
**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 13, 2015 AT 5:30 O'CLOCK P.M.
LAURIE L. BARRA * MAYOR * PRESIDING**

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

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

MINUTES

Motion by Council Member Gillespie, seconded by Council Member Abel that the **minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of March 23, 2015, Special Budget Work Sessions March 18, 2015, March 25, 2015 and March 30, 2015 be approved as written**. On roll call vote Ayes, Golden, Orrick, Gillespie, McCabe, Abel and Barra; Abstain, Hendricks. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Bob Bramham thanked the voters and congratulated Mark Luft and Michael Ritchason in winning the Council Member seat in the municipal elections. He voiced his opinion that the third member elected had served for previously for 8 years with no results in zoning changes. Mr. Bramham thanked Council Member Golden for his service.

Sally Johnson expressed her concern that it took 3 times to present a correct budget document. She hoped that the newly elected Council Members learn respect when the public expresses their opinions and that they no be afraid to say no. She asked that items of business that have questions from the public be postponed from vote until the following meeting. She felt the public was being taxed and fined to death. She hoped the new administration would make changes or she would move from the City of Pekin.

Ann Witzig stated she had reviewed the Annual Financial Statements ending April 30, 2014 and wondered if the audit was a good one. The auditor's report expressed "an unqualified opinion on the financial statements of the City of Pekin". Mayor Barra stated that James Warning of Willock, Warning & Co. was a CPA and clarified that his function was to state after review that the City funds were correct as shown.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Gillespie, seconded by Council Member Hendricks 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: Human Rights Committee Minutes October 22, 2014, January 28, 2015 and February 25, 2015; Corrected Liquor Commission Minutes January 22, 2015; and Animal Control March Report.
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7.2 Proclamations: "Parkinson's is the pits month" April 2015 "Stand Against Racism" April 24, 2015

7.3 Resolution No. 119-14/15 – A Resolution Regarding Minutes of Executive Session meetings of the City Council of the City of Pekin, Illinois.
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7.4 Resolution No. 120-14/15 - Appointment of Robert Baughman to the Fire Pension Board for a three year term until the 3rd Monday in April 2018.

7.5 Receive and File: Resignation of Frank Mackaman from the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

On roll call vote Ayes. Orrick, Gillespie, McCabe, Abel, Hendricks and Barra; Present, Golden. Motion Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, REPORTS

A Public Hearing was opened by Mayor Barra at 5:45 p.m. for the purpose of considering and hearing testimony relative to the adoption of the Fiscal Year Budget May 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016. Bob Bramham expressed his concern that a contract with Golf Green was renewed. He questioned lots in the City were not paved. Ann Witzig voiced concern that the amount of the airport budget was in the red. She expressed displeasure with the garbage fee. No other comments were received. Mayor Barra closed the hearing at 5:52 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 121-14/15

ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR BUDGET MAY 1, 2015 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2016

Motion by Council Member Hendricks, second by Council Member Gillespie that Resolution No. 121-14/15 be adopted. City Manager Darin Girdler informed the Council that the budget was reviewed for several weeks in work session with time to ask questions. Staff did all possible to hold the line on spending and presented a balanced budget in the general fund which contained a \$1 million transfer from the bus department. Because the City was in good financial position, the budget contained a proposed \$2 million loan to purchase capital equipment. Council Members Gillespie, McCabe, Hendricks, Abel and Barra spoke in support of the budget. Council Member Orrick questioned how the budget was balanced when funds were borrowed from another fund. He asked for examples of where the spending was decreased. His concern that some personnel increases were more than 3% was addressed and was explained that personnel included insurance fluctuations year to year and benefits. He stated he had requested a line item report budget. He asked that Capital expenditures be put off until the end of the year.

Council Member Golden stated he could not figure how to read the budget. It was explained that the budget as presented listed revenues in parentheses. He commented that he had asked that descriptions be added to line items and that changes from the original budget noted. He saw no cuts or plans for Court Street. He did not think it worthy of a vote because it was such a rudimentary format. Mayor Barra explained the State Funds for Court would not be expended in the 2016 Budget. The mistakes in the first budget were due to the interface of the old software.

Council Member Orrick expressed his concern of balancing a budget with borrowed money or using bus funds. He suggested the \$2 million loan not be spent until the end of the year to better know what costs were. Council Member Hendricks expressed his opinion that borrowing for capital expenditures was the sound economic way to purchase equipment while interest rates were good.

On roll call vote, Ayes, Gillespie, McCabe, Abel, Hendricks, and Barra; Nays, Golden and Orrick. Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 2719-14/15

SPECIAL ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CEDING OF PRIVATE BONDING AUTHORITY

Motion by Council Member Hendricks, seconded by Council Member Orrick that Ordinance No. 2719-14/15 be adopted. Council was advised the ordinance provided for the transfer of the City of Pekin's unused allocation of volume cap to be utilized with the Tri-County River Valley Development Authority (TRVDA) to support projects that will create jobs and expand the City's tax base. Council Member Golden expressed his concern of the use of the word "authorized" in Section 2 of the ordinance. He was concerned that there were no examples of job opportunities in the community from the program. On roll call vote, Ayes, Orrick, Gillespie, McCabe, Abel, Hendricks, and Barra; Nay, Golden. Motion Carried.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Council Members spoke of the results of the General Election, expressed congratulations and thanked the voters. Spruce Up Pekin Event was announced. The community was encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity to get rid of unwanted large items to avoid the \$20 fee associated with curbside collection. The status of the house on Mall Road was asked and it was noted a boat was housed on the premises. Staff was made aware that the debris at the riverfront needed to be addressed. Council Member Abel suggested including the City parking lots when considering maintenance of streets. Council Member Golden asked that expenses be cut and money be saved for the Court Street project.

No further business to come before the Council, motion by Council Member Hendricks, seconded by Council Member McCabe that Council adjourn. Motion carried voice vote. Mayor Barra adjourned the meeting.

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 6:30 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk