
**PROCEEDINGS OF A SPECIAL BUDGET WORK SESSION 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 3, 2014 AT 5:00 O'CLOCK P.M.
LAURIE L. BARRA, MAYOR PRESIDING**

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

ABSENT: MCCABE

Council set a work session to discuss the FY 2015 Budget at the meeting of February 24, 2014. Notice was properly posted and Council received notice of the special meeting on Friday, February 28, 2014.

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

Roll was called and all Council Members were physically present except Council Member McCabe. A quorum was present.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, REPORTS

BUDGET FY2015 WORK SESSION

Mayor Barra stated the work session was being conducted to discuss the draft budget and would be the first of 2 reviews planned. Department budgets were divided into 2 groups. The second meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

City Manager Joseph Wuellner and Assistant City Manager Darin Girdler distributed the proposed budget which indicated a deficit of \$1,600,686.00. A second summary budget was distributed indicating a balanced budget arrived at by cuts to items in several departments. Both drafts included a proposed garbage fee of \$12.00 per household. The Council also was provided the Reserves Analysis that showed that the total available for General Fund operations was well below the minimum dollar of the Reserves Policy.

Council was furnished a list of cuts made by the Manager and reviewed by each of the Department Heads. Mr. Wuellner elaborated on the following:

- Street Department – 2 additional people; work related manpower of street repair, sidewalks, street maintenance; equipment, dump truck, pickup, skid steer
- Public Works – engineering tech; asset management system
- Storm Water – Koch St/Riverway flooding
- Garbage – truck
- Police – squad cars
- Property – boiler; lighting; demolitions
- Information Technology – server; replacement computer/monitors

He advised deleting vehicles and equipment would mean additional maintenance costs, repair projects and drainage matters would only delay issues already set aside; property items would have improved efficiency.

General comments and suggestions heard:

- Offer solid waste services in unincorporated areas
- RFPs on legal expenses
- Garbage fee based on ability to pay
- Cuts effect infrastructure #1 goal of Council
- All but one surrounding community has garbage fee
- Pay increases mostly contractual but begin not giving 3% raises
- Make modifications to use Tourism Funds for streets

The Manager expressed his opinion that garbage collection was not a core service. The budget with cuts would only balance with the implementation of a \$12.00 per month garbage fee. A straw vote of the Council Members present was taken in order to give direction to the staff. Council Members Able, Gillespie and Barra spoke in support of the public paying for the service. Council Members Golden, Orrick and Hendricks were opposed.

The staff was asked to find an additional \$1,651,000.00 in cuts or a suggested 6% to each department.

No further business to come before the Council, motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Orrick to adjourn. Motion carried viva voce.

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 6:00 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk