
**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, APRIL 14, 2014 AT 5:30 O'CLOCK P.M.
LAURIE L. BARRA * MAYOR * PRESIDING**

**PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS, ABEL, MCCABE, GILLESPIE, GOLDEN, ORRICK,
HENDRICKS AND BARRA,**

ABSENT: NONE

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

Roll was called. All members were physically present. A quorum was present.

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Motion by Council Member Hendricks, seconded by Council Member Abel that the **minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of March 24, 2014 and the Budget Work Session of March 18, 2014 be approved as written**. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Keith Gleason, 905 Bacon Street, Teamsters Local Union No 627 President, spoke in favor of the garbage tax assessment. He stated with the budget constraints there was a need to raise revenue to provide all the services the public relied on. The employees deserved it. He asked Council to pass New Business item 9.1, amending the Code to establish a \$12.00 fee.

Gary Tinervin, 2209 Sierra Drive, spoke in support of the garbage fee, stating he did not mind paying for the service he gets.

Greg Ranney, 2102 Sierra Drive, told the Council he hoped the garbage fee, which had been recommended for 6-8 years, would pass to cover the \$1.6 million operation. He encouraged the City to take the time to implement the fee in a fair way. He expressed he would like to see the expense covered on the tax bill.

Sally Johnson, 1503 N. 13th Street, felt the Council meeting agendas should be made available to the public sooner than the meeting. Mayor Barra asked that the City Clerk explain that the Council is given the agenda and Council packet of materials 7 days prior to the meetings and to the public had access 5 days in advance on the website and in hard copy at City Hall. Ms. Johnson also spoke in opposition to 3% employee raises, and felt the "ring-road should be put on hold.

Sara VanDuker, 13467 Walnut Street, Manito and 25 City workers, stated she had no problem with the \$12.00 fee and wished that was all she had to pay for garbage collection.

Doug Arrowsmith, 1510 South 6th St., spoke of the continuous years that the Council lowered the tax rate or kept the rate flat since solid waste collection was implemented in-house as the reason that the City was in the situation of not balancing a budget at this time without a fee. He spoke in support of a \$12.00 garbage fee.

Pamala Pichon, 1100 South 5th Street, spoke in support of the garbage fee and the collection service provided by excellent employees who take pride in what they do.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

7.1 Receive and File Monthly Reports: Building Department March Report
7.2 Proclamation: “National Telecommunications Week” April 13-19, 2014 “Supportive Living Week” April 21-27, 2014 “Stand Against Racism” April 25, 2014 “Student Success at PCHS Week” April 21-25, 2014

On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, REPORTS

The Hearing was opened by Mayor Barra at 5:46 p.m. for the purpose of receiving comments on the **FISCAL YEAR BUDGET MAY 1, 2014 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2015.**

Ann Witzig, 11501 Antioch, Tremont, questioned the Council on the payment of Anytime Fitness listed as an expense in the Budget. Mrs. Witzig was told that the membership was part of the City Wellness Program offered to employees.

Keith Gleason asked Council to receive comments, take another look at the Budge and make sure it was not being balanced on the backs of the City employees by asking for increased health premiums.

Gary Tinervin, 2209 Sierra Drive, commented on the coincidence of the Budget deficit being \$1.6 and the Garbage operations costing \$1.6 million. He also noted that 70% of the Budget being personnel expense was a lot. He questioned if contracting for the solid waste collection was reviewed and was told that last year comparisons showed a savings of \$200,000 for in-house service.

Jim Mangan, 1200 Parkway Drive, addressed the Budget. He stated he provided data from City reports to the Council that proved the garbage fee was not necessary if his suggestions to reduce excess personnel in the fire department had not been ignored. He urged Council to postpone the vote on the Budget in order to evaluate the \$1.3 million savings suggested by bringing the fire department in line with the actual operation.

No other comments were heard. Mayor Barra thanked the staff for the time spent in submitting a responsible Budget. The Hearing was closed at 6:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 2698-13/14 **AMENDING TITLE 5, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE A.** **OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PEKIN 1995** **REGARDING GARBAGE, REFUSE, AND LITTERING**

Motion by Council Member Gillespie, seconded by Council Member Abel that Ordinance No. **2698-13/14** be adopted. City Manager Joseph Wuellner recommended the amendment establishing a fee for the City to provide residential garbage collection and maintaining collection service of garbage, yard waste, recyclables and refuse. Mr. Wuellner stated the fee would generate the \$1.6 million revenue to offset the operational costs. Council Member Golden opposed the fee. He had suggested to consider providing service to unincorporated areas of Pekin. The City Manager responded that expanded service would not be cost effective and would require additional equipment and man power. Member Golden expressed opposition to a flat fee. Council Member Gillespie spoke in support of the implementation a fee. He felt that a change for the service, recommended by staff for years, was not unreasonable at \$12.00. Council Member Orrick questioned some of the details and new \$20 fee for pickup of larger furniture and appliances items. He read a request of from a resident that the City consider other options to the imposed fee such as inclusion of the service in the levy. Council Member Abel felt the department could not continue to run without a revenue source. He stated he would be in favor of the expense being included in the levy. Council Member McCabe reported on the research he had conducted himself with comparable municipalities regarding the collection of solid waste. He spoke in support of the \$12.00 service fee. Council Member Hendricks felt it was difficult decision with the recommendation presented. He felt there was a need for a fairer implementation and a need to consider hardship. He stated he could not support the ordinance. Mayor Barra agreed the fairest way to pay for the service was through the property tax. She would support the \$12.00 fee. On roll call vote, Ayes, Gillespie, McCabe, Abel, Barra; Nays, Golden, Orrick, Hendricks. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 97-13/14

ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR BUDGET MAY 1, 2014 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2015

Motion by Council Member Gillespie, seconded by Council Member Orrick that Resolution No. 97-13/14 be adopted. City Manager Joseph Wuellner presented the proposed budget with his recommendation to balance the deficit of \$1.6 million with the approved implementation of the garbage fee. Also included was the transfer of \$710,000 from the Bus Fund to the General Fund which would provide funding to reinstate some of the critical road and infrastructure projects. Council Member Golden questioned why money could be transferred from the Bus Fund but he was told previously when suggesting a transfer of funds it was not allowed under general accounting procedures. Golden Member Golden questioned the Manager on several topics he related to his decision on the Budget regarding reserves of fund balances, policy of vehicle maintenance account as an on going expense, 70% of budget being personnel expense. The Council Member questioned the accountability for the funds that were reportedly budgeted for 20 years totaling \$800,000 for a 1995 Accessibly Plan for wheel chair ramp projects. He commented that Council could not ask taxpayers to pay fees to balance a budget without history of accountability. Mayor Barra asked that Community Development Director Pamela Anderson examine budget years of HUD and related federal funds and report back to Council. Council Member Orrick commented on 3% increases to salaries costing \$425,000.00. He suggested reducing the budget with wage freeze. He questioned what the City was doing to curtail workers comp cases. Council member Gillespie stated that collective bargaining agreements dictate most if the 3% and an attempt to reduce that typically had an arbitrator rule on the side of labor. Council Member Abel spoke in support of budgeting funds to get the streets back in shape. Council Member McCabe questioned is the ISO rating would be affected in reducing the fire department. Council Member Hendricks stated he had nothing to add but would be voting no on the budget. Mayor Barra commented that only 15 cents on the dollar of the tax bill goes to the City. The approximate \$642,000 received does not cover unanticipated expenses such as last year's flooding, tornado damage, and snow events. On roll call vote, Ayes, Gillespie, McCabe, Abel, Barra; Nays, Golden, Orrick, Hendricks. Motion Carrie

RESOLUTION NO. 98-13/14

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT ON THE EXTENSION OF AN ENTERPRISE ZONE

Motion by Council Member McCabe, seconded by Council Member Hendricks that Resolution No. 98-13/14 be adopted. City Manager Joseph Wuellner told the Council the resolution represented the City of Pekin's written support for the continuation of the Pekin Area Enterprise Zone. the City of Pekin, East Peoria, Washington, Morton Tremont, Germantown Hills, and Tazewell County, The resolution provided for the approval of an amount not to exceed \$25,0000.00, the City's zone boundary portion, for defining Local Labor Market Area, a qualified state application criteria, by Economic Development Resources, LLC. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

RESOLUTION NO. 99-13/14

MOTOR FUEL TAX RESOLUTION FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Gillespie that Resolution No. 99-13/14 be adopted. Council was informed that the resolution appropriated MFT Funds in the amount of \$487,000.00 for the estimate of costs of various street department budgeted operations. Items included lights, signals, tree removal, salt for plowing and street materials. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Motion by Council Member Orrick, seconded by Council Member Hendricks that the **AGREEMENT WITH ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY** be approved. Council was advised that the agreement allowed the City to petition the Illinois Commerce Commission to allow for the relocation and widening of the existing crossing at VFW Road /Veterans Drive. The improvement would include the necessary safety devices required by the ICC. It was recommended to approve pending the final cost from the ICRR doing business as Canadian National Railroad be incorporated as to not delay the schedule needed to petition the ICC. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Police Chief Nelson urged drivers to be cautious of motorcycles as the weather gets nicer. Fire Chief Kurt Nelson alerted the public to check and replace smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. City engineer Michael Guerra advised for safety and visibility reasons, VFW would be closing from the intersection of IL 29 to 5th Street as construction work of Veterans Drive resumes next week. Council Member McCabe promoted

the excellence achieved by the student participating in the Destination Imagination competition. He included bicycle riders in the warning to motorists to be aware. Council Member Gillespie thanked the employees that showed interest in the decisions that Council made on the garbage fee and budget by attending the meetings. Council Member Orrick questioned if cycle motorists were also ticketed for violations of the noise ordinance. He read a citizen's comments to him that everyone would like a job such as the City workers that produced a 3% raise every year. They felt the City should tighten its belt in expenses instead. Council Member Orrick then made a motion to add to the next Council Agenda a policy that people not covered by a contract instead of receiving a 3% raise, receive 1.8% based on performance. He clarified that he was suggesting a 1 year policy. The City Manager responded to Council Member Golden's previous week question of an issue of a waterline. Council Member Golden was told that the newspaper ad for the police department was not that officers were needed but the notice was required to update the eligibility list. The Police Chief also reported to the Council Member that the department had a Cops-for-Kids Program.

The following public members addressed the Council:

Christine Shock, 2507 Cherry Lane,

Shannon Cox, 649 South 11th Street announced the Art Market at the Riverfront, May 31st through the summer.

Sharon Garlish, 39 Circle Drive, Central Illinois Health Care Association (CIHCA) distributed an announcement for Environmental Value of Clean Energy forum on April 16, 2014, at the Peoria Labor Temple.

Nathan Ujinski, 1204 South 18th Street thanked the Council for their time and consideration for solutions to the budget shortfall.

Ann Witzig stated she was disappointed that as a landlord she was responsible for payment of a garbage fee when often her rental properties are vacant.

Jim Mangan, 1200 Parkway Drive, stated that Council Member McCabe accepted answers from the Fire Chief without verifying they were correct and that he had been shown a greater work load than the data presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Council Member Orrick, seconded by Council Member Gillespie that the Council move to Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. to discuss 65 ILCS 120/2 (c) (2.) Collective Bargaining and (6.) Lease of Municipally Owned Property and (1.) Personnel be approved. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

No further business to come before the Council, motion by Council Member Orrick, seconded by Council Member Gillespie that Council adjourn. Motion carried voice vote. Mayor Barra adjourned the meeting in open session.

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 8:20 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk