
**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEKIN, ILLINOIS,
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE CITY HALL
111 SOUTH CAPITOL STREET
ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2005 AT 5:30 O'CLOCK P.M.
LYNDELL N. HOWARD * MAYOR * PRESIDING**

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS, BLANCHARD, MADDOX, DAGIT, AND JONES

ABSENT: NONE

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Rick Bowman, Kevin Cone Mayor Howard recognized the five firefighters that arrived home from the cleanup efforts on the Gulf.

Roll was called and all commissioners were present.

Agenda

Motion by Com'r. Blanchard, seconded by Com'r. Maddox, that the **agenda be amended by removing Item 2 of New Business – Ordinance No. 2447 Establishing Compensation for Mayor and Council Members.** On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Motion by Com'r. Blanchard, seconded by Com'r. Maddox, that the agenda be **approved as now presented.** On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Motion by Com'r. Dagit, seconded by Com'r. Jones, that the **Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of September 12, 2005 be approved as written.** On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Public Input on Agenda Items

The following spoke in opposition of the increase sale tax:

Shirley Faichney 320 felt the City did not need to grow. Felt with growth came bigger expenses. It was Ms. Faichney's opinion that the City could not be short firemen if the Department was able to send 5 of its firefighters to the disaster cleanup in the South.

Bill Fleming Director of the Pekin Area Chamber of Commerce 402 Court Street read from a prepared statement the expressed concerns and the position of the Chamber members not to support the ¼% increase.

Mayor Howard indicated that there was no other alternative if the City did not create revenue sources except to then cut services or personnel. The purchase of food, drugs, vehicles would not be taxed the additional ¼%.

Ed Schwinn 1009 South Capitol Street, questioned why the owners of the riverboat in Pekin were not charged for its mooring. He stated the City should be accountable on cost or savings of in house operations of the Treatment Plant and Garbage Collection. It was verified that the manager had documented a \$135,000 savings the first year of the treatment plant operation and \$265,000 savings the first year of the collection and landfill expenses

Kevin Cone President of Pekin Firefighters Local 524 defended the need for firemen to meet the standards of staffing levels in order to have safety and timeliness.

Denny Vaughn 301 Caroline expressed the opinion that the City did need to hire firefighters and felt the ¼% increase to sales tax was better than an increased real estate tax.

Consent Agenda

City Clerk Sue McMillan presented the following items under consent Agenda.

Motion by Com'r. Maddox, seconded by Com'r. Blanchard, that the Consent Agenda **be approved as presented**

1. Receive and File Reports and Minutes: Combined Revenue/Expenditure Report

2. Charitable Solicitation: Kiwanis Peanut Day November 4, 2005

On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

New Business

ORDINANCE NO. 2446

AMENDING TITLE 3, CHAPTER 2 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PEKIN 1995 REGARDING HOME RULE MUNICIPAL RETAILERS' OCCUPATION TAX AND THE HOME RULE MUNICIPAL SERVICE OCCUPATION TAX

Motion by Com'r. Maddox seconded by Com'r. Blanchard that Ordinance No. 2446 be adopted. Discussion followed. Each Councilperson spoke as to their support of the ordinance or opposition or concerns in increasing taxes. Com'r. Maddox felt the sales tax was more equitable to the taxpayers. Com'r. Blanchard felt the City needed to reorganize priorities of which public safety was most important. He would not be in favor of increasing the sales tax. Com'r. Jones questioned where the money would be allocated. He stated without having been presented with a budget by the manager he was unable to determine the true deficit anticipated. Com'r. Dagit felt the Council need to be accountable to its citizens in their decision on taxing and felt it was premature when the facts had not been provided by the City Manager.

On roll call vote: Ayes: Maddox and Howard; Nays: Jones, Blanchard, and Dagit. Motion Failed

Motion by Com'r. Dagit, seconded by Com'r. Maddox, that the **AGREEMENT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES WITH FARNSWORTH GROUP, INC. FOR SEWER TREATMENT PLANT FACILITY in the amount of \$23,000.00** be approved. Gary Davis of Farnsworth explained the necessity in designing and constructing the generator that was needed. Discussion followed on the damages charges from CILCO. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Motion by Com'r. Jones, seconded by Com'r. Dagit, that the **AGREEMENT WITH GROVELAND TOWNSHIP FOR EXCHANGE OF MANPOWER** be approved. The clerk noted there was an error in the document referencing the Constitution. The correct Article was VII not XII. David Pagliaro Superintendent of the Street Department explained to Council the intergovernmental agreement which involved switching of snow removal and other road provisions. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Other Business

Reporters from the *Peoria Journal Star* and *Pekin Daily Time* were given the opportunity to ask questions.

Com'r. Blanchard encouraged the Traffic Safety Committee to review its policy on violations of lighted vehicles on streets after sunset.

Greg announced that the Illinois EPA and Tazewell County Health Department were holding a Household Hazardous Waste Collection event October 29, 2005 at the Pekin Mall.

No further business to come before the Council, a motion was made by Com'r. Jones seconded by Com'r. Dagit that Council adjourn. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:35 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk