
**PROCEEDINGS OF A SPECIAL 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, JUNE 2, 2014 AT 5:00 O'CLOCK P.M.
LAURIE L. BARRA, MAYOR PRESIDING**

PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS, MCCABE, ABEL, GILLESPIE, GOLDEN, AND BARRA

ABSENT: HENDRICKS AND ORRICK

Council set a special meeting in March 2014 to discuss addressing parking on narrow streets. Notice was properly posted and Council received notice of the special meeting on Friday, May 30, 2014.

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

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

Motion by Council Member Gillespie, seconded by Council Member Abel that the agenda be approved as presented. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Denise Rendon, 2004 Independence Drive, voiced her concern that parking on one side of the street would increase theft in vehicles not parked in front of the residents homes. She felt parking on the streets forced vehicles to slow down.

NEW BUSINESS

Police Chief Greg Nelson asked Council for direction regarding an overall City policy concerning the availability of on street parking for narrow streets. He advised that the current practice was to review only when complaints were brought before the Traffic Safety Committee. The committee reviewed the patchwork of parking limitations throughout town that had no continuity. It was recommended a unified approach should be established. The Chief presented a policy using minimum lane widths to allow for free traffic movement for collector roadways and for side streets. It was recommended parking restrictions to these streets be applied in the same manner such as allowing only on the North or East side of the streets allowing for a uniformed experience for residents and a better appearance. It would also allow greater accessibility for emergency response vehicles and street waste collection and snow removal.

Discussion followed on what restrictions Council was willing to support. Mayor Barra felt parking on the street became more of a congestion issue when the restricted parking at night or the "light ordinance" was rescinded with no replacement. It was suggested an overnight time restriction of no parking throughout the City to put people into the habit of moving their vehicles be considered. Council Member Gillespie commented that the light in parked vehicles restriction did keep off street parking down. Council Member Golden felt there were inconsistencies in the proposals. He did not support parking be eliminated on one side. He had concern that eliminating parking on one side would force people to jaywalk. Council Member Golden suggested staggered parking on both sides marked in paint on the streets; restricting how far people park away from the curb; and restricting how near to intersections vehicles could be parked. Council Member Abel was acceptable of TSC returning with some type of night parking restriction. Mayor Barra stated that Council Member Orrick asked that she inform the Council and TSC that he did not see a need for change and that the City continue to address complaints on a case-by-case basis.

There was a consensus for the Traffic Safety Committee to review and bring back for consideration a standard for nighttime off street parking between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Council Member Golden noted there were noticeable weeds in cracks of the sidewalks on South 14th Street. He also questioned the weeds growing in the vacated lot of the previous West Campus site. Council was told the developer of the property had contacted a contractor regarding the matter which was to be leveled and seeded. There was a delay in capping the sewer laterals.

City Engineer Michael Guerra informed the Council that Sheridan Road was closed for the section of bridge repair.

Bob Bramham, 2108 Velde Drive, addressed the Council with the following concerns and suggestions:

- where residents of Pekin Housing would park if restrictions were applied
- requested an answer and was told that the Library Endowment he questioned of \$400,000.00 was among 5 entities. He asked that the Library's entitlement be applied to the Library Improvement Project to reduce the expense.
- asked Council to furnish him a vehicle and gas mileage and he would volunteer to bring the concerns of the residents where money is being spent back to the Council.
- Felt money should not have been approved to spend for Sheridan Road to benefit County Club residents.

Shirley Faichney, 320 State Street, voiced her displeasure that Council approved the Library Improvement Project. She asked that Council not to do away with her brick street because it slows down traffic.

Denise Rendon, 2004 Independence Drive, asked dimensions of the widest fire apparatus and the narrowest street width. Mayor Barra asked that she leave her email address with the Clerk and Fire Chief Kurt Nelson would send her the answers. Ms. Rendon in regards to the solid waste fee of \$12.00 that Council consider a reduced amount for seniors that also have the Homestead exemption on their Tazewell County Tax Bills.

Janet Nelms, 1604 Memorial Drive, informed the Council that she had received several more anonymous letters expressing their concerns with the City and Council. Mrs. Nelms was told that those people had Public Input time at each meeting to be present to express their views. No letters were read.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Council Member Gillespie, seconded by Council Member Abel that the Council move to Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss 65 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1.) Personnel be approved. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

No further business to come before the Council, motion by Council Member Gillespie, seconded by Council Member Abel to adjourn. Motion carried viva voce.

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 6:05 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk