
**PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEKIN, ILLINOIS,
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
111 SOUTH CAPITOL STREET
PEKIN, ILLINOIS 61554
ON THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2016 AT 5:00 O'CLOCK P.M.
JOHN MCCABE, MAYOR PRESIDING**

PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS, DUNN, LUFT, ORRICK, RITCHASON, ABEL, GOLDEN, AND MCCABE

ABSENT: NONE

Notice of a special City Council meeting was properly posted and received by the Council on April 26, 2016. The purpose of the meeting was for Council to consider the adoption of the Fiscal Year Budget.

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

Roll was called and all Council Members were physically present. A quorum was declared.

Mayor McCabe explained just prior to the meeting a suggestion by two Council Members was made for revisions to the budget to further discuss the public's request not to eliminate yardwaste collection. In order to move forward there would be RFP sent for determining viability of outsourcing or retaining solid waste collection in house.

AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Ritchason, seconded by Council Member Orrick that Business item 6.4 Ordinance No. 2744-15/16 Amending Title 5, Chapter 2, Article A of the Code of the City of Pekin 1995 Regarding Solid Waste Charges be removed from the agenda. On roll call vote all present voted Aye. Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Dunn that the agenda be approved as amended. On roll call vote all present voted Ayes, Orrick, Dunn, Abel, Ritchason, Luft, and McCabe; Nay, Golden. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, REPORTS

PUBLIC HEARING A public Hearing was opened by Mayor McCabe at 5:05 p.m. for the purpose of considering and hearing testimony relative to the adoption of the budget for the City of Pekin Fiscal Year May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017. The public was given the opportunity to be heard. The public was notified that the budget was published and available for inspection at City Hall and on the City website.

Ann Witzig expressed her concern that the budget was being called balanced without all fees included. She felt the City was double dipping. She asked the Council not to pass the budget.

Sally Johnson voiced her concern if the yardwaste pickup was taken away. It would hurt the people that take pride in their properties. She spoke in opposition of raising sewer tax and charging a storm water fee. She questioned how the people on fixed incomes would be taken care of.

Jim Mangan reminded the Council of the cost of employees. He asked that the Council be cautious of the word games and increases. He suggested Council contract out or lay off employees for savings and to reduce top department heads salaries.

Shane Patrick Campbell

Bob Bramham questioned how the budget could be balanced if revenues were less than expenses. He expressed concern that figures on personnel costs went up and that employees received 3% raises

Dan LaMasters asked Council for consideration to seniors or low income residents.

Larry Wolfer spoke in opposition to the wastewater increase. He felt the increase was the result of overspending for the Treatment Plant Improvement Project. He stated there were EPA violations and the City was paying for mistakes. He opposed the storm water fee.

John McNisch questioned if there were cuts made to the budget as requested by the Council.

The Hearing was closed at 5:40 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-15/16
ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR MAY 1, 2016 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2017
BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF PEKIN

Motion by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Abel that Resolution No. 24-15/16 be adopted. The Council was advised that the FY2016-2017 budget for all City funds was in the City's stated intention for spending. The budget provided for core services to citizens in a balanced budget with changes to the solid waste fee \$20/month, wastewater fee, elimination of yardwaste, and a monthly storm water fee. Mayor McCabe indicated there were many complaints received if the yardwaste were taken away. Council Member Ritchason expressed his appreciation for all the work and time the Interim City Manager spent in preparing the budget, answering his questions and addressing his concerns with changes. Council Member Abel referred to the years that the levy was not increased and the price that was being paid for that. He also stated that the \$12.00 garbage fee was just a dollar beginning and that it was intended to increase to cover the deficit the solid waste department puts on the General Fund. Council Member Dunn noted the number of employees was down from 191 in 2009 to 180 in 2016. He also noted the manager had provide a list of cuts and items not included in the preparation of this version of the budget. He felt the budget and increases were not easy decision but had to be done to be fiscal responsible. Council Member Golden felt reducing the spending could start with low hanging fruit and frivolous spending on coffee, parties, and trips. He noted in the North Pekin wastewater agreement that the construction of the new treatment plant would be shared proportionately. Council Member Orrick suggested that the North Pekin payment matter become a high priority. He recommended that RFP be sent for the provider of the efficiency study. He asked that staff begin the preliminary figures for the budget in October in order to consider the needed amounts for the levy in December. He next suggested that discounts for seniors on wastewater could be determined by review of the taxpayers under the homestead freeze. Mayor McCabe also felt the City would not be at this point for a budget if the levy had not been cut year after year. He felt there should be consideration given to adding the solid waste collection fee to the real estate taxes. On roll call vote, Ayes, Orrick, Dunn, Abel, Ritchason, and McCabe; Nays, Golden and Luft. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-15/16
RESOLUTION FOR FEES IN FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

Motion by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Abel that Resolution No. 25-15/16 be adopted. Council was advised the budget had a storm water fee associated with the storm water fund based on an equivalent residential runoff unit amount of \$4.90/ERU. The budget also included adjudication fee which would require revisions to the City Code. Since it would take time to fully draft and implement the ordinances associated with the appropriate fees the resolution directed the City Manager to prepare for passage by the City Council appropriate ordinances for storm water fee and adjudication fee for the previously approved budget. On roll call vote, Ayes, Orrick, Dunn, Abel, Ritchason, Luft, and McCabe; Nay, Golden. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 2743-15/16
AMENDING TITLE 4, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE C OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PEKIN 1995
REGARDING SEWER USER CHARGES

Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Luft that Ordinance No. 2743-15/16 be adopted. The ordinance provide for the increases to charges according to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Agreement. On roll call vote, Ayes, Orrick, Dunn, Abel, Ritchason, and McCabe; Nays, Golden and Luft. Motion carried.

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

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:25 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk