

Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Pekin

Minutes of the Special Meeting of 18 April 2023 at 10:02 a.m.

Pekin City Hall Council Chambers

Meeting called to order by Commission Chair Debbi Reed-Montgomery. Commission members Chris Deverman, Vice-Chair Jared Olar, Secretary Christina Olar, and Debbi Reed-Montgomery were present. Commission member Steve Harris was absent. Quorum of the members was present. Pekin City Councilman David Nutter also present to offer guidance.

Commissioner Deverman moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Vice-Chair. Unanimously approved.

Chair moved that the minutes of the 6 April 2023 Regular Meeting of the Historical Preservation Commission be amended as follows: First point under Commission Discussion, "Chair proposed that the Commission give thought to proposing an amendment, etc.," should say, "Chair related that the City Council is considering the Commission membership qualifications, possibly changing requirement that Commissioners live within Pekin city limits to allow those who live in the 61554 area code to serve on the Commission. No action taken."

Vice-Chair moved that the minutes of the 6 April 2023 Regular Meeting be approved as amended, seconded by Commissioner Deverman. Unanimously approved.

No comments were offered by public.

- Vice-Chair submitted to the Commission a collection of materials/newspaper articles showing historical character and value of the Arcade Building, and showing history of the Tazewell County Board's acquisition of the building and 2015 substructure repairs. No action taken.
- Vice-Chair made motion, seconded by Commissioner Deverman, that the Commission adopt and henceforth use the Historical Preservation Criteria Checklist used by the City of Waukegan's Historical Preservation Commission for its own internal procedures of determining whether a building is historically significant. Unanimously approved.
- Chair submitted the Criteria Checklist for the Tobin Building (Schipper & Block Building) for approval. Vice-Chair moved, seconded by Commissioner Deverman, that the Tobin Building's checklist be approved for the City Council's consideration along with the Commission's April 11 background materials and recommendation that the Tobin Building be declared a historical landmark. Unanimously approved.
- Commission discussed possible public survey of attitudes and opinions of what the City could do to preserve and promote historic buildings and areas of Pekin. No action taken.
- Commission agreed to continue discussion and research toward a recommendation on a possible Downtown Historical District. No action taken.

Commissioners scheduled another Special Meeting to be held Tuesday, 25 April 2023 at 10 a.m. at Pekin City Hall.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Deverman, seconded by Vice-Chair Olar.

Meeting adjourned 11:12 a.m.