
**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 11, 2010 AT 5:30 O'CLOCK P.M.
RUSTY L. DUNN, MAYOR PRESIDING**

**PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS, ABEL, BLANCHARD, BARRA, KORTKAMP,
SCHMIDGALL, STRAND AND DUNN**

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

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.

MINUTES

Motion by Council Member Kortkamp, seconded by Council Member Barra, that the **minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of December 14, 2009 be approved as written**. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Mayor Dunn shared breaking news on Governor Quinn's funding announcement committing \$30 million Capital Project for completion of Veteran's Drive. He encouraged everyone to attend the news conference on Tuesday, January 12, 2010 @ 10:30 a.m. at City Hall.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Tim Blanchard, 105 Providence Court, addressed Council on two points. He thanked the City for the proclamation honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He also spoke with disappointment when elected official abuse their power the Pekin City Council would attempt to censure a member. He said that his brother, Council Member Blanchard, was passionate about the little guy and hoped he would continue that fight as he served Pekin.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Council Member Barra, seconded by Council Member Blanchard, that the **CONSENT AGENDA be approved as presented**.

Mayor Dunn read and presented the following for consideration of the Consent Agenda items by Omnibus Vote.

1. **Receive and File Monthly Reports and Minutes:** Police Department December Report, Liquor Commission Minutes dated October 29, 2009, and Building Report 2009.
2. **Proclamation:** "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day" – January 18, 2010.
3. **Charitable Solicitation:** "Benefit for Crystal A. Wise" Saturday, February 20, 2010
"Shade Memorial Youth Camp Tag Day" April 23,24, 25, 2010
4. **Receive and File -** Agreement for Access Road Easement from Warren E. Miller (Griffin Drive to Veterans Drive)
5. **Receive and file** – 2009 Annual Report and Financial Statements Dated April 30, 2009 Prepared by Willock Warning and Co.

On roll call vote, all present voted Ayes, Kortkamp, Blanchard, Barra, Abel, Dunn; Abstain, Schmidgall. Motion Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, REPORTS

Jim Warning of Willock Warning and Company, thanked the Council for the opportunity to present the **2009 ANNUAL AUDIT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**. He distributed a 6 page outline of figures to summarize the City's assets, revenues expenditures and funds. He pointed out from a schedule of core government services, the major increases to the street line item. He noted capital expenditures were in order to be able to provide basic services. Mr. Warning expressed concern for the 3 year trend of expenditures and advised that would need to address means for additional revenues. Tax revenues were notably decreased from prior year. He spoke positive of the City's debt service obligations per citizen being relatively low. It was the auditor's opinion that difficult decisions would have to be made to operate a leaner budget yet provide the services needed.

A presentation of the **WEB SITE PROPOSAL – IE-MEDIA/MCDANIELS MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS** was made by Randy McDaniels. In PowerPoint slides he informed the Council of the company's ability to meet the City's objectives for revamping the content on the site to meet the target audiences. Economic Development template design was shown to draw site selectors, developers, business owners, and residents as requested. Support, training, upgrade plans were presented for the web development. It was estimated the launch could take place in March.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Council Member Strand, seconded by Council Member Abel, that the **CONTRACT WITH ie-MEDIA/MCDANIELS MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS** in an amount not to exceed \$37,405.00, **be approved**. City Manager Dennis Kief informed Council of the City's web site evolutions from 1999 to the present. He advised that the proposal to redesign the site would enhance Economic Development features to entice businesses and focus on the Clerk page for inaction of the community. He recognized the efforts of Dave Hess in preparing the RFP and the recommendation of the Technology Committee. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Motion by Council Member Blanchard, seconded by Council Member Kortkamp, that the **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR POLICE PROTECTION SERVICES WITH PEKIN HOUSING AUTHORITY** at a rate of \$25.00 per hour, **be approved**. Police Chief Ted Miller gave background on the request to approve renewal of the agreement for off-duty officers to police the PHA. He recommended the "win-win" positive public safety outcome of reduced crime and safer Housing community. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Motion by Council Member Schmidgall, seconded by Council Member Abel, that the **AMENDMENT TO THE ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH MAURER-STUTZ** for Project Development Report for a new Sheridan Road Bridge, in an amount not to exceed \$10,853.50, **be approved**. Public Works Director Joe Wuellner said that the original agreement was approved July 14, 2008 for \$50,040.00. During site review it was determined the bridge was in a Forest Preserve, creating more design work to meet creek and traffic flows while staying within existing footprint. Also environmental reports to cover wetlands mitigation increased cost of engineering by \$10,853.50. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

RESOLUTION NO. 31-09/10

ESTABLISHING THE SISTER CITY COMMISSION

Motion by Council Member Kortkamp, seconded by Council Member Barra, that **Resolution No. 31-09/10 be adopted**. Mr. Kief advised that the resolution formally established members to form commission to solicit an International Sister City. The concept originated in early December from a group of interested community members. Council Member Barra felt it would be a natural fit for a Germany relationship with Pekin Community High School's German students. Council Member Strand supported the idea but suggested not to expend City funds. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

Motion by Council Member Abel, seconded by Council Member Blanchard, that **STAFF BE DIRECTED TO PREPARE ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE TRAFFIC CODE REGARDING A STOP SIGN ON ALAMEDA AT GINGOTEAQUE WAY**. Council Member Abel stated he had been contacted by residents of the area in an effort to review the denial of the request to Traffic Safety Committee to place a

stop sign on Alameda. It was determined from police reports that the intersection did not warrant such action. The Council Member reported that one resident was on their 3rd replaced mailbox. Concern regarding the safety of students waiting for buses was also expressed. On roll call vote, all present voted Aye.

RESOLUTION NO. 32-09/10
COUNCIL MEMBER CENSURE

Motion by Council Member Barra, seconded by Council Member Strand, that **Resolution No. 32-09/10, be adopted.** Mayor Dunn requested that the police reports of Council Member Blanchard's actions toward a City employee and staff on December 4, 2009 be part of the office record. The following documents were read by City Clerk Sue McMillan and Attorney Burt Dancey:

- Tammy Martin, Parking Enforcement account of issuing a parking citation to a jeep parked at a fire hydrant at the corner of Haines and St. Joseph
- Patrolman Hazelwood to Deputy Chief Greg Nelson on being dispatched in reference to a parking complaint and observance of complainant
- T/PCCC radio communication of dispatched officer, nature of the call, and remarks
- Deputy Chief John Ghidina to Chief Ted Miller correspondence to document conversation with Council Member Blanchard questioning if anything could be done for a \$250 ticket for parking within 15 ft of a fire hydrant

City Manager Dennis Kief next read his memo to the City Council regarding Council Member Blanchard questions on posting signage for prohibited parking close to fire hydrant in the Manager's office with Deputy Chief Ghidina on December 4, 2009.

Chief Ted Miller read his memo to Manager Dennis Kief regarding the personnel issue. He indicated that a person in a policy making level, should not subject an employee to the type of pressures reported to the police department. Additionally, proper protocols and chain of command in registering the Council Member's complaint were not followed.

Council Member Blanchard read from a prepared statement. He stated the actions he took of the incident reported were in response to a family member receiving a ticket while attending a church event. He felt public reprimand played out in the press for the behavior he attributed to passion, did not arise to the level nor warrant a censure.

Mayor Dunn allowed each Council Member's comments regarding the censure to be heard. On roll call vote, Ayes, Barra, Kortkamp, Strand, Abel, Dunn; Nays, Schmidgall and Blanchard. Motion Carried.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Mayor Dunn advised the Council, Staff, and Public that he would like to establish a Code of Conduct for elected and appointed officials to provide guidance on ethical issues and define appropriate behaviors and conduct for officials to exhibit. He then announced to events being held on Saturday, January 16, 2010 Chamber of Commerce Business Expo and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Breakfast.

Council Member Blanchard expressed the City's condolences to the family in the passing of May Kay Abts.

City Manager Dennis Kief presented slides of the completion of Hanna Drive and the extensions of Veterans Drive for which the Governor's visit to announce the funding was scheduled. He also announced the intent of the City to discuss with the public the preliminary budget figures before and after Council Meetings until adopted.

Economic Development Coordinator, Steve Brown advised the public to check out a new means of social networking and become a fan of face book called City of Pekin Illinois Economic Development. It was also announced that the Pekin Public Library, Main Street, and the Chamber of Commerce were partnering with the Turner Center Entrepreneurship of Bradley on program series "How to Start Your Own Business."

No further business to come before the Council, in open session, Mayor Dunn called the meeting closed.

COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:20 P.M.

Sue E. McMillan
City Clerk