

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

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of Peoria, Illinois, was held February 14, 2017, at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall, Council Chambers (Room 400), 419 Fulton Street, with Mayor Jim Ardis presiding, and with proper notice having been posted.

ROLL CALL

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

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PRESENTATION TO SENATOR WEAVER FOR HIS SERVICE ON THE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Ardis presented the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION
CHUCK WEAVER

WHEREAS, Chuck Weaver has served as Council Member for the City of Peoria, Illinois, from May 2011 until October 2015, and this year brings to an end four years of dedicated service by Chuck Weaver to the City of Peoria, during which he has given freely of his time in an unselfish effort and has demonstrated the highest ideals of public service by his dedication; and

WHEREAS, Chuck Weaver, by his many years of efficient service as Council Member representing the residents of Peoria, has served as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals and the GIS Policy Committee, among others, and has well-earned the endless gratitude of the citizens of Peoria;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council, on behalf of its members, the officials and employees of the City of Peoria, and the citizens of the community, do hereby express to Chuck Weaver, sincere and profound appreciation and thanks for his years of dedicated service as a Peoria City Council Member.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Honorable Chuck Weaver be presented this resolution, and this resolution be spread upon the permanent records of the City of Peoria, Illinois, attested to by the City Clerk.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, 14th day of February, 2017 A.D.

/s/ Mayor Jim E. Ardis

/s/ Council Member Jim Montelongo

/s/ Council Member Beth Akeson

/s/ Council Member Denise Moore

/s/ Council Member Tim Riggerbach

/s/ Council Member Charles V. Grayeb

/s/ Council Member Beth Jensen

/s/ Council Member Sid P. Ruckriegel

/s/ Council Member W. Eric Turner

/s/ Council Member Casey Johnson

ATTEST:

/s/ Beth Ball
City Clerk

EXAMINED AND APPROVED:

/s/ Donald Leist
Corporation Counsel

Council Member Weaver expressed his appreciation for the recognition. He recognized Council Member Turner and their joint efforts in holding monthly meetings with citizens at City Hall in order to gather citizen input and to better serve the community. He said it was an honor to work with the City of Peoria, and he commented on the rewards for serving his community.

MINUTES

Council Member Newlin moved to approve the minutes of the Joint City Council and Town Board Meeting held on January 24, 2017, as printed; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING NOTICE TO TOWNSHIP ELECTORS

Mayor Ardis announced, pursuant to Public Act 095-0761, any citizen who wishes to have an item considered on the Agenda at the Annual Town Meeting to be held Tuesday, April 25, 2017, at 6:00 P.M., is required to bring a specific request signed by 15 or more electors to the Clerk no later than March 1, 2016. He continued by saying that any group of registered voters may request an advisory question of public policy for consideration by the electors at the annual meeting by giving written notice of the specific advisory question to the Township Clerk in the same manner as required for an agenda item under subsection (b) of Section 30-10 of the Township Code.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OF PEORIA

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

- (17-035) * **Communication from the City Manager and the Community Development Director with a Request to APPROVE \$15,000.00 from the 2016 COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PLAN (CIP) Neighborhood Programs Project to Rebuilding Together Peoria for Housing Rehabilitation Projects.**

- (17-036) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel with a Request to APPROVE the Following Dates for Scheduled Events Sponsored by PEORIA AREA COMMUNITY EVENTS, INC. (P.A.C.E.), Subject to Their Filing the Necessary Permits and Approval as Required by the City Code:
- Steamboat Festival - Riverfront Festival Park - June 15 through 17, 2017
 - Taste of Peoria - Riverfront Festival Park - August 9, 2017
 - Labor Day Picnic - Riverfront Festival Park - September 4, 2017
- (17-037) Communication from the City Manager with a Request to APPROVE a FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM Grant for UNION DEPOT, LLC at 805 SW ADAMS ST, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$5,000.00. (Council District 1)
- (17-038) Communication from the City Manager and Chief of Police with a Request to APPROVE the PURCHASE of Twenty-Five (25) BCM Reece 14 KMR-A Carbine Rifles from BRAVO COMPANY (BCM), in the Amount of \$29,125.00.
**
- (17-039) Communication from the City Manager and the Fire Chief with a Request to APPROVE a SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE of One (1) Engine Pumper from BANNER FIRE EQUIPMENT COMPANY (E-ONE), in the Amount of \$456,389.00.

- (17-040) Communication from the City Manager and ECC Manager with a Request to PURCHASE a Replacement Fire Station Alerting System from LOCUTION SYSTEMS, INC., in the amount of \$294,286.00, and APPLICATIONS DATA SYSTEMS, INC. (ADSi), in the amount of \$20,000.00.

- (17-041) Communication from the City Manager and the Director of Public Works with a Request to ACCEPT the Low Bid of TSI COMMERCIAL FLOOR COVERING, in the Amount of \$50,066.00, and Award a CONTRACT for the Carpet Replacement at GATEWAY BUILDING. (Council District 1)

- (17-042) Communication from the City Manager with a Request to Commence the Process to Expand the Boundaries of the PEORIA URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE to Include NORTHWOODS MALL.

- (17-043) Communication from the City Manager and Community Development Director with a Request to APPROVE a CONTRACT with JIMAX for Demolition of Residential Properties as the Primary Contractor and RIVER CITY DEMOLITION as a Backup Contractor.

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(17-044)

Communication from the City Manager, Chief of Police, and Finance Director/Comptroller with a Request for the Following:

- A. ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending the City of Peoria 2017 AMENDED ANNUAL BUDGET Relating to the Acceptance of a Grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) Partnerships to Reduce Violent Crime Program as Part of the Edward Byrne Memorial JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG), in the Amount of \$176,524.00, and**
- B. APPROVE the Expenditure of ICJIA GRANT FUNDS to the University of Illinois-Chicago for Crime Analysis Research, in the Amount of \$171,570.44.**

(17-045)

Communication from the City Manager and the Equal Opportunity Manager with a Request to ADOPT ORDINANCE no. 17,439 Amending Ordinance 10,190 and Ordinance 11,789 Concerning Changing the Name of the MAYOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE DISABLED (MACD) to MAYOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES (MACCD).

(17-046)

APPOINTMENT by Mayor Ardis to the FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING COMMISSION with a Request to Concur:

LaRon Jones (Voting) - Term Expiration 6/30/2017

(17-047)

APPOINTMENT by MAYOR ARDIS to the PEORIA/PEKIN URBANIZED AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (PPUATS) TECHNICAL COMMITTEE, with Request to Concur:

Assistant Director of Public Works/City Engineer Bill Lewis (Voting)

(17-048)

APPOINTMENT by Mayor Ardis to the PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES with a Request to Concur:

Tiffanie Duncan (Voting) - Term Expiration 6/30/2018

(17-049)

APPOINTMENT by Mayor Ardis to the GREATER PEORIA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES with a Request to Concur:

Jennifer Lee (Voting) - Term Expiration 6/30/2017

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

Council Member Turner requested Item Nos. 17-043 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Moore requested Item Nos. 17-041 and 17-044 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Montelongo requested Item No. 17-042 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Jensen requested Item Nos. 17-035 and 17-038 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Grayeb requested Item No. 18-040, but later changed it to 17-039 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

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

Item Nos. 17-035 through 17-049 (excluding Item Nos. 17-035, 17-038 through 17-044, , which were removed for further discussion) were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

(17-035) **Communication from the City Manager and the Community Development**
* **Director with a Request to APPROVE \$15,000.00 from the 2016**
 COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PLAN (CIP) Neighborhood Programs Project to
 Rebuilding Together Peoria for Housing Rehabilitation Projects.

Council Member Jensen requested a comparison from the current amount to amounts previously allotted and she asked the reason why this money was being allotted to this project.

Community Development Director Black said the City Council allocated \$15,000.00 in 2016, but over the last 20 years that amount had gone as high as \$50,000.00 to \$60,000.00. He stated the organization had requested \$15,000.00 and he provided an overview on how it was determined which homes were chosen to utilize the funds and in what Districts. He provided a breakdown of homes receiving assistance from the program over the last 23 years and by District.

Council Member Moore remarked on the success of the organization and she stated that she would support this item. She asked Director Black if the City kept track of the homes that received assistance.

Director Black said the City kept track of the home it provided assistance to that dated back several years.

Council Member Moore moved to approve \$15,000.00 from the 2016 Community Investment Plan (CIP) Neighborhood Programs Project to Rebuilding Together Peoria for Housing Rehabilitation Projects; seconded by Council Member Jensen.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

- (17-038)** **Communication from the City Manager and Chief of Police with a Request to APPROVE the PURCHASE of Twenty-Five (25) BCM Reece 14 KMR-A Carbine Rifles from BRAVO COMPANY (BCM), in the Amount of \$29,125.00.**
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Council Member Jensen inquired as to how these weapons differed from what was typically carried by Police Officers.

Captain Todd Green provided an overview of the proposal to purchase additional weapons. He said before a Police Officer could carry these types of rifles they would be required to be certified or recertified. He provided an explanation of how these weapons varied from the ones currently being carried and he commented that it was the trend in law enforcement in comparable communities to carry these types of weapons.

Council Member Grayeb moved to approve the purchase of twenty-five (25) BCM Reece 14 KMR-A Carbine Rifles from Bravo Company (BCM), in the amount of \$29,125.00; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

- (17-039)** **Communication from the City Manager and the Fire Chief with a Request to APPROVE a SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE of One (1) Engine Pumper from BANNER FIRE EQUIPMENT COMPANY (E-ONE), in the Amount of \$456,389.00.**

Council Member Grayeb moved to reconsider Item No. 17-039 because it was accidentally approved on the Consent Agenda; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Motion to reconsider was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

Council Member Grayeb requested clarification for the expenditure.

Fire Chief Chuck Lauss said this purchase meant that the Department was purchasing a fire engine from a manufacturer wherein there would be no need to go to any other vendor for repairs or warranties. He said this company would handle every aspect of the purchase. He said the City put out a competitive bid wherein Banner had the winning bid in 2016. He stated that this purchase was a "tag-on" to the 2016 bid because Banner was able to keep the 2016 bid wherein no other company was able to do so. He provided an overview of the new safety features offered on the new engine. He said the Fire Department had a strategic plan regarding a replacement policy in order to create consistency in the budgetary process. He said this plan was put into place by direction of the City Manager.

Council Member Grayeb expressed his appreciation to Fire Chief Lauss for the information, and he moved to approve a sole source purchase of one (1) engine pumper from Banner Fire Equipment Company (E-One), in the amount of \$456,389.00; seconded by Council Member Johnson.

Motion to approve a sole source purchase of one (1) engine pumper from Banner Fire Equipment Company (E-One), in the amount of \$456,389.00, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

(17-040) Communication from the City Manager and ECC Manager with a Request to PURCHASE a Replacement Fire Station Alerting System from LOCUTION SYSTEMS, INC., in the amount of \$294,286.00, and APPLICATIONS DATA SYSTEMS, INC. (ADSi), in the amount of \$20,000.00.

Council Member Grayeb stated he had pulled this item off the Consent Agenda in error, and he moved to approve the purchase of a replacement fire station alerting system from Locution Systems, Inc., in the amount of \$294,286.00, and Applications Data Systems, Inc. (ADSi), in the amount of \$20,000.000; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

(17-041) Communication from the City Manager and the Director of Public Works with a Request to ACCEPT the Low Bid of TSI COMMERCIAL FLOOR COVERING, in the Amount of \$50,066.00, and Award a CONTRACT for the Carpet Replacement at GATEWAY BUILDING. (Council District 1)

Council Member Moore moved to defer this item to the February 28, 2017, Regular City Council meeting; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Motion to defer to the February 28, 2017, Regular City Council meeting was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

(17-042) Communication from the City Manager with a Request to Commence the Process to Expand the Boundaries of the PEORIA URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE to Include NORTHWOODS MALL.

Council Member Montelongo said in the last year the businesses within the vicinity of Northwoods Mall, Westlake Shopping Center and Glen Hollow created a business round table to discuss how to grow businesses within that area. He said it was their hope to spur more economic development and he provided an overview of the Enterprise Zone and how it would help the area identified.

At the conclusion of his comments, Council Member Montelongo moved to approve the expansion of the boundaries of the Peoria Urban Enterprise Zone to include Northwoods Mall; seconded by Council Member Moore.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

(17-043) **Communication from the City Manager and Community Development Director with a Request to APPROVE a CONTRACT with JIMAX for Demolition of Residential Properties as the Primary Contractor and RIVER CITY DEMOLITION as a Backup Contractor.**

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Council Member Turner expressed a concern regarding the bidding process noting that a constituent had come to him with some concerns in this matter.

Council Member Turner moved to grant Privilege of the Floor be granted to Mr. Walt Deemie of River City Demolition.

Hearing no objection, Mayor Ardis granted Privilege of the Floor to Mr. Walt Deemie of River City Demolition who wished to speak on this item.

Mr. Walt Deemie of River City Demolition expressed a concern regarding the City's bidding process in this matter. He stated that he had been in business for 35 years and he continuously received a lower score than another business who had not been around as long. He stated he was the lowest bidder yet his company continued to be outscored in the process, and he expressed a concerned regarding the scoring system.

At the request of Council Member Moore, Assistant Community Development Director Joe Dulin provided an overview of the scoring system. He provided a breakdown and a comparison of the bids between Jimax and River City.

In response to Council Member Jensen, Assistant Director Dulin provided statistics for Jimax and River City regarding minority and women participation.

In response to Council Member Turner, Assistant Director Dulin said consideration was given to the amount of machinery each company owned. He said the City had contracted with Jimax for the last three years and there had never been equipment issues; but, he said that was the reason the City had a backup contractor, and he stated that River City was the backup contractor for 2016.

Council Member Turner moved to approve a contract with Jimax for demolition of residential properties as the primary contractor and River City Demolition as a backup contractor; seconded by Council Member Jensen.

Discussions continued regarding the opportunities provided River City, and Council Member Moore remarked on the difficulties of scoring a company on approach when that company was not provided an opportunity as a primary contractor.

Motion to approve a contract with Jimax for demolition of residential properties as the primary contractor and River City Demolition as a backup contractor was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

(17-044)

Communication from the City Manager, Chief of Police, and Finance Director/Comptroller with a Request for the Following:

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- A. ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending the City of Peoria 2017 AMENDED ANNUAL BUDGET Relating to the Acceptance of a Grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) Partnerships to Reduce Violent Crime Program as Part of the Edward Byrne Memorial JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG), in the Amount of \$176,524.00, and**
- B. APPROVE the Expenditure of ICJIA GRANT FUNDS to the University of Illinois-Chicago for Crime Analysis Research, in the Amount of \$171,570.44.**

Council Member Moore moved to adopt an Ordinance amending the City of Peoria 2017 Amended Annual Budget relating to the acceptance of a Grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) Partnerships to Reduce Violent Crime Program as part of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG), in the amount of \$176,524.00; seconded by Council Member Turner.

In response to Council Member Moore, Ms. Katie Johnston, Financial Analyst for the Peoria Police Department, said this project was an opportunity to create a systematic approach to address the shootings in the City with the ultimate goal of eliminating shootings, which was the purpose of focused deterrence. She provided a definition of under-resourced neighborhoods and she noted a goal was to address the lack of employment opportunities and to collaborate with other programs in order to enhance each program's strength.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,440 amending the City of Peoria 2017 Amended Annual Budget relating to the acceptance of a Grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) Partnerships to Reduce Violent Crime Program as part of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG), in the amount of \$176,524.00, was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

Council Member Moore moved to approve the expenditure of ICJIA Grant Funds to the University of Illinois-Chicago for Crime Analysis Research, in the amount of \$171,570.44; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

FIRST READINGS

- (17-050) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel with a Request for a FIRST READING of an ORDINANCE Amending CHAPTER 3 of the CODE of the City of Peoria Section 3-9 Pertaining to the PRESENCE OF UNDER-AGED PERSONS UPON LICENSED PREMISES.**

Corporation Counsel Leist provided a brief summary of the Ordinance noting that this proposed amendment would allow persons under the age of 21 to enter and remain in any licensed premises, including taverns, for a private event such as a wedding. He said the private event would be subject to the approval of the Liquor Commissioner.

Council Member Turner moved to receive and file the first reading of an Ordinance amending Chapter 3 of the Code of the City of Peoria Section 3-9 pertaining to the presence of under-aged persons upon licensed premises; seconded by Council Member Moore.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

CLERK'S NOTE: Item No. 17-050 will be placed on the February 28, 2017, Regular City Council Agenda.

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

- (16-289) A. REQUEST TO REMOVE Item No. 16-289 from the TABLE; and**
- B. Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel with a Request to APPROVE the SITE APPLICATION for a Class A (Tavern) Liquor License with a Subclass 1A (2:00 A.M. Hours) for CASA DE ARTE, LLC, 306 PECAN, Contingent Upon the Issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy, with a Recommendation from the Liquor Commission to Approve. (Council District 1)**

Council Member Moore moved to remove Item No. 16-289 a communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel with a request to approve the Site Application for a Class A (Tavern) Liquor License with a Subclass 1A (2:00 A.M. Hours) for Casa De Arte, LLC, 306 Pecan, contingent upon the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy, with a recommendation from the Liquor Commission to approve, from the Table; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Motion to REMOVE Item No. 16-289 from the TABLE was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

Council Member Moore moved to approve the Site Application for a Class A (Tavern) Liquor License with a Subclass 1A (2:00 A.M. Hours) for Casa De Arte, LLC, 306 Pecan, contingent upon the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Council Member Moore provided an overview of this item noting it first came to the City Council in September 2016. She stated that the owner was now the owner of the building and was ready to proceed with the process of obtaining a liquor license. She stated in response to Council Member Ruckriegel, that this establishment would not become a night club. She said it was the owner's intent that this establishment begin as a neighborhood tavern with a long-term plan of growth to becoming a restaurant.

Motion to approve the Site Application for a Class A (Tavern) Liquor License with a Subclass 1A (2:00 A.M. Hours) for Casa De Arte, LLC, 306 Pecan, contingent upon the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

River Trail Extension

Council Member Jensen inquired about an announcement regarding public comment to the revised environmental plan for the Riverfront Park and she asked if the two week comment period was required by law. She expressed a concern whether that was enough time in light of a new report that was made public.

Assistant City Manager Chris Setti said it was the final determination by the National Park Service that a 15-day comment period would be sufficient. He said the Revised Environmental Assessment was recently made available and essentially contained all the same information that had been provided to the public, but in a different format as required by the National Park Service. He provided an overview of all the public comment provided on this matter dating back to December 2015. He said it appeared that there was a new environmental assessment when in fact it was all the same information put into a different format. He concluded by stating any information received by the City had been provided to the public. He said all the information regarding the River Trail Extension could be found on the City's website. He said the Revised Environmental Assessment was available on the City's website and in the City Clerk's Office for the public to review. He said the public could provide additional comment in writing either by email at riverfront@peoriagov.org or through the post office. He said the information would also be posted on social media. He noted that the last day for public comment was February 20, 2017, at 5:00 P.M.

NEW BUSINESS

New General Manager at CityLink

Council Member Turner announced that CityLink had a new General Manager and he announced and invited Mr. Doug Roelfs to address the City Council.

Mr. Doug Roelfs, General Manager of CityLink, said he began working at CityLink on November 1, 2016, as the Assistant General Manager. He said he was appointed as General Manager on February 13, 2017. He provided an overview of projects on which CityLink was currently working. He said there were new hybrid busses running in the City and he said it was his hope to get a few more hybrids on the streets. He said new technology was being introduced to the busses called AVL's (Automatic Vehicle Locators) in order to have real time locations for customers in order for them to determine their pick-up and drop-off times. He said there would be some remodeling and clean-up work done at the bus station over the summer. Finally, he provided an update on the North Side Transfer station noting that an Environmental Study would need to be conducted first.

Navy Seal William "Ryan" Owens

Council Member Grayeb expressed his appreciation for Mayor Ardis sending a letter on behalf of the City Council to the family of Chief Petty Officer William "Ryan" Owens, a Navy Seal from Peoria who was recently killed in Yemen. He said he offered his condolences to the family during this time.

Mayor Ardis said he had written a letter to the family of Chief Petty Officer Owens offering condolences on behalf of the City Council and the citizens of Peoria and expressed gratitude for his service to our Country.

OSF HealthCare's Commitment to Peoria

Council Member Grayeb distributed a news article from the Peoria Journal Starr to all Council Members entitled, "Spotlight: OSF HealthCare here to stay, help grow Peoria's economy," Spotlight, February 11, 2016, Edition.

Council Member Grayeb said Mr. Kevin Schoeplein, CEO of OSF Healthcare, stated OSF would stay in Peoria to help grow and strengthen Peoria's economy. He quoted the article as follows:

"Peoria is our hometown and will remain the corporate headquarters of OSF HealthCare. It's important for us to keep it an attractive place to live, work and play. It's up to each of us to help create that environment, and we're up to that challenge. We trust others will join us on this journey."

Council Member Grayeb said that was an important statement. He stated that healthcare was now the City's No. 1 employer.

Black History Program Offered at CityLink

Council Member Moore announced that a Black History Program would be offered this Thursday, February 16, 2017, at the CityLink offices. She said February was Black History month and she noted that CityLink always provided something in honor of Black History.

McArthur Bridge Replacement

Council Member Moore said a meeting was scheduled for February 21, 2017, at 5:30 P.M. at Valeska Hinton to discuss the replacement of McArthur Bridge.

Folkers Avenue Reconstruction

Council Member Moore announced that a meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, February 22, 2017, at 5:30 P.M. at Trewyn Middle School to discuss its reconstruction.

Impact of Projects within the Community

Council Member Moore said with the various projects commencing in the City this would have a positive impact on the community bringing in jobs and money along with infrastructure improvements.

Landlord Training

Council Member Moore announced that the first landlord training for 2017 was held Monday, February 13, 2017, and had over 575 attendees. She said the next opportunity would be February 20, 2017, from 8:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. She said landlords would have to stay for the entire training in order to receive points.

Tenant Training

Council Member Moore announced that tenant training was scheduled for Thursday, March 30, 2017, at the Carver Center from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. wherein tenants would be taught their rights and responsibilities.

Business Round Table

Council Member Montelongo announced that there would be a business roundtable meeting scheduled for March 15, 2017, at 3:00 P.M. to discuss possibilities around Northwoods Mall and various other businesses in the area. She said an analysis was conducted by Leslie McKnight regarding the area and how to make it more attractive to businesses. He asked the City Council to attend the next meeting in March.

Recognition of OSF

Mayor Ardis expressed his appreciation to Council Member Grayeb for his recognition of OSF and the rest of the community.

CITIZENS' OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL/TOWN BOARD

Hearing no objection, Mayor Ardis granted Privilege of the Floor to those citizens wishing to address the City Council/Town Board.

Mr. Gary Neuhaus, a citizen of Peoria, expressed his concern regarding the Resolution on Islamophobia and he asked for all other religions to be addressed as well in order to not isolate one resolution over others. He asked the City Council to reconsider the Resolution on Islamophobia.

Dr. John Carroll, a citizen of Peoria, expressed his support regarding the Peoria Fire Department's attempt to have Engine 19 on Frostwood Parkway upgraded from Basic Life Support to ALS and he provided statistics, reported on personal experiences, and provided an explanation for this support.

Mr. Tony Pagan, a citizen from the East Bluff of Peoria, expressed his concern for the recent approval of the purchase of 25 rifles for the Peoria Police Department noting that this money could be used to place a Resident Officer in his neighborhood. He remarked on the importance of Police presence in this neighborhood and the importance of interacting with the community.

Mr. Savino Sierra, a citizen of Peoria, expressed his concerns for the South Side of Peoria. He commented on the deterioration of the community in that area noting that the citizens within that area were becoming discouraged and were moving away.

Ms. Lorrie Palladini, a citizen of Peoria, remarked on the importance of identifying and enhancing the strengths the City had to offer. She said it was time that the community became proud of who they were and where they were from. She said it was important to stop the negative talk about the community and to encourage positive talk. She said each citizen had a choice to make as to whether or not to be victim or victor. She said the City had changed over the years noting new businesses and establishments that had opened over the years to the benefit to the citizens. She remarked on the diversity of the community due to different cultures. She expressed her appreciation for Mayor Ardis and his efforts and she said she would continue to pray that the community continued to grow together.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

ADJOURNMENT

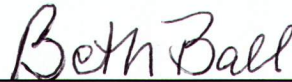
Council Member Johnson moved to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Newlin.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Jensen, Johnson, Montelongo, Moore, Newlin, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel,
Turner, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 P.M.



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

sr