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PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEKIN, ILLINOIS,
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
111 SOUTH CAPITOL STREET
PEKIN, ILLINOIS 61554
ON MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2016 AT 5:30 O'CLOCK P.M.
JOHN MCCABE, MAYOR PRESIDING

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

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

On April 22, 2016 Council Member Rusty Dunn, notified City Clerk Sue E. McMillan in writing that he would be physically unable to attend the Council Meeting of April 25, 2016 He would attend by electronic means because of his absence from the corporate limits of the City for employment purposes.

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

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

MINUTES
Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Luft that the **minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of April 11, 2016 and Budget Work Session March 21, 2016 and the Budget Work Session April 4, 2016 be approved as written.** On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

PUBLIC INPUT
Doug Luney, Shannon Cox, and Greg Schmidgall spoke to Council on their involvement on the concept of art murals on buildings and asked the Council to approve permitting them in downtown by adoption of the ordinance.
Ann Witzig expressed concern that all the expenses or related City expenses of having murals in the downtown were not upfront in the ordinance. In reference to the Tourism minutes on Bike Connect Program it was her opinion that $1800 per bike rack was not acceptable to spend on something that would not be used in Pekin.

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

7.1 Receive and File Monthly Reports and Minutes: Tourism Committee Minutes dated April 12, 2016.
7.2 Resolution No. 21-15/16 the Mayor's Appointment of Joel Jackson to the Fire and Police Commission for a Three Year Term Ending the First Monday in May, 2019
7.3 Proclamation: "Stand Against Racism" April 28, 2016. "National Youth Week" Elks May 1-7, 2016 "Comcast Cares Day" April 30, 2016 "National Travel and Tourism Week" May 1-7, 2016
7.4 Receive and File: Pekin Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes April 13, 2016.
7.5 Receive and File: Pekin Planning Commission Minutes April 13, 2016

On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, REPORTS
Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Presentation

Mayor McCabe announced that the Budget Public Hearing and vote by the Council would take place on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. special meeting. At this time 30 minutes would be given for an explanation of the Budget to be presented and time for each Council Member to ask questions and make comments. Interim City Manager Sarah Newcomb presented the proposed balanced budget summary. She stated after speaking with 6 of the Council Members, she worked further on the discussions and input for version 7. There was in the proposal, the wastewater fee increases, a storm water fee of basically $5/ERU (equivalent runoff unit) and an increased garbage fee of $20/month. Council was told the budget included monthly billing and the elimination of yard waste service. Ms. Newcomb also advised the Council that the City would submit RFPs for lawn care, attorney services. Consideration would be given to viability of school bus services, the efficiency study, and postponing filling positions and enhancing adjudication process. She felt the rate and fee increases and the eliminated or modified programs were difficult decisions. About $1.4 million was made in cuts prior to the budget work sessions. Council Members were provided a full packet of materials for the budget review that included, a Tax History; breakdown charts of where the revenues come from and the percentages breakdown of expenses; department summaries; and, general ledger budget summaries of each department.

Council Member Dunn stated he had come in to City Hall and received the background and questions answered on what he needed for the Budget version. Council Member Abel thanked Ms. Newcomb and Ms. Evans for the ton of work provided. One thing stuck out, that Solid Waste would be in the black for the first time in a long time. He stated he would support the budget presented. Council Member Golden stated he would not support a budget he said consistently throughout the process that contained the following: Funding for the Bus Department, Economic Development/ Tourism; lack of definitive plan for divesting the City from in-house garbage services; any additional employees in any department; lack of detail for items marked contractual; lack of plan for in-house attorney and costs. Council Member Luft had no questions. Council Member Orrick asked that Council consider a hiring freeze until a new manager was hired and efficiency study completed. He questioned the transfer of $2 million dollars from the Bus Fund to the Reserves. Council Member Ritchason expressed his appreciation to Ms. Newcomb and Ms. Evans for the hours spent in presenting the budget information and answering g his questions. He stated his concerns in a decision for the families who would be affected by the increased fees from $41.00 to $60.00 a month, but keeping in mind the difficult decisions to stop "kicking the can" and lack of action.

NEW BUSINESS

<u>ORDINANCE NO. 2742-OA-15/16</u>
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 9, CHAPTER 10, SECTION 8
OF THE ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF PEKIN 1995
REGARDING MURALS

Motion by Council Member Luft, seconded by Council Member Abel that Ordinance No. 2742-OA-15/16 be adopted. Economic Development Director Leigh Ann Brown presented the additional language proposed to the City Code to permit art murals on a content-neutral basis on certain terms and conditions in business zones. She asked the Council to approve the recommendation from the Planning Commission to amend the zoning code to allow painted or mounted murals to be placed or installed on buildings. In reference to negative comments heard from a few in the public, Council Member Abel felt those individuals were expressing uninformed opinions. He stated he supported the ordinance. Council Member Golden commented on issues he had with the ordinance and questioned what "reduction in the incidences of graffiti and crime" was based on; who wrote the ordinance; who comprised the "neighborhood" process for discussion; who had expertise to determine the historic process written in the ordinance. He stated he had no confidence in the provisions of the poorly written ordinance. He would not vote for the ordinance. Council Member Orrick's concerns were addressed concerning the placement with brackets; damage t the murals; owners responsibilities in obtaining the permit. Council Members Dunn, Ritchason and Mayor McCabe spoke on the unique medium of expression which served the public interest, increased community identity, and aesthetic value to the downtown. On roll call vote, Ayes, Orrick, Abel, Dunn, Ritchason, Luft, and McCabe; Nay, Golden. Motion carried.

<u>ORDINANCE NO. 1462-A345-15/16</u>
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 8, CHAPTER 4, SECTION 1.G.
OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PEKIN 1995
REGARDING NO PARKING BUS LOADING
S. CAPITOL STREET AT COURT STREET

Motion by Council Member Golden, seconded by Council Member Ritchason, that Ordinance No. 1462-A345-15/16 be adopted. Chairman Kurt Nelson presented the recommendation of the Traffic Safety Committee to extend no parking spaces for bus loading on Capitol Street at Court Street to Elizabeth Street. He advised the Council that the committee reviewed the line of sight safety matters and intersection crowding when more than one CityLink bus was loading, to meet the need to be at the curb for ramp access. Pushing back the bus stop would improve visibility issues. On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

RESOLUNTION NO. 23-15/16

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR MATCHING FUNDS APPLICATION FOR PPUATS SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECT

Motion by Council Member Orrick, seconded by Council Member Abel that Resolution No. 23-15/15 be adopted. Economic Development Director Leigh Ann Brown asked for the City's support of a joint application and local City match of $10,000.00 to apply for multi-modal and TransPORT planning study to Tri-County Regional Planning. Being issued from South Industrial Park Conservation TIF line item, the Front Street Improvements Project would be enhanced by logistics connectivity for existing businesses, growth opportunities and new business industries for modes of transportation of barge, rail, road and air. Several questions were raised regarding the initiative for the study. Ms. Brown gave explanations to concerns and presented the need for uncovering the best plan for opportunities for the Front Street Project, the Riverway Business Park and the connectivity of the City and region. Council Member Golden commented there was better use of TIF funds. On roll call vote Ayes, Orrick, Abel, Dunn, Ritchason, and McCabe; Nays, Golden and Luft. Motion carried.

Motion by Council Member Ritchason, seconded by Council Member Orrick that **THE COUNCIL PROCEED WITH HIRING A PROFESSIONAL SEARCH COMPANY TO RECRUIT APPLICANTS FOR THE CITY MANAGER POSITION** in an amount not to exceed $25,000.00. Interim City Manager Sarah Newcomb reported in hearing frustrations in Council's conversations that hiring a City Manager needed to move forward. She inquired into ways of expediting the process. Mayor McCabe advise that he had offered options to the Council for processing applications, one of which was to form a local committee to review the applications before Council interviews or hiring a senior advisor.. Council Members commented on the need, to move forward quickly; to send RFP for contracting with a professional search firm; to hire the right, experienced in city management, person. Council Member Golden suggested links on the City website and notices posted in publications he had suggested early on. He asked that the Council be kept informed on the status of the search weekly in the manager report. Council Member Luft expressed concern that money had been spent for professional searches and the City ended up with internal hiring. Mayor McCabe felt there was potential for conducting interviews in mid-July. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

The public was given the opportunity to bring forward and issues, matters of concern, comments and questions. The following people addressed the Council:
David Kellum – water shutoff issue.
Dan LaMasters – Golf Green lawn clippings in the street at Stadium Drive. Expressed pride in fire and police personnel and the Mayor for attending the funeral of the local soldier.
Ann Witzig – questioned accountability of the City in checking disbursements for a desk chair. She requested an answer from Attorney Dancey if it was a conflict for him to represent a City employee.
Staff and Council business heard:
Ms. Newcomb expressed appreciation for countless hours spent by staff and Council on working on budget figures and for working with Leman Brothers for use of their lot in expediting traffic situation at construction on Court Street and Parkway Drive.
Leigh Ann Brown expressed her gratitude for working for the City and encouraged the Council to continue the investment in Economic Development and efforts of the Economic Development Advisory Committee.
Police Chief Dossey announce the launch of 2 programs in the department, Virtual Ride Along and Fender Watch.
Pamela Anderson Community Development Director reported that 27 individuals has signed up for the Bridges Over Poverty next session.
Council Member Ritchason thanked Leigh Ann for the respect he had receive from her during their meetings. He wished her nothing but the best in her new position.
Council Member Abel noted the weeds at the old West Campus property and reminded the staff of the agreement

from the owners to continue the mowing of the property. He gave credit to the departments for the work on the budget. Council Member Abel congratulated Ms. Brown and noted contrary to the statement at a previous meeting of no local professionals in Pekin, Morton noticed a good one in hiring her.
Council Member Golden spoke on the subject he noted at the previous meeting of a dumpster he felt was in violation of the Code. After receiving information that the trash container was a roll off not in violation he asked that the City Attorney clarify the issue in writing. He brought to Council's attention that from a City credit card statement there were transactions for coffee for the employees and toll violations paid. He next spoke of property line issues on the municipally owned property on Derby Street.
Council Member Luft encouraged the Council to google other municipalities' website to find new ideas. He wished Leigh Ann Brown the best in her new employment with Morton.

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

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 8:20 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk