreement that passed last week cuts against some of the economically hardest hit areas of this City with the highest minority populations and areas to which our Council has placed a high priority for redevelopment work.

- The cuts to SWIFTT, for example, come at a time when we are actively rebuilding South Main Street and the Morgan Street Bridge; we've just chosen an architect to design the new multi-modal transportation station on South Main; and we've been working with a developer on the redevelopment of the Barber-Colman site.
- Cutting the appropriation for the West Side business organization comes at a time when we are focused on crime reduction efforts in that part of the City; it comes when construction is underway for the massive rebuilding of West State Street; and it comes at a time when we are actively partnering with the RHA on the Choice Neighborhood planning grant involving major physical and human development initiatives in the Fairgrounds/Ellis Heights west-side focus area.
- Completely eliminating the entire budget for the Element cuts against an organization designed to support jobs and economic development driven by the intersection of the arts, entertainment, and housing in our downtown and older areas of the City, which has been a priority. The Element has been involved with the incubation and operations of numerous activities like Friday Night Flicks and First Friday's and has been actively supporting revitalization efforts on West State Street and South Main Street including the development of the Success Network, which has been an initiative of the EDEEN Network to support talent development in these areas of the City.
- Moreover, Council members most impacted by these cuts who represent the southwest and west parts of the City were not even invited to the February 25 meeting where these cuts were evidently discussed and agreed upon.

While I oppose this action by the City Council and I am vetoing the 2013 EDEEN Budget and Agreement, I would support an amendment that does a better job of balancing the respective concerns. The City Council is rightly concerned about improving the efficiencies and operations of the Network. I share that concern. But the Council should clearly indicate which metrics or

data will be used to determine how individual organizations and the Network as a whole will be measured. There must be a shared understanding of how we define and measure a positive return on the Council's investments in the Network. That has not yet been done. And to maintain its own credibility, the Council must adhere to the public engagement process that the Council itself created for EDEEN and demands of itself through our Planning & Development Committee structure.

I think an agreement can be reached that supports efficiency and fairness and restores credibility to the process that this Council created to drive collaboration for the important work of the EDEEN Network. I look forward to working with the City Council, City Staff, and EDEEN members to arrive at a positive consensus. I also look forward to the continued work of the EDEEN Network based on our 2012 Agreement while our City Council works to reach a consensus for 2013.

Our community needs a strong, network-based approach to coordinate economic and other redevelopment efforts if we are to achieve a sustainable and prosperous future for our entire City. I know the EDEEN Network organizations are committed to achieving results. I also know that change can be difficult, but necessary. I am committed to working as quickly as possible to resolve these issues so that the EDEEN Network and its member organizations can continue their work on behalf of our community.

Respectfully submitted,

S/  
Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey