
**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, MAY 11, 2009 AT 5:30 O'CLOCK P.M.
MAYOR RUSTY L. DUNN PRESIDING**

**PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS, JONES, ABEL, BLANCHARD, STRAND, AND
KORTKAMP**

ABSENT: NONE

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

Roll was called and all Council Members were present.

MINUTES

Motion by Council Member Strand, seconded by Council Member Abel, that the **minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of April 28, 2009 be approved as written.** On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE COUNCIL

Parting Council Member James E. Jones was recognized by each member of the Council for his commitment, courage, and service to the City of Pekin as Commissioner, Council Member, and Planning Commission Member. Council Member Jones extended his appreciation to staff and Council and noted to the community he served to help others.

Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Blanchard that Council adjourn Sine Die at 5:35 p.m. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

ADJOURN SINE DIE

SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL

Council Member Blanchard was sworn into office by his brother Timothy Blanchard. City Clerk Sue E. McMillan administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Council Members Laurie Lowman Barra and Chad E. Schmidgall.

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**PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS, ABEL, BLANCHARD, STRAND, BARRA, SCHMIDGALL,
AND, KORTKAMP**

ABSENT: NONE

Roll was call and all Council Members were present at 5:35 p.m.

AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Barra, that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented.

Mayor Dunn read and presented the following for consideration of the Consent Agenda items by Omnibus Vote.

- 1. Receive and File Monthly Reports and Minutes:** Traffic Safety Minutes May 1, 2009, Building Department Report April, Police Department Report April, Tourism Minutes dated May 5, 2009 and Fire Department Report April.
- 2. Proclamations:** “2010 Census Complete Count Committee”
- 3. Charitable Solicitation:** Central Illinois Colon Cancer Fund, June 21, 2009 3-7pm
- 4. Receive and File** resignation of Chad Schmidgall from the Pekin Planning Commission.

On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, REPORTS

Police Chief Timothy Gillespie presented Officer of the Year award to Investigator Rick VonRohr. The Chief noted the criteria used to judge such status as, job performance, respect, working relationship, community supporter, were all attributed to Officer VonRohr. The officer thanked the City and his family for their dedication to his career.

Fire Chief Chuck Lauss told of the family fire fighter history of the nominee for Fire Fighter of the Year. Second generation, Firefighter David Morris was recognized for his passion for fire service and awarded the honorary plaque designating him Firefighter of the Year.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 1-09/10 **ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS**

Motion by Council Member Kortkamp, seconded by Council Member Blanchard, that Resolution No. 1-09/10 – be adopted to approve the Mayor’s appointments to various Committees, Boards, Commissions, and Departments. Council Member Blanchard introduced suggested changes. Motion was then made by Council Member Blanchard, seconded by Council Member Schmidgall, that Resolution No. 1 be amended by removing named Corporation Counsel members and the appointment of the City Manager and place Corporation Counsel under New Business. Council Member Blanchard stated the opinion that the City Manager was a contracted employee and should not be included in the Mayor’s appointments. He also felt that individual attorneys were not to be appointed and requested that further discussion of attorney firm would be more appropriately discussed, including retainer, and hourly rates, under New Business. City Manager and Attorney Burt Dancy advised the Council of the provisions in the City Code regarding the Council’s appointment of the City Manager and the City Manager’s responsibility to retain and appoint the position of Corporation Counsel. Council and staff discussed the technicality of naming individuals and the history of the resolution for appointing annually. On roll call vote, Ayes, Blanchard, Schmidgall; Nays, Strand, Kortkamp, Abel, Barra, and Dun. Motion Failed.

Roll was taken on the original motion to adopt Resolution No. 1-09/10. On roll call vote, Ayes, Strand, Kortkamp, Abel, Barra, and Dunn; Nays, Blanchard and Schmidgall. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2-09/10

ACCEPTING GRANT FROM THE ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY’S SINGLE FAMILY OWNER-OCCUPIED REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Motion by Council Member Schmidgall, seconded by Council Member Kortkamp, that Resolution No. 2 – 09/10 be adopted—Accepting a grant from the Illinois Housing Development Authority’s Single Family Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program April 2009 – May 2010 (SFOOR) grant in the amount of \$168,000. Community Development Director Pam Anderson advised Council that IHDA required Council’s approval to receive the \$168,000 grant. The rehabilitation was for low-income households not to landlords but to homeowners. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

ORDINANCE NO. 2583-09/10

**AMENDING CHAPTER 2, SECTION 3-2-6 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PEKIN 1995
REGARDING HOTEL/MOTEL USE TAX**

Motion by Council Member Blanchard, seconded by Council Member Abel, that Ordinance No. 2583 - 09/10 be adopted. Attorney Burt Dancy advised Council that it had been brought to the City's attention of the State Statutes regarding taxation of hotel rooms. The section was being amended that the tax would not be imposed on persons that rent rooms for more than 30 consecutive days. It would be the responsibility of the owner of the establishment to track but the City would make the owner aware of the provisions for the ordinance. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Motion by Council Member Strand, seconded by Council Member Kortkamp that the **TOURISM AND VISITORS BUREAU GRANT TO MCNAUGHTON PARK TRAIL RUN** be approved in the amount of \$3,496.25. Economic Development Coordinator Steve Brown briefed Council on the success of the April 10-12 running event and the satisfactory final documentation submitted. Council Member Barra suggested that all allowable expenses needed to be documented with receipts to be considered for payment. Staff would address an amendment to the program guidelines. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Motion by Council Member Schmidgall, seconded by Council Member Abel that the **ILLINOIS CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION LIGHTING GRANT** be accepted and the expenditure to Schwartz Electric in the amount of \$39,408.00 (includes \$14,560.00 grant) for energy efficient indoor lighting systems be approved. Code Enforcement Officer Ron Sieh addressed Council regarding the City's approval for funds totaling \$14,560.00 through a State Grant. Funds would upgrade lighting fixtures to energy efficient indoor lighting systems in our public safety buildings. Proposals were submitted from Schwartz Electric in the amount of \$39,408 with estimated payback times. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Council Member Abel suggested that staff proceed with cutting the weeds on the property known as West Campus and a bill for the expense be sent to Merl Huff.

Council Members Schmidgall, Blanchard, and Barra thanked the community for their vote and spoke of looking forward to the opportunity in serving on the Council.

Mayor Dunn announced that Pekin Fire Day Events would take place on Friday and Saturday and encouraged all to attend the demonstrations downtown, parade, and Eastside Fire Station Open House.

Council Member Kortkamp noted the success of several events of the week, Lift-Off Party for Astronaut Scott Altman, the Blessing Ceremony celebrating our Native American Heritage, and the repaired Southside alley that would have been an issue after inches of rain had been received during the week.

Council Member Strand welcomed new members to the Council. She also requested that the Traffic Safety Committee evaluate the speed limit set on Broadway from Schramm Drive out to eastern city limits and consider increasing the speed.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING RESCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY MAY 26 FOLLOWING THE HOLIDAY.

City Manager Kief asked that Council take advantage of the laptop furnished by the City in reviewing the documentation for the Council meetings. He requested that he be notified which members preferred the electronic version of the meeting packet and which needed hard copies.

Bill Gilroy 1312 South 11th Street addressed Council regarding two issues. He questioned why a business on Derby was permitted to pave its parking lot in white rock. Mr. Gilroy asked that additional enforcement be given to speeders coming from Kroger's parking lot down Ann Eliza.

Christal Dagit 1413 Charlotte told Council it was a pleasure hosting the televising of the space flight of the Atlantis and she encouraged the community to show their support of Commander Scott Altman at the landing party. She also invited the Council and community to view the L-Bird Story on Arm Forces Day, 1:30 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church. The Tazewell County Museum & Educational Center would also celebrate the fact that the City of Pekin, recently named the Pekin Municipal Airport, the John C. Kriegsman Field.

Ed Emmons 1114 Market Street spoke in regards to a petition drive circulating in which signatures had been gathered in opposing provisions of the City of Pekin Ordinance for Seizure and Impoundment of Vehicles. He stated he would like to present the petition at the meeting of the 26th. He then enumerated several locations throughout the City that citizens could sign the petition.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Blanchard, that **Council move to Executive Session** at 6:35 P.M. to discuss 5 ILCS 120/2 (c.) 2. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees and 5 ILCS 120/2 (c.) 6. The Setting of a Price for sale of Municipally Owned Property. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Council returned to open session at 7:05 p.m. Mayor Dunn asked that Council check their calendars to set a date for the Council Bus Trip to review city projects and out buildings.

No further business to come before the Council, Mayor Dunn called the meeting closed.

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:06 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk