

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

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of Peoria, Illinois, was held July 11, 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: Cyr, Grayeb, Montelongo (Arrived at 6:12 P.M.), Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis – 9. Absent: Akesson, Jensen - 2.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

SMALL BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARD

Mayor Ardis recognized Calihan Pork Processors, Inc. for the Small Business Excellence Award for their contributions to the City of Peoria and to the First District. He said Calihan Pork was founded in 1937 by brothers Russell and Harry Myatt along with Paul Calihan. He said they had expanded their business to delivering to sausage makers throughout the United States. He said Calihan's primary mission was to "create value for their customers" and recognized their customers as "partners and not the competition." He awarded Joanne Landon, her son Tom Landon and his wife Lillie and the entire Calihan Pork family for their 80 year investment in the City Peoria and its citizens.

Mr. Landon expressed his appreciation for the recognition, thanked everyone for their support, and thanked his mother, Joanne Landon, who appeared with him to accept the award.

PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.

Runday Funday – Saturday, August 5, 2017
Great Neighbor Appreciation Week – July 10 – 15, 2017

MINUTES

Council Member Grayeb moved to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on June 27, 2017, as printed; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Cyr, Grayeb, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner,
Mayor Ardis - 9;

Nays: None.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OF PEORIA**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE, with Recommendations as Outlined:**

- (17-201) * **Communication from the City Manager and the Community Development Director with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending CHAPTER 5 of the CODE of the City of Peoria Pertaining to REGISTRATION OF LOTS.**
- (17-202) **Communication from the City Manager and the Corporation Counsel and the Community Development Director with a Request to ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 17,473 Amending CHAPTER 32 Section 32-4(a)(4) of the CODE of the City of Peoria Pertaining to ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OFFICERS.**
- (17-211) **Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel to APPROVE the SITE APPLICATION for a CLASS H (Temporary Outdoor) Liquor License from the AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY for an Event to be Held at 5901 NORTH PROSPECT, on Thursday, September 21, 2017. Council District 3)**

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

Council Member Ruckriegel requested Item No. 17-201 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

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

Item Nos. 17-201 through 17-211 (excluding Item No. 17-201) were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.

Yeas: Cyr, Grayeb, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner, Mayor Ardis - 9;

Nays: None.

- (17-201) * **Communication from the City Manager and the Community Development Director with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending CHAPTER 5 of the CODE of the City of Peoria Pertaining to REGISTRATION OF LOTS.**

Council Member Ruckriegel inquired whether Staff researched what fine amounts other communities used for non-registration of non-owner occupied properties. Community Development Director Ross Black said he would research the information and provide it to the City Council in a Report Back.

Council Member Ruckriegel asked Director Black if he anticipated any policy or procedural changes in order to notify citizens of the requirement to register non-owner occupied lots prior to the enforcement of the fine. Director Ross said Staff continued to try different types of outreach services to notify those who should register their lots. He said the Ordinance stated that if an individual had never registered before, they would have 30 days from the date of notification before they would receive a late notice.

Council Member Ruckriegel said one of his concerns was to ensure the City followed a good neighbor policy and notified those who were unaware of the requirement to register their non-owner occupied properties and that the fines were not unduly punitive. He remarked on the importance of notifying citizens when they purchased vacant properties of the requirement to register. He said he had too many questions in order to support this item at this time, noting his concern for the fine and late fee.

Discussions were held regarding the proration of the fee for properties purchased later in the year along with an additional discount for attending a landlord training session.

Discussions were held regarding whether the collection of revenues would offset the cost of Staff researching the properties that were non-owner occupied.

City Manager Urich said the increased rental registration program fee went towards funding various programs, one being the Residential Police Officer Program. He said there were additional budgetary resources, but the increased rental registration was designed as an incremental revenue adjustment to increased services.

Council Member Moore remarked on the importance of ensuring funds received would be used for the purpose of which they were designated.

Mayor Ardis commented that the revenue stream generated from non-owner occupied properties would go toward offsetting the cost of the Residential Officer Program as well as the time Code Enforcement spent on these properties. He said the fees would not generate excess revenue.

Council Member Riggerbach moved to adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 5 of the Code of the City of Peoria pertaining to registration of lots; seconded by Council Member Moore.

ORDINANCE NO. 14,474 was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Cyr, Grayeb, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Mayor Ardis - 7;

Nays: Ruckriegel, Turner - 2.

REGULAR BUSINESS ITEMS, with Recommendations as Outlined:

(17-212) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with a Request to RECEIVE and FILE a PRESENTATION by the Peoria Public Works Department with an UPDATE ON ROADWAY INVESTMENT FROM 2015-2017.

Assistant Director of Public Works/City Engineer Bill Lewis distributed a handout entitled "2016 – 2017 Roadway Construction Update" to all Council Members.

Assistant Director Lewis reviewed the history of the City's road conditions and construction. He said a road inventory was conducted in 2014 wherein it was determined that significant funding of approximately \$9.4 million was needed for infrastructure improvements. He said the City Council had passed a combination of tax increases for 2016-2017 for an additional \$5.2 million to be utilized on infrastructure. He reviewed how those funds were allocated for 2016 noting that a significant amount of money was used for pavement preservation programs. He reviewed the 2016 budget versus the actual costs of projects noting that the majority of the projects came in under budget. He reviewed the 2017 budget noting that nearly 50% of the budget was

applied toward the Harvard Avenue project and the Sheridan Road project. He reviewed the different pavement preservation treatments used on City roads. He reported that within the City limits there were Peoria County Roads, for which the county was responsible and he provided examples of those roads within the City limits and their conditions. He completed his presentation by reviewing projects on the horizon and the status of each.

Discussions were held regarding traffic calming noting that the money that was not spent in 2016 rolled over into the 2017 budget and the streets that were identified for traffic calming would be addressed.

Discussions were held regarding the different pavement preservation processes and on what type of conditions these processes were used in order to extend the life of the road.

Council Member Ruckriegel said he had received calls from constituents regarding the conditions of the streets and he said the public saw the efforts of the City addressing their infrastructure needs. He said the constituents appreciated the final results.

Council Member Moore said constituents were very happy with the work that was completed on Manor Parkway. She said it made for a safer environment and a nicer place.

Mayor Ardis commented on the appropriateness of bringing this item before the City Council during construction season. He said the City went from \$4 million to \$9.2 million a year in order to address the infrastructure concerns and noted that was money the City spent and was appreciated by the citizens.

Council Member Ruckriegel moved to receive and file a presentation by the Peoria Public Works Department with an Update on Roadway Investment from 2015-2017; seconded by Council Member Oyler.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Cyr, Grayeb, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner,
Mayor Ardis - 9;

Nays: None.

(17-213) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel with a Request to AMEND the KNOXVILLE JUNCTION SPECIAL SERVICE AREA REGULATORY AGREEMENT.

Council Member Riggerbach said this item was simply a refinancing that Junction Ventures was doing on their own, and he moved to approve the amendment of the Knoxville Junction Special Service Area Regulatory Agreement; seconded by Council Member Moore.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Cyr, Grayeb, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner,
Mayor Ardis - 9;

Nays: None.

- (17-214) **Communication from the City Manager and Community Development Director with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending the City of Peoria 2017 AMENDED ANNUAL BUDGET Increasing the Community Development Department GENERAL FUND BUDGET by \$275,000.00 for Weed and Litter Abatement on Private Property, Reducing Public Works Forestry Line Item in the General Fund by \$100,000.00, and Reducing the General Fund Balance by \$175,000.00.**

Council Member Moore asked if there was a correlation between unregistered rental properties and an increased work load in Community Development addressing weed and litter. She said part of the revenue being generated from non-owner occupied properties was used for enforcement at administrative hearings. She said for the past two years the Community Development exceeded its budget for weed and abatement. She asked for the next budget that Staff offer a more realistic budget amount to be budgeted. She asked for more revenues to be budgeted towards an appropriate cost for Residential Police Officers who assisted in keeping communities engaged.

At the conclusion of her comments, Council Member Moore moved to adopt an Ordinance amending the City of Peoria 2017 Amended Annual Budget increasing the Community Development Department General Fund Budget by \$275,000.00 for weed and litter abatement on private property, reducing Public Works Forestry line item in the General Fund of \$100,000.00 and reducing the General Fund balance by \$175,000.00; seconded by Council Member Riggerbach.

Discussions were held regarding the number of work orders issued and the contributing factors for increased work orders. Assistant Community Development Director Joe Dulin said, even with the decrease in staffing levels, Staff had worked hard to improve efficiency and effectiveness of their work, which contributed to the increase.

At the request of Council Member Montelongo, Assistant Director Dulin provided an overview of the complaint process. He said landlords were able to see if their properties had work orders by going to www.peoriacodeviolations.com. He said the work orders could be mitigated if the property owner addressed the issue prior to the City doing the clean-up work. He said he would research and at the next Council meeting provide Council with the number of property owners who do not pay their fines.

Corporation Council Leist said, in response to Council Member Montelongo, that fines were never written-off; rather, liens were placed on the property. He said the City was currently investigating other forms of collection proceedings.

Council Member Montelongo said he wanted to know what fines were still "in process" and the amount that was owed to the City. He also asked how much money the City was getting back through fines and the administrative hearing process. He said there was more information the City Council needed prior to voting on this item and he recommended deferring this matter until additional information was received from Staff.

City Manager Urich said Staff would provide the City Council with a full accounting and would work with Finance to show the amounts that were coming in on an annual basis and the amount of money spent on the collection process.

In response to Council Member Oyler's concern for deferring the matter, Director Black said the impact for not having money for work orders would not stop the enforcement process but would impact the hiring of contractors to do the clean-up work.

In response to Council Member Ruckriegel's question regarding alternative collection methods, Corporation Counsel Leist said other avenues were being investigated. Council Member Ruckriegel requested that information be forwarded to all Council.

After a brief comment, Council Member Ruckriegel said the neighborhoods could not withstand deferring this matter to a later date and he said he would support this item.

Council Member Moore said the citizens of the First District were noticing the efforts of the Code Enforcement Department, and she asked the City Council to appropriate this item tonight.

Council Member Grayeb expressed a concern for this being brought before the Council with a very narrow deadline. He commented that code enforcement was something that should be done in cooperation with the neighborhoods. He said the City was becoming more interactive with the neighborhoods and he asked for Staff to do more outreach. He commented on the success of PeoriaCares (494-CARE), which produced an increase in the code violation numbers. At the conclusion of his comments, he said he would support this item.

Mayor Ardis said there were a number of requests for information from Council and he said responses would be provided to Council for a better understanding of the revenues and expenses; however, he said there was a concern with deferring this item to a later date. He expressed the importance of getting the information back to Council as requested at Staff's earliest convenience.

Council Member Montelongo said this was an important service the City provided for the community and he expressed a concern in the growing budget numbers.

City Manager Urich said deferring this matter would not inhibit the work of Code Enforcement, but he said it would cause them to go over budget.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,475 adopting an Ordinance amending the City of Peoria 2017 Amended Annual Budget increasing the Community Development Department General Fund budget by \$275,000.00 for weed and litter abatement on private property, reducing Public Works forestry line item in the General Fund by \$100,000.00 and reducing the General Fund balance by \$175,000.00 was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Cyr, Grayeb, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner,
Mayor Ardis - 9;

Nays: None.

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

- (17-206) **A. REQUEST TO REMOVE Item No. 17-206 from the TABLE; and**
- B. Communication from the City Manager and the Corporation Counsel with a Request to APPROVE the SITE APPLICATION for a Class B (Restaurant, 50% Food) Liquor License with the Restriction of Sale of Alcohol for On-Site Consumption Only at LA FAVORITA, 1621 NORTH KNOXVILLE AVENUE, with a Recommendation from the Liquor Commission to Approve. (Council District 2)**

Council Member Grayeb moved to remove Item No. 17-205 from the Table; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Community Development Director Black said when this item previously came before the City Council, one of the recommendations from the Liquor Commission was that all Community Development items be resolved. He said at that time Staff was uncertain whether everything was resolved. Since then, he said he spoke with City Inspectors and determined that the property was in compliance.

Council Member Grayeb expressed a concern for the lack of communication between Staff and Council, noting that the property was in compliance prior to the motion to table the item. He said Staff was aware that any Site Approval for the Second District needed to be in full compliance prior to it being placed on the City Council agenda. He said there should be no requests for Site Approvals unless all requirements were satisfied. He expressed a concern for the Applicants having to wait another two weeks because Staff did not relay that the Applicant was in compliance.

Motion to remove Item No. 17-205 from the Table was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Cyr, Grayeb, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner,
Mayor Ardis - 9;

Nays: None.

Council Member Grayeb moved to approve the Site Application for a Class B (Restaurant, 50% Food) Liquor License with the restriction of sale of alcohol for on-site consumption only at La Favorita, 1621 North Knoxville Avenue; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Cyr, Grayeb, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner,
Mayor Ardis - 9;

Nays: None.

City Clerk Beth Ball advised the City Council that Staff had been working with La Favorita to expedite their liquor license application to avoid further delay.

NEW BUSINESS**Illegal Fireworks**

Council Member Grayeb expressed a concern for the high volume use of illegal fireworks during the Fourth of July. He said the Administration was previously alerted that it would be a difficult time and that there were not enough resources to ensure safe neighborhoods. He asked as to what kinds of resources the City had and what the plan would be for next year.

Police Chief Jerry Mitchel provided a presentation on what occurred over the Fourth of July. He said 76% of all Police Officers were working that night. He reviewed local trends and the fine rates of other municipalities. He said other municipalities had also seen an increased use of fireworks. He reviewed a map that pinpointed the complaints throughout the City noting it was more concentrated in the East Bluff and the South Side. In order to prepare for the holiday, he said public service announcements were issued and over the Fourth, eight citations were issued. He said Police Officers would contact all the addresses where there were fireworks complaints. He reviewed the strategy for 2018.

Council Member Grayeb expressed his appreciation to Chief Mitchel for his efforts noting that he had put together a thoughtful and coherent plan.

In response to Council Member Oyler regarding the low number of citations issues, Chief Mitchel indicated that the challenge was finding individuals in actual possession of the firework. He said in order to issue the ticket, ownership of the fireworks had to be demonstrated.

Council Member Riggerbach said the Police Department would be committing a Task Force of 20 Police Officers for 2018 in order to address the fireworks issues. He asked for a Report Back on the process of how these tickets would be paid and whether they were paid.

Recognition of City Planner Leah Allison

Council Member Cyr said he met with several neighborhoods within the Fifth District accompanied by Senior City Planner Leah Allison. He commented on her efforts noting that she was extremely knowledgeable and that he was proud to have Staff such as her employed by the City of Peoria.

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.

Ms. Willow Lucas, a concerned citizen, said she had sent the video of the events that occurred in the East Bluff on the Fourth of July to Council. She said she was pleased with the development of a dedicated task force for 2018. She said there had been an increase in violence and intimidation in the East Bluff. She said the quality of life issues needed to be addressed prior to any other issues. She expressed her appreciation for the increase of Police Patrols in the neighborhood. She reviewed the City of Elgin's method of addressing their fireworks issues and she asked the City to review it as well. She expressed her appreciation to Chief Mitchel for all his efforts to address the issues.

Ms. Molly Crusen Bishop, event planner for the Second Annual Whiskey Barren Run, announced the 5K run/1K walk would take place August 12, 2017. She said the course would go through important connections to African-American historic names and streets as well as through homes built by the whiskey distillers such as Captain Joseph Greenhut. She said there would be an open house featuring local historical authors who would tell quick tales from Peoria's past and there would be a fast-paced living museum with people portraying Peoria icons. She said all proceeds would benefit the Central Illinois Landmark Foundation.

Mr. Amr Elsamny, an interested citizen, said he gathered a lot of information while campaigning for City Council. He recommended the City collaborate with other governmental entities to consolidate services in order to save money. He said the State of Illinois had the highest number of layers of government and he gave his opinion that many services could be combined into one entity.

Ms. Ryan Coffman, a citizen of Peoria, discussed a proposed annexation of 5401 North Big Hollow Road. She said she was part of Nomadic Roots Overgrowth, an organic, non-GMO self-sustaining Urban Farm. She said it was her goal to raise the down payment for the land and two homes in order to transform the property in an urban farm. She said it would provide fresh produce, honey, eggs, and other products to the Peoria area and she asked the City Council for their support in voting against annexing the property.

Mr. Anthony Walraven, a citizen of Peoria, said he was glad the City issued abatements. He said he had noticed more people caring for their yard. He said it was his hope the City would penalize people who knew how to take advantage of the system.

Mr. Savino Sierra, a concerned citizen, expressed his concern with illegal fireworks in neighborhoods over the Fourth of July. He said the City Council needed to enact strict rules that were enforced. He said some sale of fireworks took place out of the trunks of automobiles. He said he would like to meet with the City Council to discuss options.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Consideration of a Motion to enter into EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to 2(c)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that such an action is probable or imminent.

Council Member Oyler moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to 2(c)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that such an action is probable or imminent; seconded by Council Member Cyr.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Cyr, Grayeb, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner,
Mayor Ardis - 9;

Nays: None.

ADJOURNMENT

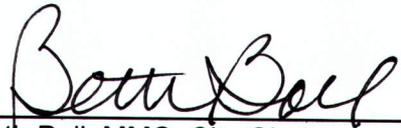
Council Member Ruckriegel moved to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Cyr, Grayeb, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Turner,
Mayor Ardis - 9;

Nays: None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 P.M.



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

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