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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, JANUARY 12, 2009 AT 5:30 O'CLOCK P.M.
JAMES E. "JIM" JONES * MAYOR PRO-TEM* PRESIDING

PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS, ABEL, BLANCHARD, STRAND, JONES, KORTKAMP, AND DUNN

ABSENT: NONE

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The **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Mayor Pro Tem Jones.

Roll was called and all Council Members were present.

Agenda

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

Motion by Council Member Blanchard, seconded by Council Member Dunn, that the **minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of December 22, 2008, be approved as written.** On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Kortkamp, that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented. Council Member Dunn read and presented the following for consideration of the Consent Agenda items by Omnibus Vote.

1. **Receive and File Monthly Reports and Minutes:** Building Report

2. **Proclamation:** Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – January 21, 2009

3. **Resolution No. 66-08/09 –** Mayor's reappointment of David Volz to the Pekin Housing Authority Board for a five-year term until January 14, 2014.

4. **Resolution No. 67-08/09 –** Mayor's reappointment of Dr. Dora Lee Ho and Bernie Riley to the Human Relations Commission for a three-year term until January 25, 2012.

5. **Reschedule of Meeting Dates –** of Council for upcoming 2009 months and List Commissions, Boards and Committees meeting dates, times, and places required by statutes.

On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, REPORTS

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Pro Tem Jones opened the Public Hearing for the **2008 PLAN AMENDMENT TO THE TAX INCREMENT REDEVELOPMENT PLAN AND PROJECT FOR THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA** at 5:34 p.m. City Manager Dennis Kief stated the purpose of the hearing was an opportunity for all interested parties to be heard concerning the amendment. He advised that 6 or so phone calls were received from the mailing to area residents with no adverse comments. He read from a prepared statement the statutory requirements and each of the dates in the process of notice, availability of proposal, and recommendations of the Joint Review Board. The Ordinance for Council to approve the amended plan would be presented at the January 26, 2009 meeting. No additional comments were heard. The public hearing was closed at 5:36 p.m.

CITY OF PEKIN FINANCIAL AUDIT FOR YEAR ENDED APRIL 30, 2008
WILLOCK AND WARNING, & CO., P.C. TO PROVIDE OVERVIEW

Jim Warning, City Auditor, provided an overview of the City's financial activates. His presentation of the 74 page annual audit was summarized in a 4-page outline. Revenue and Expense totals were compared for fiscal years 06, 07, 08. Analysis of various tax revenues by month was discussed. Mr. Warning expressed some concern in that the numbers indicated the City's strong reliance on sales tax as funding source. He also cautioned in reading the tax revenue monthly reported that there was a three-month lag in receiving state taxes. The figures presented were numbers for an audit ending April 2008 thus the totals relative to today's economy could be questioned.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Council Member Strand, seconded by Council Member Abel, that the **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR POLICE PROTECTION SERVICES WITH THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF PEKIN** be approved. Police Chief Gillespie presented the Agreement with PHA to provide protection of residents by uniformed, off-duty police officers. He recommended the rate for annual renewal between the months of February through January remain at $25.00 per hour noting the arrangement eliminates calls for service. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Motion by Council Member Kortkamp, seconded by Council Member Dunn, that **ILLINOIS ADVENTURE GUIDE AD CAMPAIGN BE APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF $10,000.00.** Steve Brown Economic Development Coordinator and Brent Lonteen Director Peoria Visitors Bureau requested for Council to participate in the media partnership campaign. The tourism awareness included State of Illinois Tourism spring newspaper insert and brochure ads in the fall newspapers. The exposure would reach Greater Chicago area, Indianapolis, and as far south as Kentucky. Council Member Blanchard questioned the need to spend the funds in a tight economy. Funds from Hotel/Motel Tax budgeted line item would be used. Other Council Members spoke in support. On roll call vote, Ayes, Strand, Kortkamp, Abel, Dunn, and Jones; Nay, Blanchard. Motion Carried.

Motion by Council Member Dunn, seconded by Council Member Strand, that the **CONTRACT WITH HEARTLAND PARTNERSHIP FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE CENTRAL ILLINOIS RETAIL STUDY BE APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF $5,761.00 TO $9,971.00 EACH – 2 LOCATIONS** Steve Brown Economic Development Coordinator recommended the contract between the City and Heartland Partnerships to participate in a joint retail study for Central Illinois. The studies conducted by TESKA Associates would provide information needed for retail strategies, leakage analyses, and focused retail attractions. Mr. Brown explained the price per site based on buying power of other municipalities. TIF funds would be used for the Riverfront/Downtown Study and Economic Development line item for the Derby Street Study. Council Member Blanchard noted the City had spent $96,000.00 3 years ago to conduct a study. He stated he could not justify the expense in the current bad economic times. Council Members spoke in support of participating in a more affordable "strategy" that would be useful for the Derby Street area development. On roll call vote, Ayes, Strand, Kortkamp, Abel, Dunn, and Jones; Nay, Blanchard. Motion Carried.

Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Kortkamp, that the **SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH HANSON PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE EXTENSION OF HANNA DRIVE** in an amount not to exceed $250,000.00 be approved. Public Works Director Joe Wuellner explained additional engineering design work was needed to get the spur relocated in a way satisfactory to the railroad and to provide construction support as required by the EDA grant. A portion of the expense $175,000, would be recoverable through the grant. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Motion by Council Member Kortkamp, seconded by Council Member Abel, that the **AGREEMENT WITH JAMES KLOPFENSTEIN & ASSOCIATES TO PROVIDE APPRAISAL OF PROPERTY NEEDED TO CONSTRUCT VETERANS DRIVE,** be approved in an amount not to exceed $26,000.00. Council heard the 29 parcels needed were south from Route 29 to Commercial Drive. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

RESOLUTION NO. 68-08/09

DOWNSTATE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION OPERATING ASSISTANCE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT #3797 OP-09-09-IL

Motion by Council Member Strand, seconded by Council Member Abel, the Resolution No. 68, be adopted. Superintendent of Transportation Greg Ranney advised Council of the request to approve the grant to receive funding in the amount of $343,194.00 for the 2009 operations of the Pekin Municipal Bus operations and partial funding to City Link for contract services. Until Springfield signed the required documentation, funds continued to be funneled through the City. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Council Member Dunn praised the resources that can be experienced at the Pekin Public Library and expressed his appreciation.

Council Member Blanchard informed the Council and public of news he read on the availability of bus passes for the disabled through City Link.

Council Members Kortkamp and Strand spoke of the television airing of Extreme Makeover and support for the Grys family. A reminder was given that the Martin Luther King Breakfast would be held January 17, 2009 at Edison School.

City Manager informed Council that he was attempting to have a representative of Comcast Communications attend a Council meeting to inform the public of the changes and the issues that customers were experiencing. He was also working with Corporation Counsel of what franchise agreement recourses were available to intervene in the matters.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Council Member Blanchard, seconded by Council Member Strand, that **Council move to Executive Session** at 6:42 P.M. to discuss 5 ILCS 120/2 (c.) 3. Selection, Appointment, Performance, Discipline, or a Vacancy in a Public Office. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye. Corporation Counsel Burt Dancey advised the press and the public that there was a possibility that Council would return to open session to take action.

Council returned to open session at 7:04 P.M. All members were present.

RESOLUTION NO. 69-08/09

PURSUANT TO 65 ILCS 5/5-2-12 (G) AND 1-5-1 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PEKIN RUSTY DUNN IS HEREBY APPOINTED TO FILL THE VACANCY IN THE POSITION OF MAYOR UNTIL HIS REPLACEMENT IS QUALIFIED, ELECTED, AND SWORN IN, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 26, 2009

Motion by Council Member Strand, seconded by Council Member Kortkamp, that Resolution No. 69-08/09 be adopted. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye unanimously.

Remarks were made by Council Member Dunn regarding the intentions of his completing the term of Mayor Tebben. Congratulatory comments were made by Council Members.

No further business to come before the Council, in open session, motion by Council Member Blanchard, second by Council Member Strand to adjourn. On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:08 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk