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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, JULY 27, 2015 AT 5:30 O'CLOCK P.M.
JOHN H. MCCABE * MAYOR * PRESIDING

PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS, GOLDEN, ORRICK, ABEL, RITCHASON, LUFT, DUNN
ABSENT: NONE

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

Roll was called. All members were physically present. A quorum was present.

AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Orrick, seconded by Council Member Dunn that the **agenda be approved as presented.** Council Member Gold asked that the Mayor add to the Agenda a motion for a request to reinstate Public Input at the end of the meeting on the agenda. On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

MINUTES

Motion by Council Member Orrick, seconded by Council Member Ritchason that the **minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of July 13, 2015 be approved as written.** Council Member Golden noted the word "not" should be stricken from the sentence addressing the CAPER. He felt the CDBG funding used for signs could be better spent. On roll call vote all present voted Aye to approve the minutes as corrected.

PUBLIC INPUT

Council heard comments, requests and questions from the following members of the public:

- Brenda McAlister representing residents in attendance expressing their concerns that their properties had been affected by the recent rains. They felt the lack of ditches for the VFW road construction. project resulted in mud throughout their St. Joseph Court properties and the intersection of 14th Street. They requested that the ditches be a priority fix by the construction company. Carol Dever also voiced concern. Chris Cummings commented on another part of the issue that the excavation dirt was transported to another landowner and was used to fill wetlands.
- Tom Jenke expressed his displeasure that the City intended to implement a stormwater fee when the property owners of Lake Kennedy area do not use the system.
- Sally Johnson stated the City was in trouble and taxpayers could not afford helping HUD. She felt 2 hours for Main Street Farmers Market was not enough time for the vendors and should be extended.
- Bob Bramham questioned if liens had been placed on all demolitions that had been discovered not to have been invoiced.
- Ann Witzig stated it would be lowering the community's standards to meet the possible new HUD requirements for subsidized housing. Mrs. Witzig observed in the Library annual report that salaries and fringe benefits were a large percentage of the operating budget.
- Larry Wolfer expressed concern for the spending at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He encouraged the City to change engineering firm and suggested they were using the project as an experiment

Mayor McCabe corrected an incorrect statement that the improvement, to be completed by 2017 was a $62-63 million dollar project not $90 million dollars.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Orrick that the **CONSENT AGENDA be approved as presented.** The following was presented for consideration of the Consent Agenda items by Omnibus Vote.

7.1 Receive and File Monthly Reports and Minutes: Tazewell County Animal Control June Report.		5
7.2 Receive and File: Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes dated July 15, 2015.		5
7.3 Receive and File: Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR).		5

On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Luft that the **CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT TIF COMMERCIAL/RETAIL INTERIOR LOAN PROGRAM for 408 Court Street be approved in the amount of $9,054.94.** Economic Development Director Leigh Ann Brown presented the recommendation of the Main Street Design Committee to pay Terri Gambetti, owner of Leo's Art Studio the eligible interior expenses for improvements rear entrance, electrical service, plumbing, leveling floor, painting,, HVAC, windows, lighting and water heater. Council Members complimented Ms. Gambetti on the efforts to improve the Downtown and the application and the use of the funds. Council Member Golden stated he was not impressed with the program or the poorly written documents. Council Member Golden questioned Mrs. Brown on the "qualified" bids he felt were estimates and the lack of plans or specification. On roll call vote: Ayes, Council Members, Orrick, Luft, Abel, Ritchason, Dunn, and McCabe; Nay, Golden. Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 2722-15/16
PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A PROMISSORY NOTE,
SERIES 2015 OF THE CITY OF PEKIN

Motion by Council Member Ritchason, seconded by Council Member Abel that Ordinance No.2722-15/16 be adopted. City Manager Darin Girdler advised the Council on the ordinance, noting before them were the documents necessary to finance the acquisition and construction of capital improvements to streets, sidewalks, public buildings, fire equipment, and vehicles. The financing of these expenditures were authorized by the Council on June 22, 2015 in the amount of $2, 075,000.00. Mr. Girdler explained that the lender, Morton Community requested the use of Chapman & Cutler, a previously used bond counsel to be assured of arbitrage rules and tax exempt. On roll call vote: Ayes, Council Members, Luft, Abel, Ritchason, Dunn, and McCabe; Nays, Orrick and Golden. Motion Carried.

Motion by Council Member Golden seconded by Council Member Luft to reinstate Public Input prior to the business items to address the public's concerns before a vote and in addition to allow for the public to speak at the end of each meeting. Discussion followed. Council Members, Golden, Council Members Orrick and Luft spoke in support in allowing sufficient time for the public to speak and to address their concerns. Mayor McCabe stated the purpose of a Council Meeting was to conduct the business of the municipality. It was not intended to be an open forum. He felt there were numerous opportunities outside of Council to call, write, or ask questions. Without a clear majority it was decided to further discuss. Motion was made by Council Member Golden seconded by Council Member Abel to add as New Business a motion to re-instate on the next Council Meeting agenda.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Council Member Golden brought to Council's attention the following:

- Questioned if the citizen's concern from previous meeting regarding the absence of enforcement on a neighbor's disturbing music had been addressed by changing the code on noise.
- Asked if the complaint concerning obstruction by trees and brush at Sheridan and Winged Foot had be taken care of.
- Asked if the group home on South 7th Street disturbing residents' issues had been addressed. Council was informed the individual was removed from the home.
- Expressed his displeasure that he learned of a meeting Mayor McCabe had with the residents of Jane Street to voice their concerns regarding recent flooding matters. The Mayor apologized for the oversight on his part in not informing the Council in advance but would provide the notes he had taken from the discussion.
- Questioned the payment from tourism of $5,000 to the IHSA Basketball Tournament that it did not come before Council for a vote.
- Questioned if Highwood erosion complaint was part of City easement.
- Requested that Fire and Police monthly reports be sent to the Council
- Discussed the suggestion from previous meeting to pump water from Jane Street to north Treatment Plant as not feasible.
- Encouraged the City staff to provide dvd of Council Meetings to the public. He felt they did not mind the $5.00 charge if the dvd was complete with public input.

Council Member Abel commented on the input to Council Members regarding the flooding and mud issues on Vista Grande. The City determined that Veterans Drive construction was not associated with the concerns. He reminded the public that the area recorded record rainfalls.

Council Member Orrick asked if the security cameras had been installed at the recycling drop-off and was told they had not He also stated in response to the opposition to a stormwater fee that Morton had implemented the charge 5-7 years ago in preparation for mandates. In regards to the opposition statements on HUD, Council Member Orrick asked that the Council and the public keep in mind how Pekin lost control of education accepting federal funding and for all to keep an open mind as the City moves forward with further discussions of the issue of accepting funding.

Council Member Luft thanked the Council for listening to the publics concerns and the communication that he saw improving.

Council Member Dunn asked who responsibility it was to fix the holes in the pavement near the culver on Rose Lane.

No further business to come before the Council, motion by Council Member Ritchason, seconded by Council Member Orrick that Council adjourn. Motion carried voice vote. Mayor McCabe adjourned the meeting.

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:25 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk