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PROCEEDINGS OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEKIN, ILLINOIS,
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE CITY HALL
ON THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2002, AT 3:30 P.M.
R. DAVID TEBBEN * MAYOR * PRESIDING

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS, BARRA, MASSAGLIA, ORRICK, AND RICHMOND

ABSENT: NONE

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Notice of a special meeting to discuss potential riverfront development was received by Council on February 21, 2002. Some business items were listed on the agenda because of the cancelled regular meeting of February 25, 2002.

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

Roll was called and all commissioners were present.

Agenda

Motion by Com'r. Orrick, seconded by Com'r. Barra, that the **Agenda**, **be approved as presented** On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Motion by Com'r. Orrick, seconded by Com'r. Barra, that the **Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of February 11, 2002, be approved as written**. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

New Business

Motion by Com'r. Orrick, seconded by Com'r. Richmond, that the **JOINT AGREEMENT WITH ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR VETERAN'S DRIVE** (Broadway to Court) Construction be approved. Public Works Director Dennis Kief told Council the project would include Broadway improvements at the new intersection with Veteran's Drive. There were no intended changes to jurisdiction nor maintenance as agreed by Groveland and Elm Grove Road Districts and Tazewell County's signed addendums to the joint agreement. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Motion by Com'r. Orrick, seconded by Com'r. Barra, that the **JOINT AGREEMENT WITH ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPGRADE – LED SIGNAL HEADS** be approved. Public Works Director Dennis Kief reported that the LED signal heads were proven to be highly efficient and low maintenance. Originally estimated City share of the 21 State Highway system signals was $30,000.00. IDOT was able to change the status from "maintenance" to " modernization" resulting in the majority of funding to be Federal thereby reducing the City cost to $7,700.00. He intended to negotiate independently with the awarded contractor to install lights at the remaining 10 City signalized intersections. The following resolution would appropriate those funds for the City share of the original project from motor fuel tax. The project would be completed this construction season. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

RESOLUTION NO. 163

Motion by Com'r. Barra, seconded by Com'r. Orrick, that Resolution No. 163 be adopted and the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute and file all documentation required with the Illinois Department of Transportation, the resolution **APPROPRIATING MFT FUNDS FOR COST OF TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPGRADE** – Led signal heads in the amount of $7,700.00. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Motion by Com'r. Barra, seconded by Com'r. Richmond, that the proposal in the amount of $55,000.00 for **FIRE RESCUE TRUCK** be accepted and the purchase be awarded to Fire Trucks of Illinois, Inc. Fire Chief John Janssen reported the new rescue truck would accommodate the department's need for more gear room, 4 doors, and supply box for solutions that can't be frozen. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Communications
From City Hall Council Chambers a bus of Council, staff, media and local citizens toured the riverfront area to visualize future development.

John Hamann handling the demolition of the first grain elevator, served as the guide and pointed out areas targeted for cleanup, from Coopers Island on the north edge of the riverfront to the ongoing demolition of City owned property south of the intersection of Fayette and Front Streets.

He reported the City was reclaiming and sprucing up what already belongs to the public. Trimming back scrub trees and removing debris, parking blocks knocked out of place were to be reset, new fencing and landscaping designed to discourage access to 4-wheelers would replace poles and cables damaged, surfaces around the parking lot to be repaved. A picnic area was envisioned. Debris washing ashore would be a challenge to keep clean but spruce up would be relatively inexpensive and ongoing maintenance was planned. He explained a tentative concept was

- to not put any buildings on the water's edge blocking the view
- grain elevators to be demolished to a level for construction of possible restaurant on top and concrete used for fill for overlook
- Front Street become green space except for railroad which continues to provided service to manufacturers through a lease agreement

The group returned to the Council Chambers to narrow down possibilities for development of the riverfront, It was agreed it would be wise to explore development options before demolishing structures that could serve as foundation for projects. Mayor Tebben called for suggestions from Council, staff and citizens present.

Ideas were divided into list of preferred development, permissible, and forbidden

- Bike rental shop with trail traversing riverfront project
- Round trip rail service to Peoria
- Waterfall and playground
- Rotating restaurant a top a grain elevator
- Hotel
- Marina with slips
- Conference center

It was agreed forbidden list include

- No obstruction west of Front Street - open to river
- Condominiums and apartments would be banned if Council intended to keep the river view public
- No private clubs

Further discussed:

- There was no opposition to the sale of liquor at the riverfront
- The City would work with the Park District for plans for green space but not exchange property
- The importance of timing for demolition of remaining elevators and houses and the role the demolition and expense could play in attracting or discouraging potential developers

No formal action was taken.

No motion was heard and Mayor Tebben postponed the Executive Session of the Council until March 11, 2002 agenda.

A motion was made by Com'r. Barra, seconded by Com'r. Orrick, that Council adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:00 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk