



**: 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 13, 2023, 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, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

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.

Juneteenth
Pride Month
30 Years of Enhanced 9-1-1

MINUTES

Council Member Riggerbach moved to approve the minutes of the Joint City Council and Town Board Meeting held on May 23, 2023, as printed; seconded by Council Member Velpula.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11;

Nays: None.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – TOWN OF THE CITY OF PEORIA

(23-200) REQUEST from the Town Officials to APPROVE the MAY 2023 ACTUAL EXPENDITURES and to APPROVE the JUNE 2023 ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES for the Town of the City of Peoria

Trustee Grayeb moved to approve the May 2023 actual expenditures and the June 2023 anticipated expenditures for the Town of the City of Peoria; seconded by Trustee Allen.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – TOWN OF THE CITY OF PEORIA

- (23-201) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to APPROVE the TREE PURCHASING AND PLANTING CONTRACT from D.A. HOERR & SONS, INC., in an Amount Not to Exceed \$50,000.00, to Purchase Trees to Plant on City Property and Rights of Way.
- (23-202) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the City Manager to Execute Change Order #2 to the STORM DRAINAGE REPAIR ANNUAL CONTRACT with J.C. DILLON, INC., for an Increase Not to Exceed \$460,000.00, for a New Total Amount of \$2,810,000.00 (All Council Districts)
- (23-203) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to APPROVE the LOW BID and Award a CONTRACT to STARK EXCAVATING, for the OLD BIG HOLLOW BRIDGE REHABILITATION, in the Amount of \$315,105.50, with an Additional Authorization of \$31,510.00 (10%) for Contingencies, for a Total Amount of \$346,616.00 (Council District 4)
- (23-204) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to APPROVE the LOW BID and Award SEAL-COATING CONTRACT – 2023 to R.A. CULLINAN & SON, a Division of UCM, Inc., in the Amount of \$381,489.00, with an Additional Authorization of \$38,111.00 (10%) for Contingencies, for a Total Amount of \$419,600.00. (All Council Districts)
- (23-205) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to APPROVE the LOW BID and Award the HIGH-QUALITY AGGREGATE POLYMER MODIFIED SLURRY SEAL CONTRACT – 2023 to MICROSURFACING CONTRACTORS, LLC, in the Amount of \$445,361.23, with an Additional Authorization of \$44,538.77 (10%) for Contingencies, for a Total Amount of \$489,900.00. (All Council Districts)
- (23-206) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to APPROVE the LOW BID and Award a CONTRACT to KNAPP CONCRETE CONTRACTORS, INC., for the RIVERFRONT ENTRANCES, in the Amount of \$153,054.00, with an Additional Authorization \$15,306.00 (10%) for Contingencies, for a Total Amount of \$168,360.00 (Council District 2)
- (23-207) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Community Development with a Request to APPROVE an AMENDMENT to the AGREEMENT with PHOENIX COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES Regarding the Emergency Solutions Grant – COVID (ESG-CV) Funding.
- (23-208)
* Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel with a Request to Approve the SITE APPLICATION for a CLASS H (TEMPORARY OUTDOOR) Liquor License for an Event to be held by STEAMBOAT CLASSIC NFP on SW WATER STREET (near KELLEHER'S) on June 17, 2023. (District 1)

(23-209) APPOINTMENT by Mayor Ali to the LAND BANK BOARD with a Request to Concur:

Council Member Michael P. Vespa (Voting) – Term Expires N/A

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

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

Item Nos. 23-201 through 23-209 (excluding Item No. 23-208) were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None.

(23-208) * Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel with a Request to Approve the SITE APPLICATION for a CLASS H (TEMPORARY OUTDOOR) Liquor License for an Event to be held by STEAMBOAT CLASSIC NFP on SW WATER STREET (near KELLEHER’S) on June 17, 2023. (District 1)

A letter from Police Chief Eric Echevarria and a certificate of liquor liability insurance were distributed to all Council Members.

Council Member Cyr moved to approve the Site Application for a Class H (Temporary Outdoor) Liquor License for an Event to held by Steamboat Classic NFP on SW Water Street (near Kelleher’s) on June 17, 2023; seconded by Council Member Oyler.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None.

REGULAR BUSINESS ITEMS, with Recommendations as Outlined:

(23-210) Communication from the City Manager and Chief of Police with a Request for the Following:

- A. APPROVE the SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE of a Thermo Scientific Gemini Handheld Analyzer (Gemini S2) and Tru-Narc Unlimited Model (with Type H Solution Kit) from THERMO SCIENTIFIC PORTABLE ANALYTICAL INSTRUMENTS, INC., in the Amount of \$164,504.00 (Requires 2/3 Vote of Council Members Voting – No Less Than 6 Votes); and,**
- B. ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending the City of Peoria 2023 REVISED BUDGET Relating to the Use of Opioid Settlement Funds for Equipment in the Amount of \$164,504.00. (Requires 2/3 Vote of Council Member Voting – No Less Than 6 Votes)**

Police Chief Echevarria gave a brief overview of the technology the Peoria Police Department would gain with this purchase. He said it would help identify many illicit drugs and explosive compounds among hundreds of other substances. He emphasized the use of this technology was critical to helping the first responders and maintaining safety for the community. Additionally, he said when the Police Department was considering this purchase, they made sure it qualified for use of the Opioid Settlement Funds.

Council Member Velpula gave his appreciation for the scientific advancements aiding in Police work. He asked about the calibration of the device, and how it worked, noting it would need to be calibrated after each use. He also asked about continued purchases of the solution kit after the initial number of tests were ran.

Chief Echevarria introduced Sergeant Michael Johnston, who was responsible for researching this technology. Sergeant Johnston explained how the machine would be calibrated after each use with an internal calibration feature. Police were able to use this feature during a test and evaluation period with each unit. He confirmed each vial of solution would be capable of performing up to 100 tests.

Council Member Cyr moved to approve the Sole Source Purchase of Thermo Scientific Gemini Handheld Analyzer (Gemini S2) and Tru-Narc Unlimited Model (with Type H Solution Kit) from Thermo Scientific Portable Analytical Instruments, Inc.; seconded by Council Member Allen.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None.

Council Member Cyr moved to adopt an Ordinance amending the City of Peoria 2023 Revised Budget relating to the Use of Opioid Settlement Funds for the Equipment in the Amount of \$164,504.00; seconded by Council Member Allen.

Council Member Gordon-Young explained she would be abstaining from voting on 23-210-B due to her service on the Illinois Opioid Remediation Advisory Board.

ORDINANCE NO. 18,082 was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None;

Abstention: Gordon-Young – 1.

(23-211) Communication from the City Manager and Chief of Police with a Request for the Following:

- A. APPROVE the SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE of Forty-Five (45) PICO MVS Ballistic Body Armor Systems from TYR TACTICAL BODY ARMOR, in the Amount of \$126,829.00 (Requires 2/3 vote of Council Members Voting – No Less Than 6 Votes); and,**

B. ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending the City of Peoria 2023 REVISED BUDGET Relating to the Use Asset Forfeiture Funds to Purchase Equipment in the Amount of \$126,829.00 (Requires 2/3 Vote of Council Member Voting – No Less Than 6 Votes)

Council Member Cyr moved to approve the Sole Source Purchase of Forty-Five Pico MVS Ballistic Body Armor Systems from TYR Tactical Body Armor; seconded by Council Member Gordon-Young.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None.

Council Member Cyr moved to adopt an Ordinance Amending the City of Peoria 2023 Revised Budget related to the Use of Asset Forfeiture Funds to purchase equipment; seconded by Council Member Velpula.

ORDINANCE NO. 18,083 was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11;

Nays: None.

(23-212) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to APPROVE a CONTRACT with WOODARD CURRAN, in the Amount of \$99,950.00 for a Water System Assessment and Technical Support.

City Manager Patrick Urich explained this item was presented to the Council as a first step in fulfilling the obligation of the consideration of buying the water company. He referenced a recommendation made by Council Member Oyler, who had asked for money to be set aside in the budget to hire a company to aid in this decision-making process. City Manager Urich explained the timeline in which a decision would have to be made, citing a deadline of November 3, 2023. He further discussed in the event the Council did vote to buy the water company, the process would take two to three years and become significantly more expensive. He clarified this item was just a consulting contract which would begin the initial analysis for the decision from the Council that would need to be made by November 3, 2023. He described the three phases of the contract; the first task would be an evaluation of operational and engineering considerations, the second task would summarize the buyout considerations and the last task would be a presentation to the Council before the November 3, 2023, deadline.

Public Works Director Rick Powers referenced the Council Communication and noted there was more detailed information for each phase of the contract.

After mentioning the money was allocated in the budget for this contract, Council Member Oyler moved to approve the contract with Woodard Curran; seconded by Council Member Cyr.

Mayor Ali discussed the individual actions listed in the first task of the contract and explained there would be a review of the historical background of the franchise agreement, the City's past attempts to buy the water company, information on Illinois American Water Company and a demographic overview of Peoria's water system. She shared her concerns regarding paying for this information, referenced the Council already has access to the history of water buyout

process and included the information which could be gained from this contract. Mayor Ali then further detailed her concerns, stating she had studied this process in depth over the last few years. After she acknowledged the controversy and complexity in this decision, she stated the money spent would be wasted if there was no intention of buying the water company.

City Manager Urich agreed with Mayor Ali's sentiments and acknowledged the past efforts in gathering this information. After he explained the phases outlined in this contract were not equally costly, he said the operational and engineering considerations were very complex due to the involvement of surrounding communities who would be affected by this decision.

Mayor Ali further emphasized the past due diligence efforts of the Council and indicated a large sum of money had already been spent to study this issue. City Manager Urich confirmed her statement and said in 2002 the Council had spent more than \$100,000.00 to go through this process. He stated things had changed since 2002 and there was need for fresh information to be presented to the Council on this topic.

After Mayor Ali asked about the higher demands for water quality and updated infrastructure, City Manager Urich clarified in phase one of the contract there was a task that would look at the current and upcoming regulatory requirements and explained Illinois American Water Company was already replacing lead pipes around the City of Peoria, and noted there were hundreds of these pipes that would need replaced.

Council Member Riggerbach stated he felt the approval of this contract would be money well spent by the Council. Historically he said Council Member Grayeb and himself had discussed the water buyout many times and have heard from multiple groups who reach out to the Council in support of the City taking control of this utility. He explained the complexity of the water buyout and the importance of obtaining unbiased information will show the costs involved in doing the full due diligence of deciding on this issue. He encouraged all the Council Members to support this item and vote in approval of this contract. He stated he felt when the presentation was made to the Council in October regarding the information gathered from the contract, then it would be time to fully discuss the implications of this decision and weigh out the pros and cons. Council Member Riggerbach then referenced the many changes in this industry over time and said he felt it was long overdue for a full reflection of all information available to make this decision.

After Council Member Allen stated his appreciation of Council Member Riggerbach's well-thought-out statements, he asked City Manager Urich when the last time a preliminary assessment was completed. City Manager Urich stated in 2018 Staff had undertaken a similar process to gather information for the Council and at that time the City hired outside counsel due to franchise negotiations with the Illinois American Water Company, and then in 2013 a small sub-committee was appointed to consider this issue. He said any water buyout consideration made by the Council prior to 2013 was before his tenure as City Manager, however he knew in 2002 the Council had seriously considered the water buyout and hired consultants to help with their decision and at that time would have cost a total of \$227,000,000.00 to complete. After Council Member Allen concluded his comments regarding a potentially much larger cost to proceed with the water buyout this year, he stated he would not be supporting this item.

Council Member Jackson voiced her concerns about the costs of a potential water buyout. She inquired about the amount the Council spent in 2002 to gather the information used to decide during that time. She stated it was the Council's responsibility to use the taxpayer's money responsibly and felt other expensive obligations should take precedence over the potential

water buyout. She felt the benefits outweighed the risks going forward and was concerned over the cost of this contract.

Council Member Cyr thanked Council Member Riggerbach and City Manager Urich for their input on this contract. He referenced his experience on the Council in 2018, noting the varied conflicting information that was received at that time and noted when any decision was made in the future about the water buyout, the information received from this contract should be seen as an investment for future generations. He then voiced his support of this contract, indicating he would vote to approve it.

Council Member Kelly articulated his support for the contract and asked the Council to think about the ratepayers, who would be affected by either decision. He noted the importance of maintaining the water system and then emphasized how prudent this step was towards decision making, and stated he would vote in favor of this item.

Council Member Oyler compared this contract to the Council's discussion from last summer regarding passenger rail. He strongly felt this would be an investment for the City and the Council should view it as such. After he stated the information which would be gained from this contract will help the Council make the most educated decision regarding the water buyout, he said he would be voting to approve this item.

Mayor Ali agreed with Council Member Riggerbach's opinion regarding the new information that would come out of this contract, however she stated she is still opposed to this item. She indicated the City could not afford to do a water buyout and noted the potential risk. She referenced the outcome of this contract could demonstrate otherwise. She disagreed and said it was wrong to compare the Passenger Rail Study with this contract because passenger rail would be a risk for another public entity, she noted the liability of the City needing to take out bonds to fund this process and felt this contract was a step towards that decision. She stated her support and appreciation of the Council's various opinions on this matter and said she would vote no on this item.

Council Member Vespa said there was a substantial amount of information the Council does not know on this issue and expressed appreciation for the various arguments made in support and against this contract. He voiced his feelings regarding the privatization of utility companies and the exploitation of citizens when shareholders outside the community gain considerable profits. He conveyed the significant cost of a potential water buyout and noted high interest rates which would make a prospective decision financially unsustainable. He voiced his approval of this contract and said he felt the money spent was important to future decision making.

A contract with Woodard Curran for Water System Assessment and Technical Support was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Cyr, Grayeb, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa – 7;

Nays: Allen, Gordon-Young, Jackson, Mayor Ali – 4.

(23-213) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Human Resources with a Request for the Following:

- A. APPROVE Existing Property and Commercial Auto Insurance Coverages with Liberty Mutual Insurance through ALLIANT INSURANCE SERVICES INC., at a One-Year Cost of \$380,343.00, Inclusive of Fees; and,**

B. ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending the City of Peoria 2023 REVISED BUDGET Relating to the Payment of Insurance Premiums in the Amount of \$160,000.00 (Requires 2/3 Vote of Council Member Voting – No Less Than 6 Votes)

City Manager Urich explained this was a renewal of property insurance and briefly explained how the property insurance market was rising, and indicated this increase in cost was representative of the market. He introduced Senior Human Resources Specialist Ed Hopkins, who would give an overview of this item.

Senior Specialist Hopkins stated the property insurance market was the worst he has seen in almost twenty years. He clarified the City was able to obtain a decent rate despite the hard market. He pointed out many insurers are leaving the market, which leaves municipalities in a difficult situation to find a good deal. He stated this year the City was due for an appraisal of all properties and the value increased by 30%, which brought the total value of all City properties to around \$232,000,000.00. He explained this higher appraised value increased the City's premiums. After he referenced the increased cost of liability insurance, he stated the budget ordinance amendment was to address these added costs.

Council Member Kelly moved to approve Existing Property and Commercial Auto Insurance Coverages with Liberty Mutual Insurance through Alliant Insurance Services; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None.

Council Member Kelly moved to adopt an Ordinance amending the City of Peoria 2023 Revised Budget relating to the Payment of Insurance Premiums in the amount of \$160,000.00; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

ORDINANCE NO. 18,084 was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None

(23-214) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Community Development with a Request to Concur with the Recommendation from Staff for the Following:

A. ADOPT an ORDINANCE ANNEXING Property Located at 9601 N. ALLEN ROAD, Peoria, IL, Designated as LOT 1 (Requires 2/3 Vote of Corporate Authorities – 8 Votes); and,

B. ADOPT an ORDINANCE REZONING Property to Class I-1 (Industrial/Business Park) District, for the Property Located at 9601 N. ALLEN ROAD, Peoria, IL, Designated at LOT 1.

City Manager Urich clarified this was the first property to be annexed following an annexation agreement that was passed in February by the Council. He introduced Leah Allison, Assistant Director of Community Development to speak about this item.

Assistant Director Allison clarified the property to be annexed tonight was Lot 1 from the larger 17-acre parcel that was annexed on February 14, 2023. She stated the first ordinance was executing the actual annexation of Lot 1, which is approximately 3-acres in size. The second ordinance is to rezone this property into Industrial I-1. She shared her optimism for any future development that could take place there soon.

Council Member Cyr moved to adopt an Ordinance Annexing Property located at 9601 N. Allen Road, Peoria, IL, designated as Lot 1; seconded by Council Member Oyler.

ORDINANCE NO. 18,085 was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None

After Council Member Cyr congratulated Assistant Director Allison on her hard work for this project, he moved to adopt an Ordinance Rezoning Property to Class I-1 District, for the Property located at 9601 N. Allen Road, Peoria, IL, designated as Lot 1; seconded by Council Member Oyler.

ORDINANCE NO. 18,086 was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None

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

- (23-181) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Community Development with a Request to Concur with the Recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and Staff to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending an Existing SPECIAL USE Ordinance No. 17,543 in a Class R-4 (Single-Family Residential) District for Townhomes, to Include a SHORT-TERM RENTAL for the Property Located at 824 W. MOSS AVENUE (Parcel Identification No. 18-08-236-001) Peoria, IL. (Council District 2)**

Community Development Director Joe Dulin explained this item was deferred from the last Council meeting to give the applicant and developer, Scott Lewis, time to meet with the Moss Bradley Neighborhood Association. He stated the two parties were able to convene and discuss many issues, coming to agreement regarding the use of the property as a short-term rental.

Council Member Grayeb stated the brownstones on Moss Avenue represent wonderful development within the City. He described the boundaries of the area surrounding the Moss-Bradley neighborhood and said there was more than \$275,000,000.00 in development over the last 6 years. He expressed his admiration for the Moss-Bradley Neighborhood as an attractive place to live and located in a historic district.

After Council Member Grayeb commented on the Moss-Bradley Neighborhood Association's agreement to allow the short-term rental, he moved to adopt an Ordinance amending an existing Special Use Ordinance 17,543 in a Class R-4 District for Townhomes, to include a Short-Term Rental; seconded by Council Member Riggerbach.

ORDINANCE NO. 18,087 was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None

(23-196) Communication from the City Manager and Chief of Police with a Request for the Following:

- A. APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the City Manager to Execute an INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT between the City of Peoria and the ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE POLICE (ISSP), Under the Greater Peoria Auto Crimes Taskforce (GPACT) Grant, in the Amount of \$2,150,700.00; and,**
- B. APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the City Manager to Execute an INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT between the City of Peoria and the COUNTY OF PEORIA (includes Peoria County Sheriff's Office and State's Attorney's Office) under the Greater Peoria Auto Crimes Taskforce (GPACT) Grant, in the Amount of \$2,150,700.00**

City Manager Urich quickly explained this item was from the last meeting, and noted the funding for these agreements has already been established and approved from the budget. He acknowledged the members of the audience representing both agencies recognized in each agreement.

Council Member Cyr asked for clarification on the duration of the agreement and the source of the funding. City Manager Urich explained the funding would come from grants and would need to be approved each year. After thanking City Manager Urich for his explanation, Council Member Cyr asked Police Chief Echevarria about the largest concern regarding car thefts.

Police Chief Echevarria explained juveniles are the largest demographic involved in committing auto theft-type crimes, including the burglary of car parts such as catalytic converters. These agreements will allow the Peoria Police Department to have expanded resources to follow up on these crimes.

Council Member Cyr asked what Police Chief Echevarria hoped to accomplish with the grant funding allocated to establish these intergovernmental agreements.

Police Chief Echevarria said he hoped to see a large reduction in these types of crime over the next few years. He explained he wanted to see the community more educated on these crimes and the ability to prosecute the individuals who are perpetuating these crimes.

Council Member Allen told an anecdote about a Citizen he recently spoke with whose vehicle had been stolen from the apartment complex they lived in. He explained they had come face to face with the juveniles who were stealing their vehicle and while armed, did not shoot. He

explained his relief wherein further violence was avoided, but warned of future instances where someone could be fatally injured while committing these types of crimes. He emphasized his support of prosecuting the individuals responsible for car theft crime and his worry about this problem becoming worse.

After Council Member Allen directly addressed the public and asked for a cease in these crimes, he moved to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Peoria and the Illinois Secretary of State Police; seconded by Council Member Cyr.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None.

Council Member Allen moved to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Peoria and the County of Peoria; seconded by Council Member Cyr.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None.

(23-197) Communication from the City Manager and Chief of Police with a Request to APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the City Manager to Execute a MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING between the City of Peoria and CARLE HEALTH SERVICES under the Co-Responder Unit, for a Six-Month Period Utilizing Grant Funding from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Providing the Co-Responder Unit, in the Amount of \$3,068,000.00.

Council Member Cyr inquired about cost of the equipment outlined in the first 6 months of the Memorandum.

Police Chief Echevarria outlined the equipment purchase that was approved by the Council at the last meeting. He said the purchase included a Quick Response Vehicle for the SWAT Medics to have the ability to triage victims on the crime scene. He explained the two other vehicles were to serve as mobile offices for crime scenes. The mobiles offices would protect victims from the public, but also give them privacy.

Council Member Allen moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Peoria and Carle Health; seconded by Council Member Oyler.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None.

NEW BUSINESS

Juvenile Crime and Parental Responsibility

Council Member Grayeb discussed the current levels of crime being perpetrated by juveniles happening in the City recently. He asked about the ability to put out a Public Service Announcement to get the attention of parents. He asked for a Report Back on the potential recovery of damages from parents under the Illinois Parentage Act.

Curfew Ordinance and Downtown Late-Night Crime

Council Member Jackson asked about the Police's ability to enforce the curfew ordinance. She stated there had been a lot of crime happening in downtown Peoria and pondered the correlation of bars with 4 A.M. liquor licenses and the persistence of crime. She inquired about the number of 4 A. M. liquor licenses and asked for a report. Corporation Counsel Hayes stated there were 10 establishments who held a 4 A.M. liquor license and there were several with a 2 A.M. subclass. He said he would have a Report Back of this list by the next Council Meeting. Mayor Ali requested the information to be provided before the next meeting.

Peoria Park District – Park-A-Polooza 2023 Event

Council Member Allen stated his appreciation of the Peoria Park District events held over June 8th-June 10th, 2023. He said his family enjoyed the fun things to do and he looked forward to future events.

Juneteenth Celebration

Council Member Allen informed the Council of the Juneteenth Celebration happening at the Carver Center on Saturday, June 17, 11 A.M.-8 P.M. He congratulated Council Member Gordon-Young on being chosen as Master of Ceremonies for the event.

Juneteenth Holiday

Mayor Ali asked City Manager Urich for a Report Back regarding the process for the City to add Juneteenth as a Holiday.

Strategic Planning Kick-Off

Mayor Ali thanked everyone who participated in the Strategic Planning Kick-Off on June 1 & 2. She gave thanks to Assistant City Manager Kimberly Richardson for her hard work in organizing these events. Mayor Ali asked Assistant Manager Richardson for an update on a future meeting to discuss strategic planning with the City Council. Assistant Manager Richardson explained the desired timeline to complete the strategic planning process with a target date in October. She emphasized the need for the Council to have plenty of time to review the documents. She stated that before the Council would meet the discuss strategic planning, there would be a community forum in July. The discussion from that forum would set the topics discussed with the Council in August. She stated the Council can adjust the timeline but advised to keep on the current course to ensure adoption of the Strategic Plan in October. She advised there are several ways the public can continue to participate in this process and announced the Strategic Planning webpage would be going live soon.

CITIZENS' OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL/TOWN BOARD

Rose Farrell, Steward for AFSCME Local 3464 Representing Peoria Public Library Employees, spoke about the ongoing negotiations with library leadership. She said the negotiating team and Library Administration met with a federal mediator in early June, and while unable to discuss the specifics of the meeting, she stated they were unable to come to an agreement because the offer was not worthy of consideration. She overviewed the timeline which indicated how long they had been working towards a new contract. She asked for the Council's assistance in appealing to Library Management to help settle a new and fair contract. She described the resiliency of library staff, who continue to work hard and provide exceptional customer service despite laboring without a contract.

Nancy Long, concerned citizen and longtime Peoria Public Library patron, described her use of the library over the many years. She sympathized with library staff who are underpaid. She spoke specifically regarding a staff member who had helped her and her disappointment when she learned they found a job in a neighboring library. She said the library services are vital to the community and the staff are deserving of a raise.

Heather McMeekan, a concerned citizen, and small business owner, spoke of extremism online and the attacks on government and public service. She gave an overview of the importance of libraries in history as repositories of history and the significant value their collections will have over time. She criticized the miserly offers presented to the AFSCME Union by Peoria Public Library Executive Director and Board of Trustees. She urged the Council to step up and support the library employees.

Nick Hall, a citizen and library patron, talked about his experiences using the Peoria Public Library. He praised the friendly demeanor he encountered every time he used the library and was complimentary of the variety of programming available. He spoke of the importance of retaining the talented library staff. He gave his support to the library workers and asked the Council to act and assist the library staff in securing a fair contract.

Daurice Coaster, a concerned citizen and representative for Nourish and Southside Community United for Change, gave thanks to the Council for the \$5000.00 mini grant her organization had received. She asked the Council to consider a moratorium on the potential carbon dioxide pipeline that could be placed in South Peoria. She presented 151 signed citizen requests supporting a moratorium and draft of a sample resolution regarding a moratorium on the carbon dioxide pipeline to the Council. She explained the dangers of carbon dioxide and urged the Council to consider her request until the U.S. Pipelines and Hazardous Material Safety Administration completes its review of carbon dioxide pipelines and had updated regulations in full effect.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Consideration of a Motion for the City Council to enter into EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11), litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been riled and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting; 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.

Council Member Allen moved to enter into EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11), litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been riled and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting; 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; seconded by Council Member Gordon-Young.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Allen moved to adjourn the City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Gordon-Young.

Motion to adjourn the City Council Meeting was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Cyr, Gordon-Young, Grayeb, Jackson, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Velpula, Vespa, Mayor Ali – 11.

Nays: None.

The City Council Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.



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

ah