

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

A Regular City Council Meeting of Peoria, Illinois, was held January 12, 2016, at 6:00 P.M., at City Hall, Council Chambers, 419 Fulton Street, with Mayor Ardis presiding, and with proper notice having been posted.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call showed the following Council Members were physically present: Akeson, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Spain, Turner, Mayor Ardis – 10.
Absent: Grayeb – 1.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Jim Ardis requested a moment of silent prayer or silent reflection, and then he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.

Peoria School Choice Week - January 24th - 30th
American Red Cross Home Fire Preparedness Day - January 16th
Peoria Charter Coach 75th Anniversary
Peoria Rugby Team
Dana Baldwin

MINUTES

Council Member Spain moved to approve the minutes of the Joint City Council and Town Board Meeting held on December 8, 2015, as printed; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akeson, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Spain, Turner, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OF PEORIA

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE, for the City of Peoria with Recommendations as Outlined:

- (16-001) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel with a Request to Receive for Information and to Refer to the Legal Department the NOTICE OF LAWSUIT Filed on Behalf of DAVETT L. FISHERS, SR. Against the Peoria Police Department, Caleb Cunningham, William Calbow, Jr., Ian K. McDowell, Michael Boland and William Larson.**

- (16-002) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel with a Request to Receive for Information and to Refer to the Legal Department the NOTICE OF LAWSUIT Filed on Behalf of ROBERT WESLEY Against John Williams of the Peoria Police Department.
- (16-003) * Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to Approve the Payment of \$28,400.00 to VLM LAND TRUST for Right-of-Way Acquisition of a Portion of Parcel 14-07-201-013 for the Proposed PIONEER PARKWAY EXTENSION PROJECT. [District 5]
- (16-004) ** Communication from the City Manager and the Community Development Director with a Request to Approve the Funding Recommendation from the Human Resources Commission for the 2015 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICE FUNDING, in the Total Amount of \$229,000.00.
- (16-005) *** Communication from the City Manager and the Community Development Director with a Request to Direct Staff to 1) REALLOCATE Funding from the Current CDBG Economic Development Program (\$278,860.00) to Fund Public Infrastructure Projects (Sidewalks and ADA Ramps) Identified in the City's 2016 Capital Budget; 2) Reserve the City's Capital Funds Available from the Reallocation of CDBG Funds as a Financial Resource for the Attorney General/Peoria LISC Initiative in the East Bluff; and 3) REALLOCATE Funding from the Current HOME Down Payment Assistance Program (\$110,705.39) as a Financial Resource for the Attorney General/Peoria LISC Initiative in the East Bluff. (District 3).
- (16-006) Communication from the City Manager and Community Development Director with a Request for a MORATORIUM on Certain ZONING CERTIFICATE FEES.
- (16-007) Communication from the City Manager and the Corporation Counsel with a Request to APPROVE the CONTRACT Between the City of Peoria and MUNICIPAL CODE CORPORATION ("MUNICODE") for Analyzing and Printing the Code of the City of Peoria.
- (16-008) **** Communication from the City Manager and the Fire Chief with a Request to Approve a SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE for Two (2) Automatic Defibrillator's (AEDs) from PHYSIO CONTROL, in the Amount of \$56,871.30.
- (16-009) Communication from the City Manager and the Chief Information Officer for the SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE of Automatic Vehicle Location and Response Management Applications from APPLICATION DATA SYSTEMS INC. to Allow Data Transfer Capabilities Between the Emergency Communications Center and Peoria Fire Department Vehicles, in the Amount of \$81,000.00.

- (16-010) **Communication from the City Manager and the Corporation Counsel with a Request to APPROVE the Revised INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT Between the City of Peoria, Peoria County Treasurer and Peoria County to Authorize the Peoria County Treasurer as the City's Billing Agent to Include the City's REFUSE AND GARBAGE COLLECTION FEES to the Annual Property Tax Bills.**
- (16-011) **Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to Approve RESOLUTION NO. 16-011 Authorizing the Mayor to Sign a LETTER OF INTENT with the Illinois Department of Transportation for the Proposed JURISDICTIONAL TRANSFER of RICHMAR ROAD in Peoria. (Refer to #13-260) [District 5]**
- (16-012) **Communication from the City Manager and Community Development Director with a Request to ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 17,315 Amending Chapter 5 of the CODE Pertaining to BUILDING PERMITS.**
- (16-013) **APPOINTMENT by Mayor Ardis to the HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION with a Request to Concur:**
- Ms. Deborah Dougherty (Voting) - Term Expires 6/30/2018**
- (16-014) **REPORT from the CITY TREASURER PATRICK A. NICHTING for the MONTH of OCTOBER 2015, with Request to Receive and File.**
- (16-015) **REPORT from the CITY TREASURER PATRICK A. NICHTING for the MONTH of NOVEMBER 2015, with Request to Receive and File.**
- (16-016) **Communication from the City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller with a Request to RECEIVE and FILE the 2016 SPRINGDALE CEMETERY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY ANNUAL BUDGET.**

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

Council Member Turner requested Item No. 16-008 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Moore requested Item No. 16-004 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Akeson requested Item Nos. 16-003 and 16-005 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Spain moved to approve the Consent Agenda items as outlined in the Council Communications; seconded by Council Member Johnson.

Item Nos. 16-001 through 16-016 (excluding Item Nos. 16-003, 16-004, 16-005 and 16-008, which were removed for further discussion) were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.

Yeas: Akeson, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Spain, Turner, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

**(16-003) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a
* Request to Approve the Payment of \$28,400.00 to VLM LAND TRUST for
 Right-of-Way Acquisition of a Portion of Parcel 14-07-201-013 for the
 Proposed PIONEER PARKWAY EXTENSION PROJECT. [District 5]**

Council Member Akeson said she was not in favor of this item, and she asked that the record reflect the same.

Council Member Johnson moved to approve the payment of \$28,400.00 to VLM Land Trust for right-of-way acquisition of a portion of Parcel No. 14-07-201-013 for the proposed Pioneer Parkway Extension Project; seconded by Council Member Spain.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Spain, Turner, Mayor Ardis – 9;

Nays: Akeson - 1.

**(16-004) Communication from the City Manager and the Community Development
** Director with a Request to Approve the Funding Recommendation from the
 Human Resources Commission for the 2015 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
 BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICE FUNDING, in the Total Amount
 of \$229,000.00.**

Council Member Moore said she wanted to make a few remarks about this item, noting that she was in favor of it. She said the Advisory Commission on Human Resources worked diligently to award funding for all submissions. She said this was an excellent opportunity, and she recommended Council Members take the time to visit the Commission and see how it works. She said the Commission put a lot of work into what they do, and the Council could learn from the process.

Council Member Moore moved to grant would like to grant Privilege of the Floor to Chair of the Advisory Commission Ms. Nancy Rakoff.

Hearing no objection, Mayor Ardis granted Privilege of the Floor to Ms. Nancy Rakoff.

Ms. Nancy Rakoff, Chair of the Advisory Commission on Human Resources, reported that the Commission was able to fund all 21 applications. She said all six priorities the Council previously voted on had one or more projects being funded. She said the Commission went with the new minimum award amount of \$7,000.00, reduced from \$10,000.00. She said the

Commission anticipated making changes to the process for next year. She closed by expressing her condolences on the loss of the Vice Chair of the Commission, Mr. Ivan Williams, who passed away recently.

Council Member Moore expressed her condolences on the recent passing of Mr. Ivan Williams, who was an employee of the South Side Office of Concern. She remarked on how instrumental Mr. Williams was in his opinion on how the funds should be awarded and how those funds should be utilized. She said he was a vocal proponent of small organizations and their programs. She recognized him for the contributions he made not only to the Advisory Commission but throughout the community. She expressed her appreciation to Ms. Rakoff, the Commission and to Ms. Kathryn Murphy in their efforts in this matter.

Council Member Moore moved to approve the funding recommendation from the Human Resources Commission for the 2015 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Service Funding, in the total amount of \$229,000.00; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Council Member Akeson expressed her condolences over the loss of Mr. Ivan Williams. In addition, she said she wanted to bring attention to the minutes of the Commission's last meeting wherein it was noted that there would be additional items added to the application and evaluation process. She said she would like to highlight the following "requiring agencies in the application process to document how outcomes have been achieved." She said that requirement was very important to ensure funds were being used effectively.

Motion to approve the funding recommendation from the Human Resources Commission for the 2015 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Service Funding, in the total amount of \$229,000.00 was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akeson, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Riggerbach, Spain, Turner, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None – 0.

(16-005) **Communication from the City Manager and the Community Development**
******* **Director with a Request to Direct Staff to 1) REALLOCATE Funding from**
the Current CDBG Economic Development Program (\$278,860.00) to Fund
Public Infrastructure Projects (Sidewalks and ADA Ramps) Identified in the
City's 2016 Capital Budget; 2) Reserve the City's Capital Funds Available
from the Reallocation of CDBG Funds as a Financial Resource for the
Attorney General / Peoria LISC Initiative in the East Bluff; and 3)
REALLOCATE Funding from the Current HOME Down Payment Assistance
Program (\$110,705.39) as a Financial Resource for the Attorney General /
Peoria LISC Initiative in the East Bluff. (District 3).

Council Member Akeson requested that Community Development Director Ross Black provide background information on this item, remarking that she had some concerns approving this item without being fully informed.

Community Development Director Black said this item was related to the Attorney General's Grant of \$3 million for the redevelopment of the East Bluff. He said the draft budget submitted for the project had a shortfall of \$850,000.00. He said the project had two major components: 1) ACCESS Peoria, which was complete, and 2) for sale and new construction of rehabbed houses. He remarked that the second part of the project had the shortfall. He said Staff reviewed where to reallocate funds in order to assist with the project. He said the

recommendation was to move some CDBG Funds into the City's capital budget and corresponding capital budget funds dedicated to sidewalks. He said the reason for the swap was because CDBG funds were difficult to use on this type of project. He said the HOME Funds were available in the Down Payment Program. He said the request was to take those funds and put them directly into the project. He said the Council was being asked to authorize the movement of these funds, but nothing committed those funds to this particular project. He said there was not an agreement nor a final budget. He remarked that even if all of these funds were committed, there would still be a \$350,000.00 funding gap. He said an agreement would not come back to the City Council until all items were addressed.

Director Black said if the money was not reallocated, then the income limitation for assistance would be restricted to 80% of the median household income. He said the agreement with the Attorney General's Office allowed would include households with an income up to 150% of the median income, which would provide for more latitude to market to households in the East Bluff.

Council Member Riggerbach said he supported this item. He re-emphasized that this would allow for an income requirement to be 150% of the median household income. He said the goal was to strive for mixed-use and diversity. He said \$3 million from the Attorney General was actually leveraging \$8 million in total investment. He encouraged Council Members to visit the duplexes that were completed through ACCESS Peoria.

Council Member Riggerbach moved to direct Staff to 1) reallocate funding from the current CDBG Economic Development Program (\$278,860.00) to fund public infrastructure projects (sidewalks and ADA ramps) identified in the City's 2016 Capital Budget; 2) reserve the City's Capital Funds available from the reallocation of CDBG Funds as a financial resource for the Attorney General/Peoria LISC Initiative in the East Bluff; and 3) reallocate funding from the current HOME Down Payment Assistance Program (\$110,705.39) as a financial resource for the Attorney General/Peoria LISC Initiative in the East Bluff; seconded by Council Member Turner.

In response to Council Member Jensen's question regarding the purpose of the funds prior to their reallocation, Director Black said those funds were in a FOCUS Housing Leverage Program. He said the majority of the funds in the FOCUS Leverage Program was a program that the City Council funded. He said it was funds that could be used in areas where there was a focus to leverage a larger project. He said Staff believed those funds fit the criteria for this project, which would not be taken away from a current project.

Council Member Jensen inquired about the \$350,000.00 shortfall, even after the reallocation, and Director Black said the funds being reallocated would not be committed to any project or agreement. He said if this project were to go forward, then the funds would still be with the City and could be reallocated by the Council for any eligible purpose. He said the Public Works Department would be able to utilize some of the reallocation for sidewalks and ADA ramps. He remarked that there was a time limit on the HOME Funds of just over a year, and he said as long as some of the HOME Funds were moved, the City could afford to have a balance.

Council Member Jensen said she would vote in favor of this item and would like to see this project go forward.

In response to Council Member Moore's question regarding the public comment period, Director Black said because of the amount of money being moved, the Annual Plan had to be amended.

He said it would be a substantial amendment and would require a public comment period, wherein the process would begin immediately. He said notice would be provided by legal notice in the local newspaper, posted on the City's website and placed on the City Council's agenda.

Motion to direct Staff to 1) reallocate funding from the current CDBG Economic Development Program (\$278,860.00) to fund Public Infrastructure Projects (sidewalks and ADA ramps) identified in the City's 2016 Capital Budget; 2) reserve the City's Capital Funds available from the reallocation of CDBG Funds as a financial resource for the Attorney General/Peoria LISC Initiative in the East Bluff; and 3) reallocate funding from the current HOME Down Payment Assistance Program (\$110,705.39) as a financial resource for the Attorney General/Peoria LISC Initiative in the East Bluff was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akesson, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Spain, Turner, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

(16-008) Communication from the City Manager and the Fire Chief with a Request to Approve a SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE for Two (2) Automatic Defibrillator's (AEDs) from PHYSIO CONTROL, in the Amount of \$56,871.30.

Council Member Turner moved to defer this matter to the January 26, 2016, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Spain.

Motion to defer until January 26, 2016, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akesson, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Spain, Turner, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

REGULAR BUSINESS ITEMS, with Recommendations as Outlined:

(16-017) Communication from the City Manager and the Community Development Director with a Request to Approve the Allocation of \$35,000.00 of CDBG ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDS to THE CHEF AND THE BAKER at 106 E. MCCLURE AVE. (Council District 3).

Council Member Riggerbach recognized the owners of the establishment, and he encouraged Council Members and the public to visit the business. He said it was a new landmark for the City and he expressed his excitement for the expansion of the business.

Council Member Riggerbach moved to approve the allocation of \$35,000.00 of CDBG Economic Development Funds to The Chef and the Baker at 106 E. McClure Avenue; seconded by Council Member Moore.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akeson, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Spain, Turner, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

(16-018) Communication from the City Manager with a Request to Commence the Process to Expand the Boundaries of the PEORIA URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE to Include Additional Vacant Land at JUNCTION CITY SHOPPING CENTER and the GATEWAY AT RIVER CITY DEVELOPMENT on ROMEO B. GARRETT AVENUE.

Council Member Jensen inquired what the total acreage of the property would be with the proposed addition.

Assistant City Manager Chris Setti said this item only added a few acres. He said the total square area of the property would be approximately 5.6 square miles. He noted that the allowable cap was 10 square miles. He said he would review and provide a follow-up regarding the exact acreage; however, he remarked that this would not bring the City anywhere close to the 10 square mile cap.

Council Member Riggerbach moved to approve the commencement of the process to expand the boundaries of the Peoria Urban Enterprise Zone to include additional vacant land at Junction City Shopping Center and the Gateway at River City Development on Romeo B. Garrett Avenue; seconded by Council Member Moore.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akeson, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Spain, Turner, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

(16-019) Communication from the City Manager with a Request to Approve the ANNUAL CITY AND COUNTY JOINT LEGISLATIVE AGENDA.

Council Member Johnson moved to approve the Annual City and County Joint Legislative Agenda; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akeson, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Spain, Turner, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

(16-020) Communication from City Council Member-At-Large Beth Akeson with a Request that the City Council Direct the City Manager to Extend the PUBLIC WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD Regarding the Proposed LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF) Land Conversion of Riverfront Park for the RIVER TRAIL PROJECT to February 29, 2016.

A handout was distributed to the City Council regarding a timeline of all actions taken on the River Trail development.

Council Member Akeson moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to those citizens who wished to comment on this item.

Hearing no objection, Mayor Ardis granted Privilege of the Floor to citizens who wished to speak on this item.

Ms. Karrie Alms, a citizen of Peoria, remarked on the need for additional time for public comment. She said not all the documents were made available online for public review prior to January 2016. She noted that the holidays and weather events greatly impeded the public's opportunity to acquire and review pertinent information. She said she had contacted the Illinois Department of Natural Resources who indicated to her that it would take their Department approximately two months to review all the information provided by the City. She said this project would not qualify for the Riverfront TIF Funds. She asked for the Council to approve the request to extend the public comment period.

Council Member Akeson said it was her intention to extend the public comment period in the spirit of being transparent and responsive to the constituents who had concerns about the project. She remarked that the Attorney General's Office had not responded to the City's response to their concerns. She said providing an additional 30 days would not derail this project.

Council Member Akeson moved to approve the extension of the public written comment period regarding the proposed Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) land conversion of Riverfront Park for the River Trail Project to February 29, 2016; seconded by Council Member Jensen.

Council Member Moore said she would not support the request for an extension for public comment. She remarked that the public had numerous occasions to comment on this project. She reviewed the handout and noted that the project dated back to 2008. She said the italic items on the handout indicated where the public had opportunities to comment. She remarked that moving forward with this project would give the City an opportunity for the IDNR to provide an official opinion.

She said there were still numerous hurdles to overcome with the development agreement and she asked the City Council to vote no on the extension.

Discussions were held about the relevance for additional public comment and various timelines were reviewed.

Assistant City Manager Setti said the IDNR would not review the matter until the application was submitted.

Council Member Akeson said it was reasonable to ask for more time, and she said the additional time sought could be negotiated.

Assistant City Manager Setti said granting more time could possibly delay the project, noting that construction generally began in the spring. He said April 29, 2015, was not IDNR's deadline, rather it was the City Council's deadline to move the project along. He said allowing additional public comment would delay the entire project. He said if the IDNR did not supply the City with a judgment on this matter, he would have to come back to the City Council with a request for an extension, assuming the developer wanted an extension. He said the redevelopment agreement required the City to make efforts to make the approval. He said the City could terminate the redevelopment agreement.

Discussions were held regarding the public hearing and the public comment section and how each related to one another.

Council Member Jensen requested the minutes from the public comment section be posted to the City's website in a timely manner for the public to review, and she said she would support the request for an extension for additional public comment.

Motion to approve the extension of the public written comment period regarding the proposed Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) land conversion of Riverfront Park for the River Trail Project to February 29, 2016, was DEFEATED by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akeson, Jensen – 2;

Nays: Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Riggerbach, Spain, Turner, Ruckriegel,
Mayor Ardis - 8.

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

(15-416) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel with a Request to APPROVE the SITE APPLICATION for a Class B (restaurant, 50% food) Liquor License with On-Site Consumption and Retail Sale of Alcohol at the HACIENDA EL MIRADOR, 5805 N. HUMBOLDT AVE., SUITE 1, Contingent Upon the Issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy, with a Recommendation from the Liquor Commission to Approve. (DISTRICT 3)

Council Member Jensen said she would abstain from voting on this matter in that her law firm represented one of the parties.

Council Member Riggerbach moved to approve the Site Application for a Class B (restaurant, 50% food) liquor license with on-site consumption and retail sale of alcohol at the Hacienda El Mirador, 5805 N. Humboldt Ave., Suite 1, contingent upon the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akeson, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Spain, Turner,
Mayor Ardis – 9;

Nays: None;

Abstention: Jensen – 1.

(15-165) COMMENTS Regarding the City's STRATEGIC PLAN.

City Manager Urich said, at the request of Council Member Akeson, a summary of the City Council's Strategic Plan was provided along with an update as to the progress of the goals. He said all Council Members should have a copy.

NEW BUSINESS**Debriefing with City Officials Regarding Recent Ice Storm**

City Manager Urich commented on the weather events the City encountered over the holidays. He said Staff met with Ameren to do an extensive debriefing to discuss the response to the storm and the need to improve communications. He said Ameren was asked to attend a February City Council Meeting to have a larger discussion in response to this specific storm. He said the City expected to encounter another winter storm event. He said the meeting with Ameren was productive and that all parties came away with the need of keeping lines of communication open. He said it was also agreed that if there was another event such as this, the City would activate its Emergency Operation Centers wherein Ameren would have a representative available. He said the importance of underground utility lines was also discussed along with the importance of safety and reliability.

Peoria Kids Fest

Council Member Moore announced that Peoria Kids Fest was scheduled for this Saturday, January 16, 2016, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Peoria Civic Center.

South Side Community United for Change Meeting

Council Member Moore announced the South Side Community United for Change would meet this Saturday, January 16, 2015, at 1:00 a.m. at the Lincoln Library. She encouraged the community and neighborhood associations to attend.

East Village Growth Cell Residential Program

Council Member Riggerbach announced that the East Village Growth Cell Residential Program was open for applications. He remarked that in March of 2011 the City established the East Village Growth Cell TIF, and as a part of that TIF, when funds reached a certain level, they would be made available for homeowners. He said there were currently grants available for residential homeowners.

Policy for Snow Events of Less than 2 Inches

In response to Council Member Riggerbach, Public Works Director Mike Rogers provided an overview of the Public Works Department's policy regarding snow events of less than 2". He said during the event, supervisors traveled throughout the City to measure the snow. He said if an event was less than 2 inches, then there would be no need for plowing residential areas. He remarked that safety was the Department's primary concern. He said citizens could call the Department at 309-494-8800 or use the PeoriaCares app to report a concern. He said the policy was available on the City's website wherein it clearly stated the City's process and procedures.

Recent Weather Events

Council Member Jensen commended the Public Works Staff and Assistant Public Works Director Sie Maroon on their efforts in the recent weather events, which ranged from tree debris removal, snow removal and sandbagging at the river. She said they had worked hard during the holidays and she thanked them for their efforts.

Tree Debris Removal and Icy Streets

Public Works Director Mike Rogers said Staff resumed addressing tree debris throughout the City. He said, during that process if Staff saw icy areas, there would be trucks out to address those areas.

Reimbursement from Recent Power Outage

Council Member Montelongo said anyone who wanted to submit a claim for losses from the recent power outage could do so by going to www.amerenillinois.com/claims or call 1-800-281-7085. He said it would take approximately 90 days to receive a response back from Ameren.

Recent Power Outage

Council Member Montelongo said a number of residents in the Fourth District had trees or limbs which fell that added to the power outage issue. He said the residents from that District wanted to meet and discuss the issue, and he remarked that a meeting would be held in February.

Appreciation to the Public Works Department

Council Member Ruckriegel said he received comments from citizens who wanted to express their appreciation to the Public Works Department for the various circumstances they had to work through.

Heritage Ensemble

Council Member Ruckriegel announced an upcoming opportunity to hear the Heritage Ensemble perform at a dinner and concert on Friday, February 26, at the Carver Center. He said dinner and the show was \$40.00 and the concert alone was \$20.00. He said the dinner would begin at 6:00 p.m. and the concert followed at 7:00 P.M. He encouraged everyone to purchase tickets and to attend.

Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration

Council Member Moore announced that Monday, January 18, 2016, there was the celebration of Martin Luther King's Birthday at the Peoria Civic Center would begin at 11:30 A.M. She said Mr. Ben Jealous was the guest speaker.

March from Garret Center to New Morning Star Church

Council Member Moore announced an assembly would be marching from the Garrett Center beginning at 1:30 p.m. to New Morning Star Church. She said Dr. Jamel Santa Cruze Bell, Interim President of Eureka College was the guest speaker. She invited all to attend.

CITIZENS' OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL/TOWN BOARD

Mr. Savino Sierra, a citizen of Peoria, remarked how ungrateful citizens were with the efforts of Ameren from the recent weather event.

Ms. Karrie Alms, a citizen of Peoria, remarked on the River Trail Project and the need for the Peoria Boat Club to have some property around their clubhouse. She remarked that it was the oldest boat club on the Illinois River, and she said one of the requirements of the club was to maintain a clubhouse. She said the club brought revenue to the City of Peoria. She asked the City Council to help the boat club retain their clubhouse.

Ms. Elaine Hopkins, a citizen of Peoria, remarked on the River Trail Project and voiced her concern of not allowing additional time for public comment.

Ms. Joyce Blumenshine, a citizen of Peoria, voiced her concern of not allowing additional time for public comment on the River Trail Project.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Consideration of a Motion to enter into EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to 2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; and 2(c)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06.

Council Member Johnson moved to enter into an Executive Session to Discuss 2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; and 2(c)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akesson, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Spain, Turner, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

ADJOURNMENT

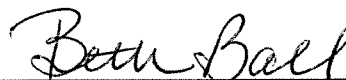
Council Member Johnson moved to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Moore.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akesson, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Spain, Turner, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: None.

The Regular City Council Meeting adjourned at 7:57 P.M.



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