

: OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS :**: OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS :**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of Peoria, Illinois, was held July 28, 2020, at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall, Council Chambers (Room 400), 419 Fulton Street, with Mayor Ardis presiding, and with proper notice having been posted.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call showed the following Council Members were present: Ali, Grayeb, Jensen, Kelly, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Rigggenbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 10. Absent: Cyr - 1.

Mayor Ardis introduced Assistant City Attorney Masum Patel sitting in place of Interim Corporation Counsel Chrissie Peterson and noted Interim Corporation Counsel Peterson was present via teleconference.

ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE

In accordance with Governor JB Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-43 which continues to limit any gatherings of more than fifty people, and Executive Order 2020-44 requiring the provision of video, audio or telephonic access to meetings – and the CDC recommending social distancing of at least six feet between persons, City Hall is implementing changes and restrictions for the City Council Meeting on July 28, 2020, while complying with the Open Meetings Act.

The Council Meeting will be conducted in person with members of the Council present in Council Chambers with plexiglass barriers, with Department Heads in their offices and some City Staff in room 404 with the ability to remotely answer questions while maintaining a six foot distance. Fifteen members of the public and one member of the media will be present inside Council Chambers. Temperature screenings are required upon entry to City Hall and face coverings are always required while inside.

Members of the public and media are invited to watch through the live stream, YouTube, Television Channel 22 or through WCBU Radio. Submissions for Public Comment were received through the City Clerk's Office. The agenda, minutes and video podcast of the meeting will be available online through the City website.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Ardis requested a moment of silent prayer or reflection. He reflected on the prominent leaders in the community who had passed away specifically mentioning Rudolph Booth, father of Coach Derek Booth; Congressman John Lewis; and Reverend CT Vivian. He reflected on the impact each had on the community and the world, and he then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Council Member Ruckriegel moved to approve the minutes of the Joint City Council and Town Board Meeting held on July 14, 2020, as printed; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Joint City Council and Town Board Meeting held on July 14, 2020, as printed, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Grayeb, Jensen, Kelly, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggenbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OF PEORIA

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE, with Recommendations as Outlined:

- (20-194) **Communication from the City Manager and the Assistant City Manager with a Request to APPROVE a SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE of a Report Management System (RMS) Upgrade to the City's Police Records System and Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) Upgrade to the City's Emergency Communication Dispatch System, from APPLICATIONS DATA SYSTEMS INC. (ADSi), in the Total Amount of \$112,500.00 (RMS Upgrade \$50,000.00 and CAD Upgrade \$62,500.00) from Previously Approved Funds.**
- (20-195) **Communication from the City Manager and Emergency Communications Center Manager with a Request to APPROVE an AGREEMENT for Emergency Notification Services with ONSOLVE, in the Amount of \$30,000.00 per year.**
- (20-196) **Communication from the City Manager and Director of Community Development with a Request to ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 17,784 Approving a SPECIAL USE in a Class CN (Neighborhood Commercial) District for Vehicle Repair and Service for the Property Located at 1610 SW JEFFERSON AVENUE (Parcel Identification No. 18-17-226-049), Peoria, Illinois (Council District 1)**
- (20-197) **APPOINTMENT by Mayor Ardis to the PEORIA/PEKIN URBANIZED AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (PPUATS) TECHNICAL COMMITTEE, with Request to Concur:**

City Stormwater Engineer/Assistant Public Works Director Andrea Klopfenstein (Voting)

Mayor Ardis questioned if the Council wished to have any of the Consent Agenda Items removed for further discussion.

Hearing no request to remove an item from the Consent Agenda, Council Member Grayeb moved to approve the Consent Agenda items as outlined in the Council Communications; seconded by Council Member Riggenbach.

Item Nos. 20-194 through 20-197 were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.

Yeas: Ali, Grayeb, Jensen, Kelly, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggenbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

FIRST READINGS**(20-198) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel with a Request for a FIRST READING Review of an ORDINANCE Amending Chapter 18 of the CODE of the City of Peoria Pertaining to BODYWORK ESTABLISHMENTS.**

Interim Corporation Counsel Chrissie Peterson provided an overview of the proposed Ordinance, stating the Council had updated the Massage Licensing Ordinance and implemented an administrative process in 2018 requiring establishments that offered bodyworks and massages to become licensed with the City. She said individual therapists were not required to be licensed with the City, stating they were licensed through the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation; however, she said the Ordinance did require the business to become licensed with the City. She said the City's Business License Inspector actively worked with the Center for Prevention of Abuse and routinely examined all applications received by the City. Over the past year she said there was a request from a business owner for the Council to consider an exemption to the licensing requirement that would allow a salon, spa, or services offered under the Barber, Cosmetology, Esthetics, Hair Braiding and Nail Technology Act to become exempt if they offered those within their facilities. She said after speaking with the Business License Inspector and the Center for Prevention of Abuse, this was not necessarily something the Legal Department was recommending, but was presenting to the City Council for consideration. She said the Legal Department's hesitation regarding the recommendation was because the Illinois Cosmetology Act did not contain a definition for the word "massage" or of the word "bodyworks." She said there was concern that the exemption could be misused by some business owners.

Council Member Jensen said she was a proponent of this Ordinance in 2018, stating it was a tool used to combat human trafficking. She said if the change was adopted it would diminish the City's Ordinance to combat human trafficking as well as the illicit establishments. She asked Interim Corporation Counsel Peterson to provide data on how successful the City had been in shutting down the illicit establishments. She said the Center for Prevention of Abuse commented that there had been a decrease in illicit massage facilities from 20 to 7, and she asked that those numbers be reviewed and confirmed. She asked, since the proposed Ordinance would exempt businesses with a State license for salons, if there had been any problems with those types of establishments having prostitution or human trafficking.

Council Member Oyler moved to receive and file the First Reading of an Ordinance amending Chapter 18 of the Code of the City of Peoria pertaining to bodywork establishments; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Grayeb, Kelly, Jensen, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

REGULAR BUSINESS ITEMS, with Recommendations as Outlined:**(20-199) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to REINSTATE the CAPITAL BUDGET for Fiscal Year 2020 for the SHERIDAN ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT, in the Amount of \$4,000,000.00. (Council District 2)**

Public Works Director Rick Powers provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Sheridan Road Reconstruction Project and presented a timeline of events for the project. He said this project was part of the original Capital Improvement Program (CIP), which was removed due to budgetary constraints since COVID-19. He said ICCI offered to perform the work and to allow the City to defer partial payment until January 2021. He provided an overview of the new timeline should the Council approve the request, stating the project was slated to be finished in December 2020.

In response to Council Member Grayeb's question regarding minority workforce targets, Director Powers outlined the minority workforce stating 23.40% of the hours would be dedicated towards minority workers and 3.69% would be dedicated to female workers, noting the City's goal was to achieve 18% minority workforce and 3% female workforce. He said good faith efforts were made and documentation was sent to the City's Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, which were approved. He said ICCI would use 10.12% of the base bid for Minority Business Enterprises towards electrical supply, material testing, construction layout and trucking. He said there was an additional 7.38% of the value of the base bid was provided to Women Business Enterprises.

Council Member Grayeb expressed his appreciation for the information stating he was proud of the minority participation on this project. He ensured that this project was not granted precedence over other projects, noting the lengthy timeline from the onset.

In response to Council Member Ali's request to recap the minority participation, Director Powers said good faith efforts were submitted by ICCI and reviewed by the City's Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer reflecting 10.12% of the value of the base bid would be provided to Minority Business Enterprises for electrical supply, material testing, construction layout and trucking. He said the contractor proposed to use 7.38% of the value of the base bid towards Women Business Enterprises for pavement striping, traffic control, landscaping and paver installation.

Council Member Moore expressed a concern that the minority participation was under 18%, and she asked Director Powers to discuss the matter with the contractor to see if 18% could be achieved.

Discussions were held regarding the Western Avenue Reconstruction and when it was slated to begin work, and it was noted that the Sheridan Road Project was the only project on the CIP that was "shovel ready" and had previously been funded to begin in April of 2020. Due to the budgetary constraints caused by COVID-19, funding had been removed. It was stated that should this item be approved, it would pull forward the Western Avenue Project to the November letting bidding.

Council Member Moore expressed her appreciation for the explanation of the road projects and the process for bringing projects forward to Council for approval. She said she would support this item as a result of all that was previously discussed, noting there were several minority businesses owners ready to begin work on the project.

Council Member Montelongo commented on the Sheridan Road Project stating a small section needed to be completed for it to be a complete street. He inquired about Glen Avenue and when it was in cue to begin work, and he inquired about the traffic counts for that street. He remarked on the condition of road and the need for it to be addressed. Director Powers said Glen Avenue was currently slated to begin in the summer of 2021.

Mayor Ardis said there had been a meeting with the contractor to discuss the prioritization of workforce goals as well as a request for a reduction in the contract costs. He said ICCI committed to a 3% reduction that was inclusive as part of the motion. He expressed his appreciation to ICCI for their efforts to address the City's budget constraints, stating they were doing a lot to finish the project and to offset the expenses until 2021 in the hopes the City would be in a better cashflow situation.

Council Member Grayeb moved to reinstate the Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2020 for the Sheridan Road Reconstruction Project, in the amount of \$4,000,000.00; seconded by Council Member Moore.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Grayeb, Kelly, Jensen, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

(20-200) Communication from the City Manager and the Director of Community Development with a Request to APPROVE the Funding Recommendations from the CDBG Public Services Advisory Commission for the COVID-19 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICES FUNDING, in the Amount of \$200,000.00.

Council Member Moore moved to approve the funding recommendations from the CDBG Public Services Advisory Commission for the COVID-19 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Service; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Council Member Moore expressed her appreciation to the CDBG Public Service Advisory Commission in their efforts of reviewing the grant applications, commenting on the amount of time the Commission put forth on the process. She said additional CDBG funds were provided as a result of COVID-19, which provided opportunity for organizations to see additional assistance.

Discussions were held regarding the participation of religious organizations, and Director Black said religious organizations were not exempt from seeking assistance if the service provided did not have a religious test and individuals did not have to attend a religious service. He said the City ensured that any prominent religious materials were removed from the area the service was provided.

Motion to approve the funding recommendations from the CDBG Public Services Advisory Commission for the COVID-19 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Services Funding, in the amount of \$200,000.00, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Grayeb, Kelly, Jensen, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

(20-201) Communication from the Mayor and Corporation Counsel with a Request to APPROVE the DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY.

Council Member Riggerbach moved to approve the Declaration of Local State of Emergency; seconded by Council Member Ali.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Grayeb, Kelly, Jensen, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel,
Mayor Ardis - 9;

Nays: Montelongo - 1.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Including but not limited to motions to reconsider items, if any, from the previous Regular Meeting)

(20-182) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Community Development with a Request to DEFER until AUGUST 11, 2020, the Recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and Staff to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending Appendix A, the Unified Development Code, Relating to SHORT-TERM RENTALS.

Council Member Riggerbach moved to defer until the August 11, 2020, the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and Staff to adopt an Ordinance amending Appendix A, the Unified Development Code, relating to short-term rentals; seconded by Council Member Jensen.

Motion to defer to the August 11, 2020, Regular City Council meeting was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Grayeb, Kelly, Jensen, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel,
Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

(20-125) Communication from the City Manager with a Request to RECEIVE AND FILE the Recommended 2020 - 2021 BUDGET RESTRUCTURING as a Result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. (Refer to Item No. 20-081)

Mayor Ardis said there was no additional information at this time, stating the City Council was waiting for more information relating to the Fire Department as well as waiting to see if there would be some Federal Funds to help the City. He encouraged the Council and the community to encourage their Congressmen and US Senators to approve relief for municipalities, stating the City of Peoria had not received any form of relief from the Federal Government yet.

Council Member Kelly said the Council continued to receive information on the budget restructuring that allowed for tax increases, and he asked for additional and more in-depth discussions be held for those proposed increases. He asked for information on how the budget would be affected without a tax increase.

Council Member Jensen requested the Council Communication be updated to include items the City Council had already passed such as the Early Retirement Incentive. She said the Council Communication read that the Council needed a debt service package of \$30 million; however,

she said she recently received communication that the City only needed a debt service package of \$15 million. She asked for that information to be updated in the Communication for the next meeting. She requested a Report Back on the real estate taxes the City had received along with a comparison to prior years.

Mayor Ardis said he anticipated a vote in Congress, no later than the first week of August. He said more information would be available to the Council after that week along with more definite budgetary numbers for the August 11, 2020, City Council meeting.

Discussions were held regarding the layoffs and reduction in Staff, noting layoffs were previously slated to begin July 1; however, Assistant City Manager Deborah Roethler said the proposed layoffs were delayed until September 1. Council Member Jensen requested an update on the layoffs at the August 11, 2020, City Council meeting.

At the conclusion of the discussion and requests, Council Member Moore moved to receive and file the recommended 2020 - 2021 Budget Restructuring as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic; seconded by Council Member Jensen.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Grayeb, Kelly, Jensen, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel,
Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

(20-141) Communication from the City Manager with a Request to APPROVE a VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE (VSI) for Sworn, Full-Time Fire Employees.

After a brief discussion relating to a deferral of this item, Council Member Moore moved to defer this item to the August 11, 2020, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Riggerbach.

Motion to defer this item to the August 11, 2020, Regular City Council meeting was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Grayeb, Kelly, Jensen, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel,
Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for an Update from the Public Health Administrator

Council Member Jensen requested to have the Public Health Administrator Monica Hendrickson present at the next Council Meeting to provide an update on the COVID-19 situation and to provide more insight on the testing facilities and locations in the City. She asked for additional information on the turnaround time for test results and what the Health Department was doing to improve the turnaround time for test results.

