



: OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS :

: OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS :

A Regular Meeting of the Joint City Council and Town Board of Peoria, Illinois, was held on June 14, 2022, at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall, Council Chambers (Room 400), 419 Fulton Street, with Mayor Ali presiding, and with proper notice having been posted.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call showed the following Council Members were present: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9. Absent: Cyr, Riggerbach – 2.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Ali requested a moment of silent prayer or reflection and then she led the pledge of allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.

Pride Month
 Juneteenth
 Peoria Symphony Orchestra 125th Gala

MINUTES

Council Member Oyler moved to approve the minutes of the City Council Meeting held on May 24, 2022, as printed; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9;

Nays: None.

PRESENTATIONS

(22-196) Communication from Mayor Ali with a Request to RECEIVE and FILE a PRESENTATION Regarding CURE VIOLENCE.

A handout with the presentation was provided to all Council Members.

Mayor Ali said this item was a follow up to a discussion on Item No. 22-167 from the City Council Meeting held on May 24, 2022. She said the Council did not have enough information at that time to make a decision on the Cure Violence Assessment and she invited Public Health Administrator Monica Hendrickson and Director of Epidemiology and Clinical Services Katy Endress from the Peoria City/County Health Department as well as Brent Decker, Chief

Program Officer for Cure Violence Global, who attended the meeting via telephone, to give a presentation on the Cure Violence Global (CVG). Mayor Ali completed her comments by stating everyone on the Council cared about reducing violence and the votes at the last meeting did not reflect a lack of care.

Public Health Administrator Hendrickson presented the CVG focus on gun violence as a public health crisis, the public health prevention pyramid, the evidenced-based approach used by the Cure Violence program, the Cure Violence Theory of Change Model, the fundamental shift towards public health related to violence, the global reach of the program, a summary of independent evaluations, key highlights of program results, the return on investment for the Cure Violence Global program, and the steps involved in implementing the program.

Director of Epidemiology and Clinical Services Katy Endress provided an overview of CVG program results, a background of the program, and the return on investment of the program.

Chief Program Officer Decker provided an overview of the assessment process for CVG which focused on working with community-based organizations to determine areas where violence was most acute, identifying those in the community most likely to be involved in violence, collaborating with community agencies to implement the program, recruiting staff to serve as violence interrupters and outreach workers, and making a determination about whether this program would fit with the Comprehensive Plan of the City.

In response to a question from Mayor Ali, Chief Program Officer Decker said it was not the intent of the program to replace or displace other programs. He discussed the training provided to staff and the way CVG filled a gap often left by other programs.

Discussions were held about the global efforts of the program and the amount of time each presenter worked with CVG. Further discussions were held about the potential economic benefits of program implementation, the hiring process, the required number of staff, overseeing of the hiring process, and the timing and nature of training and support provided by CVG to local staff involved with the program.

In response to a question from Council Member Oyler, Public Health Administrator Hendrickson discussed the funding policy of the Peoria City/County Health Department related to violence reduction.

Council Member Oyler expressed a concern about voting on Item No. 22-167 after just receiving the presented information. He asked if the Council Members would be provided information about the other program presentations received by the S-NET group, as he requested at the May 24, 2022, City Council meeting. City Manager Urich said requests for proposal for community-based violence initiatives could be requested and presented to Council for approval.

Mayor Ali stated CVG was the most recommended evidence-based program presented to S-NET. She said this was a community-based program that was needed because the police could not solve the problem alone.

Discussions were held about the opportunity of the Council to vet this and other similar programs, the reasoning behind the name change from Cease Fire to Cure Violence, and the qualification of gun violence as a public health issue. Further discussions were held about the importance of credibility in the community, identifying organizations that may become involved in the program, the process for screening staff, and the differences between Cure Violence and previous programs implemented by the City.

Continued discussions were held about the classification of violence as a public health issue, the public health model, resources utilized to implement CVG, the Don't Shoot Program previously implemented by the City, methods for identifying stakeholders, and the various components of the assessment process.

Mayor Ali confirmed only the CVG assessment was being considered at that time, and program implementation would require separate Council approval. She said the City planned to create a Request for Proposal (RFP) for CVG, as well as for the \$500,000.00 awarded to the City through American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds allocated for violence reduction efforts.

Discussions were held about the time needed to conduct the assessment, individuals who would be involved in the assessment, funding available for violence prevention programs, and the potential to receive other proposals after the assessment was completed.

Discussions were held regarding comparable cities that had implemented CVG, funds previously allocated for violence prevention, the Public Health Prevention Pyramid, the role of education in violence prevention, and mitigation strategies used by the City to address factors associated with violence. Council Member Velpula said he was hopeful to see a positive impact from the multi-pronged approaches already implemented by the City.

Council Member Jackson discussed the failure of previous programs and suggested the Council review the success of the CVG program in other cities. She said violence reduction required a comprehensive approach and many groups in the City were ready to do the work. She said the CVG program had more potential than previous programs and had the support of the Police Chief and several groups in Peoria.

Mayor Ali clarified the Council was not voting on program implementation, just the assessment.

Discussions were held about the potential role of the Peoria City/County Health Department with CVG, the focus on hiring people from the target communities, and selecting local program leaders.

Council Member Ruckriegel moved to grant privilege of the floor to citizen Jesse McGowan to speak about Cure Violence. Hearing no objection, Mayor Ali granted privilege of the floor to Jesse McGowan.

Jesse McGowan, a concerned citizen and Treasurer of the East Bluff Community Neighborhood Association, discussed his concerns with CVG, which included difficulties identifying high risk individuals and community stakeholders, hiring individuals with credibility in the target communities, police involvement reducing program credibility, and the value of using the \$25,000 for community programs rather than another assessment.

Council Member Allen moved to receive and file a presentation regarding Cure Violence; seconded by Council Member Jensen.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9;

Nays: None.

(22-192) Communication from the City Manager with a Request to RECEIVE and FILE a PRESENTATION by the ARTSPARTNERS.

Executive Director of ArtsPartners, Jenn Gordon, gave a presentation on The Arts in Central Illinois, which included an overview of the mission of ArtsPartners, economic impact of local art, the launching of an economic impact survey on local art, the impact of COVID, and the support needed to continue to have a thriving art community. She said Ignite Peoria was returning on Saturday, August 12, 2022, and it was free to the public and participants due to support from the City of Peoria. She also discussed the assistance ArtsPartners provided to artists in acquiring loans and grants during the pandemic, noting the funding was no longer available so the public needed to reengage with the art community and show support.

Mayor Ali thanked the presenter and asked Council Member Jensen if she had any comments to add. Council Member Jensen said the local arts community was a reason many people moved to Peoria. She thanked Executive Director Gordon for helping artists secure funding, and she encouraged the entire community to support the art community.

Council Member Jensen moved to receive and file a presentation by the ArtsPartners; seconded by Council Member Oyler.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9;

Nays: None.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OF PEORIA

(22-183) REQUEST from the Town Officials to APPROVE the MAY 2022 ACTUAL EXPENDITURES and to APPROVE the JUNE 2022 ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES for the Town of the City of Peoria.

Trustee Grayeb moved to approve the May 2022 actual expenditures and to approve the June 2022 anticipated expenditures for the Town of the City of Peoria; seconded by Trustee Velpula.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula,
Chairwoman Ali – 9;

Nays: None.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OF PEORIA

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

(22-184) Communication from the Mayor and Corporation Counsel with a Request to APPROVE the DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY.

(22-185) Communication from the City Manager and Interim Corporation Counsel with a Request to APPROVE the REAL ESTATE SALE AGREEMENT with DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION for the Purchase of 837 SW WASHINGTON STREET, Peoria, Illinois. (Council District 1)

- (22-186) **Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to APPROVE the Low BID from KRUMHOLZ BROTHERS LANDSCAPING, INC., in the Amount of \$136,190.00, and Award a CONTRACT for the SPRINGDALE CREEK STREAMBANK STABILIZATION, with an Additional Authorization of \$13,619.00 (10%) for Contingencies, for a Total Amount of \$149,809.00. (Council District 3)**
- (22-187) **Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to APPROVE VENDORS for 2022 STREET MAINTENANCE MATERIALS, to Secure Set Pricing for the Current Maintenance Season Rather than Market Pricing. (All Council Districts)**
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- (22-188) **Communication from the City Manager and Interim Corporation Counsel with a Request to APPROVE a RESOLUTION Authorizing Intervention in a Pending PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT APPEAL, Before the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board (BEST BUY #207, 5001 N. BIG HOLLOW ROAD, PEORIA, IL).**
**
- (22-189) **Communication from the City Manager, Director of Public Works, and Interim Corporation Counsel with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending CHAPTER 31 of the CODE of the City of Peoria, to Make a Technical Correction Relating to Exclusions from the STORMWATER UTILITY FEE.**

- (22-190) **Communication from the City Manager and Director of Community Development with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending Appendix A, the Unified Development Code, Relating to a Technical Correction to VARIATIONS WITHIN FORM DISTRICTS, Due to a Codification Error.**

- (22-191) **Communication from the City Manager and Director of Human Resources with a Request for the Following:**
- A. APPROVE Existing Property Insurance Coverages with Liberty Mutual Insurance through ALLIANT INSURANCE SERVICES INC., at a One-Year Cost of \$268,156.00, Inclusive of Fees; and,**
 - B. ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 17,980 Amending the City of Peoria 2022-2023 BIENNIAL BUDGET Relating to the Payment of Insurance Premiums, in the Amount of \$213,317.00.**

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

Council Member Kelly requested Item Nos. 22-187, 22-188, and 22-189 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Grayeb requested Item No. 22-190 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

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

Item Nos. 22-184 through 22-191 (except Item Nos. 22-187, 22-188, 22-189, and 22-190, which were removed for further discussion) were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9;

Nays: None.

(22-187) **Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to APPROVE VENDORS for 2022 STREET MAINTENANCE MATERIALS, to Secure Set Pricing for the Current Maintenance Season Rather than Market Pricing. (All Council Districts)**
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A handout with a revised Council Communication was provided to all Council Members.

Council Member Ruckriegel moved to approve vendors for 2022 street maintenance materials, to secure set pricing for the current maintenance season rather than market pricing; seconded by Council Member Allen.

Approved by roll call vote:

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9;

Nays: None.

(22-188) **Communication from the City Manager and Interim Corporation Counsel with a Request to APPROVE a RESOLUTION Authorizing Intervention in a Pending PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT APPEAL, Before the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board (BEST BUY #207, 5001 N. BIG HOLLOW ROAD, PEORIA, IL).**
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Council Member Kelly stated he was not opposed to this item but he discussed his frustration with the way vacant property taxes were assessed. He provided examples of undeveloped properties with low assessed values in comparison to similar developed properties, noting the cost to the City.

At the end of his comments, Council Member Kelly moved to approve a Resolution authorizing intervention in a pending property tax assessment appeal, before the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board; seconded by Council Member Velpula.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-188 was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9;

Nays: None.

(22-189) **Communication from the City Manager, Director of Public Works, and Interim Corporation Counsel with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE to Amend CHAPTER 31 of the CODE of the City of Peoria, to Make a Technical Correction Relating to Exclusions from the STORMWATER UTILITY FEE.**

A handout with an updated Ordinance was provided to all Council Members.

Council Member Ruckriegel moved to adopt an Ordinance to amend Chapter 31 of the Code of the City of Peoria, to make a technical correction relating to exclusions from the Stormwater Utility Fee; seconded by Council Member Allen.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,979 amending Chapter 31 of the Code of the City of Peoria, to make a technical correction relating to exclusions from the Stormwater Utility Fee was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9;

Nays: None.

(22-190)

Communication from the City Manager and Director of Community Development with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending Appendix A, the Unified Development Code, Relating to a Technical Correction to VARIATIONS WITHIN FORM DISTRICTS, Due to a Codification Error.

Assistant Director of Community Development Leah Allison explained the Ordinance previously approved by Council was published in MuniCode incorrectly. She said since the error was not identified right away, the Code correction had to be approved by Council.

Discussions were held about the Code wording discrepancy and the differences between the Zoning variance and special use processes.

Council Member Grayeb said he would not support this item due to his concern of allowing a non-elected board to make decisions for the City and for the Council to lose flexibility in the future.

At the end of his comments, Council Member Grayeb moved to deny an Ordinance amending Appendix A, the Unified Development Code, relating to a technical correction to variations within Form Districts, due to a codification error. There was no second; the motion was not considered.

Discussions were held about the origin of the Ordinance and the specific language that needed to be corrected.

In response to Council Member Jensen, Assistant Director Allison confirmed the intent of this Ordinance was to correct a codification error as two sentences conflicted.

Further discussions were held about the Zoning Variance process and the intent of the original Ordinance to create a fair and consistent method for the entire City.

Council Member Jensen moved to adopt an Ordinance amending Appendix A, the Unified Development Code, relating to a technical correction to variations within form districts, due to a codification error; seconded by Council Member Kelly.

Council Member Oyler stated he supported this item but did not disagree with Council Member Grayeb's concerns, and he recommended an item could be brought back for the Council to discuss those concerns at a subsequent City Council Meeting.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,981 was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 8;

Nays: Grayeb - 1.

REGULAR BUSINESS ITEMS, with Recommendations as Outlined:

(22-193) Communication from the City Manager and Chief Information Officer with a Request for the Following:

- A. APPROVE and Authorize the Execution of a CONTRACT with DELTAWRX, in the Total Amount of \$183,222.00, with \$86,206.00 to be paid by ETSB, to Administer CAD/RMS Consulting Services.**
- B. ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending the City of Peoria 2022 – 2023 BIENNIAL BUDGET, Relating to the Use of Capital Fund Fund Balance in the Amount of \$183,222.00 for CAD/RMS Consulting Services.**

City Manager Urich provided an overview of the item and explained the importance of the CAD/RMS systems.

Emergency Communications Center (ECC) Director Brandon Blayney explained how CAD/RMS was the foundation of every emergency call for fire, emergency medical, and police. He said the Fire Department was not using the current system due to deficiencies, and the goal was to incorporate every department into the same system for efficiency.

Council Member Oyler moved to approve and authorize the execution of a contract with DELTAWRX, in the total amount of \$183,222.00, with \$86,206.00 to be paid by ETSB, to administer CAD/RMS Consulting Services; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9;
Nays: None.

Council Member Grayeb moved to adopt an Ordinance amending the City of Peoria 2022 – 2023 Biennial Budget, relating to the use of Capital Fund fund balance in the amount of \$183,222.00 for CAD/RMS Consulting Services; seconded by Council Member Jackson.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,982 was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9;
Nays: None.

(22-194) Communication from the City Manager with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending the City of Peoria 2022-2023 BIENNIAL BUDGET to Include \$45,000.00 for a MAILING to Municipal Aggregation Customers.

City Manager Urich said the City was unable to secure an energy contract and citizens would be shifted to Ameren published rates for the next year. He said citizens could go to pluginillinois.org to explore other rates, but he said they were currently higher than the Ameren published rate. He said approval of this item would allow the City to send a mailer to the 38,500 households for which the City purchased energy to explain their options, at a cost of \$45,000.00.

Council Member Jensen said it was a good idea to mail the notices as soon as possible and asked for an explanation for the City failing to secure a lower energy rate. City Manager Urich explained the timing of the contract, issues impacting energy prices that created uncertainty in the energy market, and Illinois Municipal Aggregation Law impacting the ability to acquire a new

contract at that time. He said the mailer would contain information about where to find other rates, but reiterated they were all higher than the Ameren rate at that time.

Council Member Jensen moved to adopt an Ordinance amending the City of Peoria 2022-2023 Biennial Budget to include \$45,000.00 for a mailing to Municipal Aggregation customers; seconded by Council Member Allen.

Discussions were held about changes in local electricity generation.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,983 amending the City of Peoria 2022-2023 Biennial Budget to include \$45,000.00 for a mailing to Municipal Aggregation customers was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9;
Nays: None.

(22-195) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Community Development to RECEIVE and FILE a REPORT BACK Related to the City of Peoria Land Bank and Purchasing Properties from the Peoria County TRUSTEE AUCTION.

Director of Community Development Joe Dulin provided an overview of the Report Back requested by Council Member Kelly at the May 10, 2022, City Council meeting, which included Land Bank history and responsibilities, Peoria County Trustee Land Holding and Auction, City Bank and Peoria County Trustee Collaboration, and City Staff recommendations. He discussed the work of the Land Bank, the benefit of having a locally rather than regionally controlled Land Bank, issues with tax law in Illinois related to purchasing property on tax liens, the importance of a good relationship with the County Treasurer, and the importance of vetting property purchasers to avoid future City issues or liabilities. He said the Land Bank currently offered the Down Payment Assistance Program for qualified census tracts and said to go to appreciatepeoria.com for more information. Director Dulin emphasized the importance of homeownership in older neighborhoods.

Council Member Kelly thanked Director Dulin for the excellent Report and said he and Director Dulin had been meeting with a committee of landlords almost weekly, noting another meeting was scheduled for the following week in order to address rental property concerns in the City. He said he believed it would help improve rental conditions and he invited Council Members to attend.

Council Member Kelly moved to receive and file a Report Back related to the City of Peoria Land Bank and purchasing properties from the Peoria County Trustee Auction; seconded by Council Member Jackson.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9;
Nays: None.

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

(22-167) Request by Council Member Kelly for the Following:

- A. REQUEST to RECONSIDER Item No. 22-167.**
- B. Communication from the City Manager and Chief of Police with a Request to APPROVE \$25,000.00 for a CURE VIOLENCE ASSESSMENT, to be Paid from the AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS.**

City Clerk Stefanie Tarr clarified the motion to reconsider and the second would have to come from the prevailing side of the vote that occurred at the May 24, 2022, City Council Meeting.

Council Member Kelly moved to reconsider Item No. 22-167; seconded by Council Member Velpula.

Council Member Oyler said he agreed with many of the concerns about this program expressed by Jessie McGowan during the Presentation (22-196). He said he would not vote to reconsider this item because he did not have enough information, and the Council did not receive the information requested about all programs presented to S-NET. He said crime prevention was a critical issue that needed to be quickly addressed, but he said making a decision without adequate information would be inappropriate. He requested a Policy Session to review alternative violence reduction options which would allow the Council to make an educated decision.

After Council Member Kelly asked if the motion to reconsider Item No. 22-167 could be deferred, Interim Corporation Counsel Chrissie Kapustka explained the motion to reconsider could only occur at the next subsequent meeting after the Item was originally considered, and therefore could not be deferred.

Motion to reconsider Item No. 22-167 was approved by roll call vote.
Yeas: Allen, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 7;
Nays: Grayeb, Oyler - 2.

Council Member Kelly moved to defer the request to approve \$25,000.00 for a Cure Violence Assessment, to be paid from the American Rescue Plan Fiscal Recovery Funds, to the June 28, 2022, City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Jackson.

Council Member Grayeb asked for information about alternative programs to consider in place of, or in addition to, Cure Violence. Mayor Ali stated most of the alternative programs were not evidence-based, but she said she would send a Report Back to Council Members.

Council Member Grayeb discussed requests he received from the community to focus efforts on violence prevention with kids, implement a more strategic approach, and to stop 'catch and release'. He said the catch and release method was destroying the City, and despite claims to the contrary, he said law enforcement could solve the violence problem. He agreed that a mix of approaches was needed, but he could not support the base assumptions of human behavior made by CVG. He asked for S-NET to operate transparently, citing concerns on operating out of public view. Council Member Grayeb said he was not convinced the CVG program would be effective for the City of Peoria, and he would like to review alternative plans with community

support. He said Council could defer this item, but he said he would vote according to his outlined concerns.

Council Member Kelly said this was the first time the Council had been apprised of this program as well as the first time the public had been able to review it. He said the increased violence issue was important, and he concurred with Council Member Grayeb about exploring other programs. He said the Council needed time to review the data and the public needed an opportunity to respond, which was why he moved to reconsider this item.

Motion to defer the request to approve \$25,000.00 for a Cure Violence Assessment, to be paid from the American Rescue Plan Fiscal Recovery Funds, to the June 28, 2022, City Council Meeting was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9;
Nays: None.

(22-174) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Community Development with a Request to Concur with the Recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission and Staff to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Approving a SPECIAL USE in a Class R-2 (Single-Family Residential) District, for a SHORT-TERM RENTAL, for the Property Located at 1506 W. TETON DRIVE (Parcel Identification No. 18-08-376-001), Peoria, IL. (Council District 4)

Assistant Director of Community Development Leah Allison said this item had been deferred to allow Council Member Allen to speak to neighbors and address any issues they had regarding the Special Use.

Council Member Allen moved to grant privilege of the floor to Kathy Matlock, a citizen of the subdivision where the proposed Short-Term Rental was located.

Hearing no objection, Mayor Ali granted privilege of the floor to Kathy Matlock.

Kathy Matlock, a concerned citizen, stated her concerns over the proposed short-term rental, including how it did not fit in the neighborhood, and she was concerned with her children surrounded by people they did not know. She said a survey had been conducted and results showed a majority of the neighborhood did not want a Short-Term Rental in their neighborhood.

Council Member Oyler moved to adopt an Ordinance approving a Special Use in a Class R-2 (Single-Family Residential) District, for a Short-Term Rental, for the property located at 1506 W. Teton Drive; seconded by Council Member Kelly.

Council Member Jensen asked the Council to listen to the people who lived in the neighborhood and reminded Council they had a Special Use process for Short-Term Rentals. She concluded by saying she would not vote for this item.

Council Member Oyler said it was appropriate for Council Members to vote consistently regarding Short-Term Rental applications to avoid discrimination.

Council Member Jackson said the Council agreed to consider Short-Term Rental applications on a case-by-case basis, and that was her intention. She said she respected the wishes of those who lived in the neighborhood and would not support this Special Use.

Council Member Kelly said this property had already been operating as a Short-Term Rental without issues, and the owner was working to bring the rental into compliance, so he said he was inclined to approve it. He stressed the importance of implementing and following established rules.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,984 approving a Special Use in a Class R-2 (Single-Family Residential) District, for a Short-Term Rental, for the property located at 1506 W. Teton Drive was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 6;

Nays: Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen - 3.

(22-175) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Community Development with a Request to Concur with the Recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission and Staff to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Approving a SPECIAL USE in a Class R-4 (Single-Family Residential) District, for a SHORT-TERM RENTAL for the Property Located at 1709 W. SHERMAN AVE (Parcel Identification No. 18-08-151-026) Peoria, IL. (Council District 1)

Director of Community Development Joe Dulin requested the Council defer this item to the July 19, 2022, City Council Meeting, because the application was originally submitted for a single residence but there may be more than one unit in the building and would need to be returned the Planning and Zoning Commission for amended application.

Council Member Jensen moved to defer the item to the July 19, 2022, City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Motion to defer the Item to the July 19, 2022, City Council meeting was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9;

Nays: None.

NEW BUSINESS

Job Opening for S-NET

Council Member Oyler said there was a job posting, identified as 2022D-10, for an S-NET Manager and he requested information about this position. He expressed concern for hiring staff for a committee without oversight by the Council. Mayor Ali said an S-NET presentation could be added to the June 28, 2022, City Council Agenda to provide additional information. City Manager Urich stated the S-NET Manager position was approved by Council in the 2022-2023 Biennial Budget.

Juneteenth

Council Member Allen said the Peoria Juneteenth Fest would be held at the Carver Center on Saturday, June 18, 2022, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. He said there would be vendors, food, and speakers presenting in honor of Juneteenth.

WTVP and Peoria Historical Society

Council Member Ruckriegel said it was Flag Day, and at WTVP and the Peoria Historical Society there would be an exhibit on flags open to the public for a couple of weeks, and he recommended everyone visit the exhibit.

Economic Development Funds

Council Member Velpula requested a Report Back on allocated Economic Development funds, including where they went and what they accomplished.

CITIZENS' OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL/TOWN BOARD

Hearing no objection, Mayor Ali granted privilege of the floor to those citizens wishing to address the City Council/Town Board.

Shontah Means, a concerned citizen, asked the Chief of Police if he knew the location of Alexis, if he needed help in his search, and who he would accept help from.

Dan Walther, candidate for District 2 School Board, discussed the need for better communication between the City Council and the Peoria Public School Board. He said each body shared similar concerns and could work together to improve student safety.

Kristen Meierkord, President of the East Bluff Community Neighborhood Association, said she had concerns about inaccuracies during the discussion about the Cure Violence Program. She said the funding did not come from taxpayers, that it was grant money from American Rescue Funds earmarked for gun violence reduction. She stated her support of labeling gun violence as a public health issue.

Sincere Williams, a concerned citizen, stated his support for the Cure Violence assessment. He said Police were called after a crime was committed, and this program was a proven preventative measure to be combined with community resources that should work in the City of Peoria. He said the CVG program could identify and address other needs in the community to reduce community violence and allow community leaders to focus on other emerging issues.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was determined there was no need for an Executive Session at this time.

Council Member Allen moved to adjourn the City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Jackson.

Motion to adjourn was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 9;

Nays: None.

The Regular City Council Meeting was adjourned at 9:23 P.M.



Stefanie Tarr, RMC, CMC, City Clerk
City of Peoria, Illinois