
**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, MARCH 23, 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

Mayor Barra welcomed Pekin Community High School German Teacher Dales Halzworth, exchange students, and host families to Pekin and the Pekin City Council Meeting.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by PCHS students Abigail Allison and Blake Carrington.

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 Orrick that the **minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of March 9, 2015 be approved as written**. On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ed Schwinn expressed his concerns about the hearing he attended for violations of the snow emergency routes parking provisions of the Code. He asked the Council to revisit the section and direct the City Manager to place notice on channel 22 when in effect.

Bob Bramham spoke about getting answers on questions he had brought to Council Meetings. He also commented that there was no referendum for public question to place the garbage fee on the tax bill at the April election.

Ann Witzig addressed the Council on the following:

- Suit against the City of Pekin
- Discrepancies from the Building Department regarding occupancy of a church on Derby Street
- Allowing low income housing in the City of Pekin

Sally Johnson voiced her opinion on a Pekin Times editorial and spoke in support of Council Member Golden questioning business items before the Council. She stated Court Street needed repair not redesign. Ms. Johnson asked the Council to look into pensions and overspending concerning the preliminary budget. She expressed her objection that 5 minute public input time at the end of a meeting was removed. In response Mayor Barra stated that Court Street was a State route.

Larry Wolfer presented his opinions to Council regarding expenditures for contractors at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He felt \$6 million dollars remaining in the grant from Veterans Drive project would not be sufficient to design and repair Court Street. He asked the Council to request proposals for legal counsel.

Jim Mangan stated it was Council's responsibility to regulate pensions. He suggested freezing wages, freezing hiring, and to cut excess employees, and to contract out all blue and white collar workers as a way to reduce that debt. He felt there was time to consider cuts until appropriations deadline July 31st. (clerk note-budget deadline April 30th).

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Hendricks, seconded by Council Member Abel 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: February Building Department Inspections and Zoning Reports and Tazewell County Animal Control.
7.2 Proclamations: “Young Authors Week” March 23, 2015 “Community College Month” April 2015 “Stand Against Racism” April 24, 2015
7.3 Resignation of Tomas G. Tesar from the Fire Pension Board.
7.4 Resolution No. 118-14/15 - Appointments of Adrienne Southerland to the Human Rights Committee to fill the unexpired term of Michele Moul until May 2017 and Brian Byne to fill the unexpired term of Teleisa Crnkovich until May 2016.

Mayor Barra read and Kay Sutton, Dean of Illinois Central College South Campus, accepted the Proclamation “Community College Month.” Dean Sutton announced ICC South Open House on Wednesday, April 22, 2015 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in the RWBP location. On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Council Member Hendricks, seconded by Council Member McCabe that the **ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION LOCAL AGENCY AGREEMENT** for Federal participation for Allentown Road engineering in the amount of \$3,600.00 be approved. City Engineer Michael Guerra informed the Council that the agreement was for 10% local share of engineering to improve the safety of the dangerous curve located near city limits. Project was awarded Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding last fall for 90% engineering up to \$36,000.00. Utilizing federal funding, Council approved the Midwest Engineering Associates agreement November 24, 2014 to provide the engineering. Council Member Golden questioned the engineer on details of the agreement. Mr. Guerra advised the surrounding property owners he had spoken with were open to sale if necessary. On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Council Member Golden questioned staff on the status of a vacant structure on Mall Road that now was housing a boat. He expressed concern of the grace period for unpaid wastewater billings and that residents were receiving water shut-off notices. Council was advised that the agreement approved with Illinois American Water Company provided for the water turnoff process.

Council Member Orrick expressed his gratitude to the department for beginning yard waste collection early for citizens.

The press was given the opportunity to address the Council.

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

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 6:20 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk