



**: OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS :**

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

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of Peoria, Illinois, was held on May 24, 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, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 10. Absent: Cyr – 1.

**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.**

Poppy Days  
Safe Boating Week  
Woodruff Culinary  
Building Safety Month

**MINUTES**

Council Member Oyler moved to approve the minutes of the Joint City Council and Town Board Meeting held on May 10, 2022, as printed; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Velpula,  
Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None.

**PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OF PEORIA**

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

**(22-165) Communication from the Mayor and Corporation Counsel with a Request to APPROVE the DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY.**

**(22-166) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Community Development with a Request to APPROVE the REALLOCATION of ESG-CV Funds, as Outlined.**  
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- (22-167)  
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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.
- (22-168)  
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Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request for the Following: (All Council Districts)
- A. APPROVE an Extension to the Tree/Stump Removal By Size and Brush Trimming by Hourly Rates CONTRACT with JIMAX, INC. for 2022, and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Extension to Increase the Original Contract, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$100,000.00; and
- B. APPROVE an Extension to the Emergency Tree and Brush Trimming by Hourly Rates CONTRACT with JIMAX, INC. for 2022, and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Extension to Increase the Original Contract, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$40,000.00.
- (22-169)  
Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to APPROVE and for Authorization to Enter into an AGREEMENT with ADS LLC, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$3,000,000.00, for Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Flow Monitoring Services.
- (22-170)  
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Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to APPROVE an Extension for the CONTRACT for Landscape Stewardship and Maintenance Project with JIMAX LANDSCAPE, LLC for 2022, (Bid #15-19), and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Extension to Increase the Original Contract, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$200,000.00, Including up to \$160,000.00 for Labor/Equipment and up to \$40,000.00 for Materials. (All Council Districts)
- (22-171)  
Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request Regarding Improvements to the GREATER PEORIA MASS TRANSIT CAMPUS at 2105 NE. JEFFERSON AVENUE as Follows: (Council District 1)
- A. ACCEPT a DEDICATION DEED from GREATER PEORIA MASS TRANSIT for a Strip of Land Between Their Campus at 2105 NE. JEFFERSON AVENUE and VAN BUREN STREET; and
- B. ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 17,972 VACATING Approximately 304 Feet of the Alley from 205 VAN BUREN to 115 VAN BUREN, and 145 feet of NE. MADISON AVENUE Southwest of VAN BUREN STREET.
- (22-172)  
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Communication from the City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE to Amend the 2022-2023 BIENNIAL BUDGET, Relating to the Use of \$131,000.00 of Capital Fund Fund Balance for the Purchase of Real Estate Located at 1203 W. LOUCKS AVENUE, Peoria, IL.

- (22-173) **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 ORDINANCE NO. 17,973 REZONING Property from a Class R-4 (Single Family Residential) District to a Class P-1 (Parking) District, for the Properties Located at 414 PHELPS STREET and 418 PHELPS STREET (Parcel Identification Nos. 14-35-326-002 and 14-35-326-003), Peoria, Illinois.**
- (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 5)**  
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- (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 AVENUE, (Parcel Identification No. 18-08-151-026) Peoria, IL. (Council District 1)**  
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- (22-161) **Communication from the City Manager and Director of Community Development with a Request to ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 17,974 Amending CHAPTER 5 of the CODE of the City of Peoria, Related to TEMPORARY BOARDING AND SECURING OF PROPERTIES.**
- (22-176) **Communication from the City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller with a Request to RECEIVE and FILE the Month Ended March 31, 2022, UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT.**

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

Council Member Allen requested Item No. 22-174 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Jensen requested Item No. 22-175 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Grayeb requested Item No. 22-167 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Kelly requested Item Nos. 22-168 and 22-170 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Oyler requested Item No. 22-172 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Velpula requested Item No. 22-166 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. 22-161, and 22-165 through 22-176 (except Item Nos. 22-166, 22-167, 22-168, 22-170, 22-172, 22-174 and 22-175, which were removed for further discussion) were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None.

**(22-166)      Communication from the City Manager and Director of Community  
\*              Development with a Request to APPROVE the REALLOCATION of ESG-CV  
                 Funds, as Outlined.**

Council Member Velpula said he would abstain from voting on the item due to his role on the board for the Center for Prevention of Abuse.

Community Development Director Joe Dulin said approving this item would reallocate existing funds for additional projects after the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) extended the expenditure deadline.

Council Member Jensen moved to approve the reallocation of ESG-CV funds, as outlined; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

Abstention: Velpula – 1.

**(22-167)      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.**

Council Member Grayeb asked Police Chief Eric Echevarria and Peoria Police Officer James Hodges to provide detailed information regarding the Cure Violence Assessment.

Mayor Ali provided a summary of the progression of leadership pursuing evidence-based strategies to identify solutions to increasing violence in local communities. She said a focus was aimed at programs and initiatives that were proven effective in other municipalities and urban areas across the country where gun violence had been on the rise. She said the entirety of the burden to reduce crime rates in the City should not rest with the Police Department, but that it should be a community-driven mission. She said Officer Hodges had experience with the Cure Violence Program, noting that the assessment was the preliminary step, but it did not obligate participation in the Program.

Chief Echevarria explained data the Cure Violence Assessment would extrapolate and collect to determine the level of response the City of Peoria would require for violence mitigation efforts.

Officer Hodges described his experience with Cure Violence, previously known as Cease Fire, in Decatur, Illinois. He explained how citizens from the afflicted communities were hired to minister to individuals on the streets to resolve violence concerns through mediation, guidance, and outreach activities.

Mayor Ali said a new approach to address the increasing violence in Peoria was needed, and this Program could offer a solution for the Council to consider.

Council Member Grayeb said he did not believe a \$25,000.00 assessment was necessary to report to the Council and Staff information they already possessed. He said violence mitigation measures were already in place and provided successful results. He said he would not support a new strategy without more information.

Mayor Ali explained the training involved with the Cure Violence Program and how it was a national model with proven results. Officer Hodges detailed the education and training given to Cure Violence Staff before the violence prevention program was implemented. He said they would go where sometimes Police Officers could not, to diffuse and mediate situations to avoid violence and retaliation.

Council Member Jackson said the Cure Violence Program would compliment the efforts of the Police Department to compound the effectiveness in the community. She said the key to successfully decreasing violence was to focus on individuals on the streets, noting summer was approaching, which normally resulted in additional criminal activity and it was time to act.

After he said more information would behoove the Council before they made a decision, Council Member Allen moved to defer the item to the June 14, 2022, City Council Meeting. There was no second; the motion was not considered.

In response to Council Member Jensen regarding American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds the Council earmarked for violence prevention efforts, City Manager Patrick Urich said the Council approved \$1.3 million per year in the 2022-2023 Biennial Budget. He explained how the strategies, efforts, and goals of Peoria Community Against Violence (PCAV), a non-profit organization, differed from those the Cure Violence Program would implement.

Continued discussions were held on the collaboration strategy with Cure Violence and neighborhood organizations, the proactive and reactive measures taken in response to violence, and identifying zones in Peoria to effectively address hot spots for criminal activity. The results from municipalities that implemented Cure Violence, sources of funding for the program, and the need for the assessment were also discussed. In response to Council Member Kelly, Chief Echevarria said the assessment would provide the manpower and data he needed to figure out the best strategy to move forward.

Council Member Oyler said this item was to approve the assessment, but the information provided did not include details about the organization. He said the assessment would be a duplication of efforts to provide information Staff already possessed. He said there was a lack of transparency and oversight regarding Cure Violence, and he believed the \$25,000.00 should be awarded to the Police Department to support their strategies.

Council Member Jackson asked the Council to support Chief Echevarria's request for the Cure Violence Assessment to give him the resources needed to achieve the goals of the Police Department to reduce crime rates in the City.

Continued discussions were held regarding the Cure Violence staff including training, purpose, tactics, and benefits. How the staff would be identified and qualified for the job and how the assessment would provide the size and scope of the program Peoria would require for effective results were also discussed.

Council Member Grayeb said there were existing individuals and organizations in the community that could effectively mitigate concerns and an outside agency was not needed to identify the areas of greatest need in the City. He said more clarity was needed on the individuals that would be hired for the Cure Violence program. Mayor Ali noted that Police Staff would identify the zones in Peoria with the greatest need and communicate that to Cure Violence for the assessment.

Mayor Ali said community organizations were requesting help from the City to improve their efforts to mitigate increasing violence in Peoria, and the Cure Violence Program was one option for the Council to consider to provide that assistance. She said the \$25,000.00 fee for the assessment would bring a team to Peoria and the Council would have an opportunity to have their questions answered. She noted Peoria would receive a State allocation of \$500,000.00 to supplement the initiative to implement the Cure Violence Program, if the Council decided to proceed with their proposal after the assessment.

Council Member Grayeb said he would not support the item without additional information on the Cure Violence Program and the company that offers it.

After she said the people hired for the Cure Violence Program would be credible citizens from the community, Council Member Jackson moved to grant privilege of the floor to Terry Burnside to discuss his role intercepting violence in the community, and to represent an example of the hiring model for the Cure Violence Program.

Hearing no objection, Mayor Ali granted privilege of the floor to Mr. Burnside.

Terry Burnside, Founder and Executive Director of House of Hope, discussed his background, his relationship with people in the community, and how he uses his experience to make a difference mitigating violence in Peoria. He talked about the importance of pursuing solutions to battle the rising violent incidents in the City, including recruiting people such as himself and inspiring neighborhood action to provide the greatest results.

After he said he was confident in the Police Chief's proposal, Council Member Allen moved to approve \$25,000.00 for a Cure Violence Assessment, to be paid from the American Rescue Plan Fiscal Recovery Funds; seconded by Council Member Jensen.

Continued discussions were held regarding the lack of information concerning the Cure Violence Program, the efforts of community-based programs in the City to address the recent increase in violence, and incorporating the efforts of the programs and commissions charged with addressing violence in the community to promote a collaborative response.

Council Member Ruckriegel said the Council should have been provided more information regarding the Cure Violence initiative and without it he could not support the item. He said leaders of the community organizations should be consulted regarding options for the Council to consider, noting improved communication would benefit the situation.

After saying he would like to have regular updates to the Council from the Safety Network (S-NET) Steering Committee and he would like their notes provided to the Council from the Cure Violence presentation, Council Member Riggenschach moved for a substitute motion to defer the item until the June 14, 2022, City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Velpula.

Council Member Jensen said a deferral was not necessary, noting the assessment was the first step in the process and did not obligate the City to proceed with the program. She said she would support the approval of this item.

Council Member Velpula said deferring the item would allow for dissemination of information that was lacking about the Cure Violence Program, noting more transparency and communication was needed to make an informed decision.

Council Member Allen said it was time for action based on the Police Chief's recommendation of the Cure Violence Assessment instead of postponing the item to the next Council Meeting.

Council Member Jackson said a deferral of the item was unnecessary, noting the Council should trust Chief Echevarria's recommendation to proceed with the assessment and to trust the City Leadership to perform their duties.

Continued discussions were held about the desire for additional information on Cure Violence, additional violence reduction initiative options, and what the Cure Violence Assessment would provide to the Council and Staff.

Council Member Jensen moved to call the question of the substitute motion to defer the item to the June 14, 2022, City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Kelly.

Motion to call the question was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggenschach, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None.

Substitute motion to defer the item to the June 14, 2022, City Council Meeting was DEFEATED by roll call vote.

Yeas: Grayeb, Kelly, Riggenschach, Velpula – 4;

Nays: Allen, Jackson, Jensen, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ali – 6.

Council Member Jensen moved to call the question of the motion to approve \$25,000.00 for a Cure Violence Assessment, to be paid from the American Rescue Plan Fiscal Recovery Funds; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Motion to call the question was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggenschach, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None.

Motion to approve \$25,000.00 for a Cure Violence Assessment, to be paid from the American Rescue Plan Fiscal Recovery Funds was DEFEATED by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Jackson, Jensen, Riggenschach, Mayor Ali – 5;

Nays: Grayeb, Kelly, Oyler, Ruckriegel, Velpula – 5.

(22-168) **Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request for the Following:**  
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- A. **APPROVE an Extension to the Tree/Stump Removal By Size and Brush Trimming by Hourly Rates CONTRACT with JIMAX, INC. for 2022, and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Extension to Increase the Original Contract, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$100,000.00; and**
- B. **APPROVE an Extension to the Emergency Tree and Brush Trimming by Hourly Rates CONTRACT with JIMAX, INC. for 2022, and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Extension to Increase the Original Contract, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$40,000.00.**

A revised Council Communication amending a reference item number was distributed to all Council Members.

Council Member Kelly moved to approve an extension to the Tree/Stump Removal by Size and Brush Trimming by Hourly Rates Contract with Jimax, Inc. for 2022, and to authorize the City Manager to execute the extension to increase the original Contract, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggenbach, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None.

Council Member Kelly moved to approve an extension to the Emergency Tree and Brush Trimming by Hourly Rates Contract with Jimax, Inc. for 2022, and to authorize the City Manager to execute the extension to increase the original Contract, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggenbach, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None.

(22-170) **Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to APPROVE an Extension for the CONTRACT for Landscape Stewardship and Maintenance Project with JIMAX LANDSCAPE, LLC for 2022, (Bid #15-19), and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Extension to Increase the Original Contract, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$200,000.00, Including up to \$160,000.00 for Labor/Equipment and up to \$40,000.00 for Materials. (All Council Districts)**  
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Council Member Kelly moved to approve an extension for the Contract for Landscape Stewardship and Maintenance Project with Jimax Landscape, LLC for 2022, and to authorize the City Manager to execute the extension to increase the original contract, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00, including up to \$160,000.00 for labor/equipment and up to \$40,000.00 for materials; seconded by Council Member Jensen.



Motion to approve an extension for the Contract for Landscape Stewardship and Maintenance Project with Jimax Landscape, LLC for 2022, and to authorize the City Manager to execute the extension to increase the original contract, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00, including up to \$160,000.00 for labor/equipment and up to \$40,000.00 for materials was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None.

**(22-172)**      **Communication from the City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE to Amend the 2022-2023 BIENNIAL BUDGET, Relating to the Use of \$131,000.00 of Capital Fund Fund Balance for the Purchase of Real Estate Located at 1203 W. LOUCKS AVENUE, Peoria, IL.**  
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Council Member Oyler said he did not support the item because he did not agree with the City purchasing private property as a solution to the traffic concerns.

Council Member Grayeb moved to adopt an Ordinance to amend the 2022-2023 Biennial Budget, relating to the use of \$131,000.00 of Capital Fund fund balance for the purchase of real estate located at 1203 W. Loucks Avenue; seconded by Council Member Velpula.

Council Member Grayeb summarized the accident records over several years involving the residence and the liability concerns surrounding other solutions presented. He said it was a citizen safety concern and noted precedent had been established for the City purchasing property relating to traffic safety concerns.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,975 to amend the 2022-2023 Biennial Budget, relating to the use of \$131,000.00 of Capital Fund fund balance for the purchase of real estate located at 1203 W. Loucks Avenue was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Oyler – 1.

**(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 5)**  
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Council Member Allen clarified the address for the Short-Term Rental application was in the Fourth District, and he said additional time was needed in order to perform due diligence on the Special Use application.

Council Member Allen moved to DEFER the item to the June 14, 2022, City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Kelly.

Motion to defer the Ordinance approving a Special Use in a Class R-2 District, for a Short-Term Rental, for the property located at 1506 W. Teton Drive, to the June 14, 2022, City Council Meeting, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None.

**(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 AVENUE, (Parcel Identification No. 18-08-151-026) Peoria, IL. (Council District 1)**  
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Council Member Jensen moved to DEFER an Ordinance approving a Special Use in a Class R-4 District, for a Short-Term Rental, for the property located at 1709 W. Sherman Avenue, to the June 14, 2022, City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Motion to defer the item to the June 14, 2022, City Council Meeting was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None.

**REGULAR BUSINESS ITEMS, with Recommendations as Outlined:**

**(22-177) Communication from the City Manager with a Request to RECEIVE and FILE a PRESENTATION on the Municipal Aggregation Program and the Current State of the Electricity Market, by Representatives of GOOD ENERGY.**

City Manager Urich said the City of Peoria was part of a collaborative purchasing group that bought energy at rates to save citizens money on their utility bills. He said the inflated state of the electricity market would be reflected in increased energy costs for consumers, and he introduced Charles de Casteja, Tom Leigh, and Jared McMorris of Good Energy, to provide more information.

Charles de Casteja, Manager and Partner of Good Energy, discussed the inflation of the energy market, the energy purchasing process, and how Good Energy's stake compared to Ameren Illinois. He said the rates Good Energy secured were trending lower than Ameren's rates starting in August 2022. He talked about the residents and businesses that would be affected by the increased energy costs, and he said Good Energy was working diligently to get a contract they could recommend to consumers.

In response to Council Member Oyler regarding the recent letters sent to citizens, Charles said citizens did not need to do anything until the contract was secured, at which time opt-out letters would be disseminated and they could make the decision to rejoin the program.

Council Member Allen asked City Manager Urich to provide the Council with information to present to citizens when they called with questions or concerns.

After he noted the benefits that Good Energy provided citizens over the last ten years, Council Member Ruckriegel asked for an example of how a consumer's bill would increase. Charles said 50% of the energy bill was non-supply charges, and the other 50% was tripled as a result of the rate increase. He said for a current \$100.00 energy bill, the increased bill would be closer to \$200.00, depending on usage.

Discussions were held concerning efforts to notify citizens of the impending increases, how flat-rate consumers would be affected, and energy management. How citizens could opt in or out of the program once the new contract was secured and options for incentives for large energy customers to curtail their energy load during periods of high demand was also discussed.

Council Member Allen moved to receive and file a presentation on the Municipal Aggregation Program and the current state of the Electricity Market, by representatives of Good Energy, seconded by Council Member Jensen.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None.

**(22-178) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to APPROVE the Low BID of STARK EXCAVATING, INC. in the Amount of \$248,719.00, and Award the CONTRACT for the PEORIA SIMANTEL PROPERTY- PARK AREA DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, with an Additional Authorization of \$24,871.90 (10%) for Contingencies, for a Total Contract Authorization of \$273,590.90. (Council District 3)**

After he said this project began in 2015 to remediate issues on the property and increase riverfront park space for the citizens of Peoria, Council Member Riggerbach moved to approve the low bid of Stark Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$248,719.00, and award the Contract for the Peoria Simantel Property Property-Park Area Development Project, with an additional authorization of \$24,871.90 (10%) for contingencies, for a total contract authorization of \$273,590.90; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Velpula, Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None.

**(22-179) Communication from the City Manager with a Request to APPROVE a LOAN from the City's Revolving Loan Funds to SUDHEER AND RAJANI SAJJA (PRINGLE TECHNOLOGIES), in the Amount of \$350,000.00, and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Necessary Documents.**

Council Member Kelly said he was excited at the prospect of Pringle Technologies, a high-tech manufacturer in Peoria that provided technology for grocery stores and restaurants like Avanti's, that was planning an expansion of their business.

Council Member Kelly moved to approve a loan from the City's Revolving Loan Funds to Sudheer and Rajani Sajja (Pringle Technologies), in the amount of \$350,000.00, and to authorize the City Manager to execute the necessary documents; seconded by Council Member Grayeb.

Council Members Ruckriegel and Velpula said they would each abstain from voting on the item due to a relationship with the company or individuals.

Mayor Ali introduced Sudheer Sajja, who was present at the Meeting that evening.

Sudheer Sajja, Founder of Pringle Technologies, thanked the Council for their support and he said he was looking forward to the next stage of his business.

Council Member Jensen thanked Mr. Sajja for continuing to invest in Peoria, noting a goal to attract more businesses like his to the City.

Motion to approve a loan from the City's Revolving Loan Funds to Sudheer and Rajani Sajja (Pringle Technologies), in the amount of \$350,000.00, and to authorize the City Manager to execute the necessary documents was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggenbach, Mayor Ali – 8;

Nays: None.

Abstention: Ruckriegel, Velpula – 2.

**(22-180) Communication from the City Manager and Interim Corporation Counsel with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Approving Temporary Amendments to CHAPTER 18 (Licenses), ARTICLE XVII (Mobile Food Vehicles) and ARTICLE XII (Street and Sidewalk Vendors) of the CODE of the City of Peoria, to Reduce Fees and Modify Locations.**

Council Member Riggenbach thanked Staff for drafting the Ordinance for the incentive he proposed the month before to invite food truck and cart vendors back into downtown Peoria after the effects of the pandemic. He said the City had provided fee reductions and incentives to other types of businesses and he hoped this effort would not only reestablish the trucks and carts that were stationed downtown, but also invite existing restaurant owners to expand their business to the mobile food industry.

Council Member Riggenbach moved to adopt an Ordinance approving temporary amendments to Chapter 18 (Licenses), Article XVII (Mobile Food Vehicles) and Article XII (Street and Sidewalk Vendors) of the Code of the City of Peoria, to reduce fees and modify locations; seconded by Council Member Kelly.

Council Member Jackson moved to grant privilege of the floor to Pat Sullivan to discuss concerns regarding the reduction of fees for mobile food vehicles.

Hearing no objection, Mayor Ali granted privilege of the floor to Mr. Sullivan.

Pat Sullivan, a restaurant-owner in downtown Peoria, said the restaurants are still struggling due to the pandemic and inflation. He said reducing the fees for the food trucks and carts without offering similar incentives to restaurant-owners was unjust.

Council Member Oyler said he would prefer to defer the item to consider other options, including aid for restaurant-owners, and a reduction instead of elimination of license fees for food trucks and carts, noting the potential effect on sales tax revenues.

Additional discussions were held regarding sales taxes paid by mobile food vehicles, the benefits of their presence in downtown Peoria, and the mobile food vehicle licensing fees set by the City of Peoria.

Council Member Ruckriegel said the item should not be deferred because summer was approaching, and business owners needed time to prepare.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,976 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Oyler – 1.

**(22-181) Communication from the City Manager and Interim Corporation Counsel with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE to Amend CHAPTER 28 (Traffic and Motor Vehicles) of the CODE of the City of Peoria.**

Interim Corporation Counsel Chrissie Kapustka outlined the amendments to the Code in the proposed Ordinance, noting it addressed physical interactions with pedestrians from a vehicle in a lane of traffic and restrictions of occupancy of a median.

Council Member Ruckriegel moved to adopt an Ordinance to amend Chapter 28 (Traffic and Motor Vehicles) of the Code of the City of Peoria; seconded by Council Member Oyler.

Council Member Jensen said she would not vote to approve this item because she did not support the revisions concerning transactions between pedestrians and occupants of a vehicle on a travelled portion of the roadway.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,977 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Jensen – 1.

**(22-182) 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 R-4 (Single Family Residential) District for an ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY, for the Property Located at 1621 N. MISSOURI AVENUE (Parcel Identification No. 18-04-209-026), Peoria IL. (Council District 3)**

A revised Ordinance and Site Plan was distributed to all Council Members adding additional conditions to the Special Use application. An information packet provided by Danielle Sands, Program Director for the National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP), regarding NYAP Front Door Diversion Program was distributed to all Council Members.

Council Member Riggerbach said this provided an opportunity for additional mental health services in the City of Peoria. He said the assisted living facility was a place where citizens resided up to ninety days preparing to return home after staying at a local mental health unit. He said Danielle Sands was in attendance of the meeting that evening representing the National Youth Advocate Program.

After he noted the Special Use would terminate if the property were sold, Council Member Riggerbach moved to adopt an Ordinance approving a Special Use in a R-4 District for an assisted living facility, for the property located at 1621 N. Missouri Avenue; seconded by Council Member Kelly.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,978 approving a Special Use in a R-4 District for an assisted living facility, for the property located at 1621 N. Missouri Ave was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Velpula,  
Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None.

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

- (22-119) **Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending CHAPTER 18, ARTICLE IV, SUBSECTIONS 97 and 103 of the CODE of the City of Peoria, Regarding VIDEO GAMING FEES.**

After he said there were ongoing discussions and research conducted on Video Gaming Fees, Council Member Riggerbach moved to TABLE an Ordinance amending Chapter 18, Article IV, Subsections 97 and 103 of the Code of the City of Peoria, regarding video gaming fees; seconded by Council Member Jensen.

Motion to TABLE the item was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Velpula,  
Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2022 Peoria Neighborhood Mini-Grant Program**

Council Member Grayeb summarized the 2022 City of Peoria Neighborhood Mini-Grant Program, noting it was a competitive grant opportunity to support residents and neighborhood associations. He said applications were accepted by the Community Development Department through June 10, 2022, and to go to [www.appreciatepeoria.com/assistance](http://www.appreciatepeoria.com/assistance), or reach out to Kaylee Drea, Neighborhood Enhancement Coordinator, for more information.

**Rental Registration Committee Update**

Council Member Kelly said the purpose of the meetings was to determine how to implement public policy that would improve rental properties in Peoria, and he invited Council Members to attend to discuss options. He said he hoped to bring recommendations to the June 14, 2022, City Council Meeting for consideration.

**BioUrja Fire Department Response**

In response to Council Member Jackson's request for an update regarding the Fire Department's response to the ongoing BioUrja incident, Interim Fire Chief Shawn Sollberger reviewed the Fire Department's involvement since May 11, 2022. He said mitigation and demolition efforts were ongoing in conjunction with Alpine Demolition Services, and he said until the situation was deemed safe, the Peoria Fire Department would remain onsite.

**EPIC Fundraiser Event**

Council Member Velpula invited citizens to attend the PJ Dance Academy's The Jungle Book performance at the ICC Performing Arts Center, June 11-12 at 4:00 P.M., to benefit EPIC.

**Spring Plants in Peoria**

Council Member Jensen commended City Staff for the plants and flowers planted at City Hall and throughout the City.

**Justice Department Policing Update**

Council Member Jensen asked for a Report Back regarding new policing guidelines by the Justice Department and how it would affect municipal police departments.

**Liquor Delivery Conditions**

Council Member Jensen asked about rules regarding liquor delivery in Peoria after the State of Illinois amended them during the pandemic, and how it was affected by their City Liquor License. Interim Corporation Counsel Kapustka said she would provide a Report Back with information concerning liquor delivery and terms of Peoria Liquor Licenses.

**2020 Illinois Census Results**

Council Member Ruckriegel said a Census Report showed the possibility of 2% of Illinois citizens were not counted during the 2020 Census, and he asked for a Report Back on what that could mean for Peoria.

**Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony**

Council Member Ruckriegel said Memorial Day was a time to honor and remember those who fought and gave the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms that all citizens share every day. He invited the public to attend the Peoria Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony to be held at the Gateway Building on Monday, May 30, 2022, at 10:30 A.M.

**Moss Avenue Sale**

Council Member Jensen invited citizens to attend the Moss Avenue Sale on Saturday, June 11, 2022, where there would be antiques for sale, food vendors, and more.

**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.

Terry Burnside, Founder and Executive Director of House of Hope and citizen of Peoria, discussed individuals chosen to lead violence mitigation programs based on their experiences and role in their community. He said the key to mediating conflicts was relationships.

**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 Ruckriegel.

Motion to adjourn was approved by roll call vote.

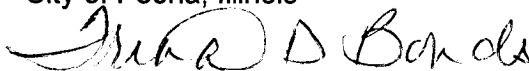
Yeas: Allen, Grayeb, Jackson, Jensen, Kelly, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Velpula,  
Mayor Ali – 10;

Nays: None.

The Regular City Council Meeting was adjourned at 9:08 P.M.

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



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Trina Bonds, Chief Deputy City Clerk  
City of Peoria, Illinois

cc