Council Member Moore said she would be interested to hear updates regarding the COVID-19 situation. She commented that the Health Department did not run the testing facility at the Peoria Civic Center. She said the other testing facilities ran by Heartland had a turnaround time for results of 2-3 days and she remarked on the importance of staying local.

Recent Heavy Rains and Flooding Issues in the Community

Council Member Moore commented on the issues many residents faced with the recent heavy rains in the City. She inquired about the plan to address the flooding that occurred in residents' homes due to sewers backing up and whether the Public Works Department had received phone calls from the community. She inquired as to the plan to address the flooding issues.

Director Powers said the Public Works Department had received several phone calls regarding sewer backup and water in basements. He said those rains were considered a 50-year storm wherein a large amount of rainwater fell on the City in a very short time period. He said the Department was looking to improve the areas hit the hardest. He said there were programs for homeowners where they could install backflow preventers; however, he said remediation for current damages was the homeowner's responsibility.

Council Member Moore asked Director Powers to work with the City's Communications Specialist Stacy Peterson to provide information on Channel 22 that would advise homeowners of who to contact.

District 4 Community Meeting

Council Member Montelongo said he would be conducting a Zoom meeting for the neighborhoods in Council District 4 on Thursday, July 30, 2020 at 7:30 A.M. He said additional information would be distributed through the neighborhood association presidents.

CDBG Public Service Advisory Commission

Council Member Moore said there were several individuals not satisfied with the CDBG grant process; however, she said she spoke with the Grants Department and she said they were doing a remarkable job. She commented on the difficulties of the application process, requirements and government regulations, and she said the Grants Department was doing all it could to correct those issues. She asked Community Development Director Ross Black to provide a report back at the next Council meeting reflecting the number of applications the City received for all grants, the dollars that were available, the dollars that were committed, and what happened with left over funds.

Sheridan Road Project

Council Member Kelly expressed his appreciation and congratulated City Manager Urich and Assistant City Manager Roethler for their efforts in negotiating a better price for the Sheridan Road Project.

Recognition of Ms. Anna Brown

Mayor Ardis recognized Ms. Anna Brown, teacher at Valeska Hinton Grade School, and the Class of Green 1 for a recent publication on the McArthur Bridge reconstruction project. He said the book was a pictorial of the work that took place during the reconstruction process. He said it was a great opportunity for Ms. Brown and her students to capture the pictures from the beginning to the end of the project.

CITIZENS' OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL/TOWN BOARD

Drew Hubbard, a citizen of Peoria, commented on inequities in the City of Peoria as it related to the unemployment rate and home ownership. She also compared the median household income between Black residents and White residents of Peoria. She commented on the arrest numbers for the Black community compared to the White community and noted the inequality of the numbers. She said it was time for a change to give the young Black community hope for the future.

Carter Bell, a citizen of Peoria, addressed the inequality and lack of accountability in the City of Peoria. He remarked on educational inequities and provided statistics of the same. He commented on the low number of Black residents who had Bachelor degrees. He commented on the food desert in the Southside of Peoria and the difficulties for the Black Community to qualify for a loan.

Doelen Morris, a citizen of Peoria, spoke on the lack of accountability within the City and the hiring of the City's Diversity and Inclusion Officer and the lack of employees within that office. He asked for the City's commitment to social equity and how Council Members reached out to their communities outside of election years.

Unique Worth, a citizen of Peoria, spoke on the involvement of the community leaders meeting regarding racial, justice and equity coalition, noting not much progress had been made. She asked for more transparency as it related to the City's budget and social equity. She asked about policy changes that needed to be made and the need for more transparency. She said there needed to be a commitment to change.

Paola Hinton, a businessowner in the City of Peoria, spoke on the Bodyworks Ordinance and how it affected legitimate businesses. She said legitimate businesses who provided massage therapy had to obtain 1500 credit hours of education and take the State Board Exam. She said the First Reading of the proposed amendment to the Bodyworks Ordinance would exclude certain businesses from registering with the City. She said she represented all legitimate businesses who wanted to be disconnected from the Asian bodywork realm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was determined that an Executive Session was not needed at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Kelly moved to adjourn the Regular City Council meeting; seconded by Council Member Montelongo.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Grayeb, Kelly, Jensen, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel,
Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

The Regular City Council Meeting was adjourned at 7:17 P.M.



Beth Ball, MMC, City Clerk
City of Peoria, Illinois