
**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEKIN, ILLINOIS,
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL
111 SOUTH CAPITOL STREET
ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2012 AT 5:30 O'CLOCK P.M.
LAURIE L. BARRA, MAYOR PRESIDING**

PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS, ABEL, SCHMIDGALL, HENDRICKS, BLANCHARD, MCCABE, AND BARRA

ABSENT: MASSAGLIA

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Mayor Barra.

Roll was called and all Council Members were physically present except Council Member Massaglia. A quorum was present.

AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Blanchard, seconded by Council Member Hendricks that **the agenda be approved as presented**. On roll call vote; Ayes, Blanchard, Abel, McCabe, Hendricks, and Barra; Nay, Schmidgall. Motion Carried.

MINUTES

Motion by Council Member Blanchard, seconded by Council Member Hendricks, that the **minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of September 10, 2012, be approved as written**. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Schmidgall, seconded by Council Member Blanchard, that the **CONSENT AGENDA be approved as presented**. Mayor Barra presented the following for consideration of the Consent Agenda items by Omnibus Vote.

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA		
7.1 Receive and File Monthly Reports and Minutes: Police Department July and August Reports; Traffic Safety Committee Minutes dated September 7, 2012; Building and Inspections Department Reports for June, July, and August; and Mayor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities Minutes June 14, 2012.		5
7.2 Receive and File Petition of Voluntary De-Annexation from the City of Pekin Marion and Carol Dever VFW Road.		5

Council Member Schmidgall questioned item 7.2. City Manager Joseph Wuellner explained to the Council the process for accepting the Petition of De-Annexation for the Dever property and the further steps to disconnect from the corporate boundaries of Pekin. On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

NEW BUSINESS

**ORDINANCE NO. 2665-12/13
ACCEPTING A CONTRACT FOR THE SALE OF REAL ESTATE AND
AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF MUNICIPALLY OWNED PROPERTY**

Motion by Council Member McCabe, seconded by Council Member Abel that Ordinance No. 2665-12/13 be adopted. Assistant City Manager Darin Girdler informed the Council that the ordinance authorized the sale of a 2 1/2 acre parcel on Riverway Drive in the original Riverway Business Park to Illinois American Water Company in the amount of \$109,000.00 for construction of an elevated storage tank. On roll call vote; Blanchard, Abel, McCabe, Hendricks, and Barra; Nay, Schmidgall. Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 1462-A317-12/13
AMENDING TITLE 8, CHAPTER 4, SECTION 1. D.
OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PEKIN 1995
REGARDING NO PARKING SCHEDULE
1201 FLORENCE STREET

Motion by Council Member Schmidgall, seconded by Council Member Abel, that the **Ordinance No. 2664-12/13 be adopted**. Police Chief Greg Nelson presented the recommendation of the Traffic Safety Committee to restrict parking 30 feet back from either side of the entrance to 1201 Florence Street. Leman Property Management requested the change to restrict renters from crowding the entrance to other buildings served by the parking lot. Council Member expressed concern that the granting of the request would set precedence for other individual request. It was the opinion of Attorney Dancey that the visibility safety matter of the area supported the special request. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

RESOLUTION NO. 57-12/13
ADOPTING THE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK OF THE CITY OF PEKIN 2012

Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member McCabe that Resolution No. 57-12/13 be adopted. Human Resources Director Sarah Newcomb advised the Council that the new Employee Handbook reflected numerous federal, state, and labor laws passed within the last 5 years. It also would clean up language to be more inclusive for all departments. Unions and Employers Association were given the opportunity to review. Teamsters requested addition of a side letter with respect to section 4.11-Holidays not affecting the Street and Wastewater Treatment contracts and 8.3 and 9.4 use of GPS and cameras. On roll call vote; Abel, McCabe, Hendricks, and Barra; Nays, Schmidgall and Blanchard. Motion Carried.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Council Member Hendricks announced Eureka College would host "The Great Election Debate: How the Media Can Sway Votes and Win Elections" at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 25 at the Cerf Center. He would be the monitor where critics debate the media's role and influence in elections, including the 2012 presidential election. Cost \$5. He alerted the community that the State would cut back on the Personal Property Replacement Tax (PPRT) which would hit municipalities hard in difficult budget times.

Council Member McCabe questioned when the Council would be informed and would act on the matter reported in the newspaper regarding parking on narrow streets. Mr. Wuellner report the Traffic Safety Committee would review the database that stated the width of all streets for consideration at the TSC October meeting.

Council Member Abel alerted the Council to the dollar amounts that could be gained in uncollected grass mowing and wastewater liens.

Council Member Schmidgall explained that he voted against approval of the agenda because the change in school bus stops was not listed as requested.

Council Member Blanchard spoke in support of Council Member Schmidgall's request to discuss the bus stop issues. Council Member Blanchard requested that the proposal to change 4th Street and Capitol Street to two-way traffic be placed on the next agenda and not be postponed to June 2013. Mayor Barra stated that the opening of the new Park District facility at Capitol and Koch Street in the Spring could have a huge unknown effect on the decision making.

Assistant City Manager Darin Girdler updated the Council on the Southside Industrial Park Conservation Area Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Plan and Project. He indicated the School District were acceptable to the proposed 25% surplus agreement. The schedule: Joint Review Board recommendation meeting September 27, Public Hearing October 1, Ordinance Adopting TIF Plan October 22, 2012.

City Manager recognized Greg Nelson for completing his certification as a Police Chief through the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police.

Ty Whitford Superintendent Transportation reported back to the Council regarding the matter of City policy of avoiding backing up school buses whenever possible. He advised that the 11 cul-de-sac instances that buses cannot navigate are for pickup of special needs or pre-K students. The Council was advised that it is School District 108 Board's responsibility to establish bus stops, though the City's transportation department makes the recommendations. Discussion followed regarding the safety of children walking to the nearest bus stops. Parents in attendance addressed the Council noting that they had been bounced back and forth looking for change to the policy. The hiring of additional monitors to reinstate stops that were changed was discussed. Mayor Barra asked that the City Manager and those involved meet with School District 108 representatives to discuss cutting down the walking distance in the effected cul-de-sacs or the possibility of changing the bus stops at Cherry/Fox Point and Wildwood/Highwood.

The following addressed the Council:

Rick Lukehart 11 Point East Court

Sherri Wright 1824 Court Street

Dan Lemasters 1824 Court Street Michelle Peel 22 Point East Court.

No further business to come before the Council, motion was made by Council Member Blanchard, seconded by Council Member Hendricks to adjourn. With no objections heard, Mayor Barra adjourned the meeting.

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:00 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk