
**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, NOVEMBER 28, 2011 AT 5:30 O'CLOCK P.M.
LAURIE L. BARRA, MAYOR PRESIDING**

**PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS, MCCABE, ABEL, BLANCHARD, SCHMIDGALL.
HENDRICKS, MASSAGLIA, AND BARRA**

ABSENT: NONE

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

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

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Motion by Council Member Massaglia, seconded by Council Member Blanchard, that the **minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of November 14, 2011, be approved as written**. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

7.1 Receive and File Monthly Reports and Minutes: Fire Department October Report, Traffic Safety Committee Minutes November 4, 2011, and Liquor Commission Minutes September 22, 2011.	5
7.2 Resolution No. 22-11/12 – Mayor’s appointments to the Peoria/Pekin Urbanized Area Transportation Study Committees PPUATS	5

On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, REPORTS

Mayor Barra opened a **Public Hearing** at 5:37 p.m. for the purpose of considering a proposed property tax levy for the City of Pekin, for assessing municipal taxes May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012.

City Manager Joseph Wuellner first clarified his levy recommendation memo of November 17, 2011 in which he proposed figures for a 5 year payoff for the Early Retirement Incentive instead of the approved 10 years. Using the lesser ERI rate he presented two new scenarios:

Levy increase 0.0000%	Corporate - \$123,335	Annual increase for a \$100,000 home of \$10.15
Levy increase 2.1498%	Corporate - \$250,000	Annual increase for a \$100,000 home of \$19.84

Mr. Wuellner stated with cuts to the budgets in previous years and few raises in taxes, situations were created where replacement equipment, vehicles, and structures were cut. Using older equipment continues to add costs to maintenance and fire stations and the library exceed their useable life. He asked to increase the levy to allow some added income to start saving for major capital expenses.

There were no public comments. Council Members Abel, Schmidgall, McCabe, and Barra spoke in support of a 2.1498% increase with the following comments:

- Supports better use of taxpayer dollars
- Setting aside for capital expenses was necessary in reference to the expression *pay me now or pay me later*
- Reflects wise decision to save for the future
- Average \$20 increase was modest and manageable

Council Members Hendricks and Massaglia were opposed to any increase in bad economic times. It was suggested to be more efficient and make cuts to cover expenses. Council Member Blanchard stated he would refrain from comments until the meeting at which the Levy Ordinance would be presented.

The Hearing was closed at 5:46 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 2646-11/12 AMENDING ORDINANCE NO 2641-11/12 AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF PEKIN TO BORROW FUNDS FROM THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN PROGRAM

Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Schmidgall that Ordinance No. 2646-11/12 be adopted. City Manager Joseph Wuellner explained to the Council that the amendment with the IEPA to secure low interest loans needed to be raised to the \$40,616,000 higher amount allowed for the construction of the Phase 2B Waste Water Treatment Plant. He advised the IEPA had reviewed Phase 2B drawings and bid process would begin in December. Outside sources for funding were researched in the event the loan was not secured. A higher than 2.50% interest rate would be paid without any loan forgiveness. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

ORDINANCE NO. 2647-11/12 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE IMLRMA MINIMUM/MAXIMUM CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT

Motion by Council Member Schmidgall, seconded by Council Member Blanchard that Ordinance No. 2647-11/12 be adopted. Risk Management Coordinator Angela Evans recommended Council approve participation in the IMLRMA agreement of premiums for work comp, liability, and property insurance based on claim history of a pool of municipalities rather than individual claims. Council was advised the option allowed the City to pay a lower premium as long as costs stay below the minimum amount. Only in years 2002 and 2008 were amounts over minimum. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Council Member Abel encouraged the community to remember the less fortunate during the holiday season. Attorney Dancey echoed his request and suggested stocking the food pantries in the community. Council Member Hendricks recognized the efforts of the Winter Wonderland Parade organizers and the seasonal displays in the Park. Council Member Blanchard noted the possibility of snow this weekend and prediction was made by Council Member Massaglia that accumulation would not happen until January 1. Mayor Barra acknowledged the generosity of PCHS students in collecting and delivering groceries to 102 families in time for Thanksgiving holiday. Police Chief Nelson noted 2 new trained officers were sworn in this morning. Birthday wishes were extended to 95 year old father of Burt Dancey and to Council Member Abel.

Bob Burress, 713 Deerfield requested Council to consider the economy and not to increase the levy.

Gary Allen, 1424 West shore Drive addressed the Council and conveyed his disappointment in the members that did not return his phone calls. He felt he was belittled in not being able to speak on behalf of a proposal to purchase City owned property at the previous meeting. Attorney Dancey explained, money did not affect the manner in allowing the public to speak at Council; that Council and the public were always to avoid personal attacks; and Mr. Allen's request to speak was inappropriate timing for disclosure of bid opening amounts on 830 Brenkman Drive.

Dale Kuntz, 5 Fox Point distributed his photos of Cultural Decay on Court Street. Mayor Barra acknowledged, as requested, that Mr. Kuntz also provided 6 photos of sidewalks that were free of weeds on Court Street.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Council Member Blanchard, seconded by Council Member Schmidgall, that the Council move to Executive Session at 6:20 p.m. to discuss 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (6) Sale and Lease of Municipally Owned Real Estate and 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (5) Acquisition of Property. On roll call vote all present voted Aye.

No further business to come before the Council, Mayor Barra adjourned the meeting in open session.

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 6:45 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk