
**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, DECEMBER 8, 2014 AT 5:30 O'CLOCK P.M.
LAURIE L. BARRA * MAYOR * PRESIDING**

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

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 to Aye.

MINUTES

Motion by Council Member McCabe, seconded by Council Member Abel that the **minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of November 24, 2014 be approved as written**.

PUBLIC INPUT

Doug Arrowsmith told the Council that comments on opting out of a garbage fee gave him the idea that he should be able to opt out of the following fees or tax: doesn't have child that goes to District 108; only really drove 20% of the roads; house never burnt down to use the Fire Department; police never called to his house; in about three years daughter would graduate from School District 303; hadn't been to Library in 8 years. He questioned the Council if all of it sounded absurd and then stated garbage doesn't get picked up for free. Mr. Arrowsmith felt \$12.00 was very inexpensive for service.

Jim Mangan addressed the Council regarding the solid waste collection fee. He reminded Council that in 2004 the understanding was that there would be no added cost to residents for providing in-house service. He asked the Council to rescind the ordinance or put the question to the public by adding it to the election ballot.

Bob Bramham stated the garbage fee was illegal and should be put on the ballot for the public to decide. Mr. Bramham spoke in opposition to paying for a study on Asian Carp. He requested someone contact him concerning the amount of money in Reserves.

Sally Johnson voiced her opinion to Council on the following: carp plant smell, public not able to vote on garbage fee, Homerule, sewer treatment plant violations not being addressed, and the removal of 5 minutes for the public to speak at meetings.

Barb Bramham asked the Council to place the question of a garbage fee on the ballot.

Bob Kieser spoke in opposition to a garbage tax. He chastised the Council for thinking the Pekin citizens were "dumb chumps."

Larry Wolfer stated he was not opposed to how the garbage fee was assessed. He stated it was a challenge to get the figures he had requested regarding the Treatment Plant improvements. In regards to the study for the market feasibility of Asian carp and a possible developer, Mr. Wolfer pointed out the potential impact of untreated sewerage. He suggested a developer pay for the study.

Ann Witzig opposed the study of Asian Carp consumption and suggested the people wanting to establish a Pekin base pay for the study. She spoke of her displeasure in the garbage fee and the City never being able to manage any service brought in-house properly. She spoke of the difficulty in obtaining a list of complaints filed in the building department.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member McCabe, seconded by Council Member Gillespie that the **CONSENT AGENDA be approved as now presented**. The following was presented for consideration of the Consent Agenda items by Omnibus Vote.

On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Council Member Hendricks, seconded by Council Member Abel that the **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT REGARDING AN ENTERPRISE ZONE LOCATED IN SOUTHERN TAZEWELL COUNTY** be approved. Economic Development Director Leigh Ann Brown advised the Council of the document that approved the joint application including zone bounties of Pekin, Tazewell County, Tremont and Morton for the new application to Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for review. If approved by the DCEO and State of Illinois Enterprise Zone Review Board, this zone would become active January 2016. She informed the Council the current Pekin Enterprise Zone expired in 2016 with no extension available. Council Member Golden stated he could not support the agreement and referred to Sparland Illinois Tax Increment Finance District as an example. Council Member Hendricks spoke in support of an Enterprise Zone's worth in business incentives for creation of jobs. On roll call vote Ayes, Orrick, Gillespie, McCabe, Abel, Hendricks, Barra; Nay, Golden. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 2713-14/15

DESIGNATING AREA AS AN ENTERPRISE ZONE AND RELATED MATTERS UNDER SECTION 5 OF THE ENTERPRISE ZONE ACT

Motion by Council Member Hendricks, seconded by Council Member Orrick that Ordinance No. 2713-14/15 be adopted. Ms. Brown also asked the Council as part of the EZ project, to approve the ordinance to comply with the Enterprise Zone to validate the Intergovernmental Agreement and resolution stating incentives. On roll call vote Ayes, Orrick, Gillespie, McCabe, Abel, Hendricks, Barra; Nay, Golden. Motion carried.

Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Hendricks that the **HARVESTING THE ILLINOIS RIVER ASIAN CARP FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR MARKET BASED SOLUTION** be approved in an amount not to exceed \$8,000.00. The Director of the Economic Development Department Leigh Ann Brown requested approval to contract with the University of Illinois to conduct the market research/feasibility study for opportunities on multiple Asian Carp products sustainable viability. She stated the study would focus on human consumption that had not been explored in the area. Council Members Gillespie, Hendricks, McCabe spoke in support of the City doing their homework ahead of time. Positive remarks were made that the study was a step forward on the possibility of job creation. Council Member Orrick felt the City did not pay enough attention to businesses that already exist. On roll call vote Ayes, Gillespie, McCabe, Abel, Hendricks, Barra; Nay, Golden and Orrick. Motion carried

ORDINANCE NO. 2714-14/15

MAKING, LEVYING AND ASSESSING MUNICIPAL TAXES FOR FISCAL YEAR FROM MAY 1, 2014 TO APRIL 30, 2015

Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Hendricks that Ordinance No. 2714-14/15 be adopted. City Manager Darin Girdler presented to the Council a proposed 2014 levy of \$6,177,793.00 which was 0% increase higher than the 2013 Levy. The estimated rate based on estimated EAV would be 1.4367%. Council Member Orrick stated the City's EAV had gone up slightly. In regards to the levy the City has a policy of funding the Police and Fire Pensions at 103% and 105%. On roll call vote Ayes, Orrick, Gillespie, McCabe, Abel, Hendricks, Barra; Nay, Golden. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 112-14/15

ABATEMENT OF TAXES ORDINANCE NO 2667-12/13 GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND SERIES 2012 \$2,100,000 / ORDINANCE NO. 2673-12/13 \$1,975,000.00 LEVY AND COLLECTION ORDINANCE

Motion by Council Member Golden, seconded by Council Member Orrick that Resolution No. 112-14/15 be adopted. The resolution authorized that taxes not be levied against taxable real property in the City of Pekin in the amount of \$320,250.00 provided in bond ordinance and levy and collection ordinances issued for Capital Projects through Bernardi Securities, Inc. On roll call vote Ayes, Orrick, Gillespie, McCabe, Abel, Hendricks, Barra; Nay, Golden. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 113-14/15
ABATEMENT OF TAXES ORDINANCE NO 2665-10/11
SERIES 2010 \$7,110,000.00

Motion by Council Member Golden, seconded by Council Member Orrick that Resolution No. 113-14/15 be adopted. the resolution authorizes that taxes not be levied against taxable real property in the City of Pekin in the amount of \$596,755.00 provided in bond ordinance issued for Sewer Treatment Improvements through Bernardi Securities, Inc. On roll call vote Ayes, Orrick, Gillespie, McCabe, Abel, Hendricks, Barra; Nay, Golden. Motion carried.

Motion by Council Member Orrick, seconded by Council Member Abel that the **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING scheduled for December 22, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. be cancelled.** On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Police Chief Greg Nelson corrected an earlier comment and stated that Pekin crime rate was down 22% Fire Chief Kurt Nelson encouraged the community to install and change batteries in their smoke detectors. Treasurer Jim Wolf advised that lost within the discussion of the levy was the fact that pension mandates account for most of the levy. Little goes to the General Fund for daily operations and services.

Council Member Hendricks corrected misinformation that he supported a resolution to allow people to opt out of garbage service. He explained he only seconded a request by Council Member Golden to place it on the agenda so that could be discussed by the entire Council. He apologized to citizens for the hateful things and negative things that are said at the podium by those in attendance. He supported his fellow Council Members and said that citizens elected the members to make decisions for them. Council Member McCabe and Gillespie supported and complimented Council Member Hendricks for his statement.

Council Member McCabe encouraged attendance at the Christmas on Court event sponsored by Pekin Main Street. He congratulated Friends in Harmony for an excellent annual Christmas Program.

Council Member Golden asked that the City Council repeal the garbage fee ordinance at the next January meeting. He than asked that Council place the \$12.00 per month garbage fee on a binding referendum in the April election. No second to the motion was heard.

Council Member Abel wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Motion by Council Member Orrick, seconded by Council Member Abel that Council Adjourn. On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 6:50 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk