

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

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of Peoria, Illinois, was held March 24, 2020, at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall, Council Chambers (Room 400), 419 Fulton Street, with Mayor Ardis presiding, and with proper notice having been posted.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll Call showed the following Council Members were physically present: Ali (Teleconference), Cyr, Grayeb (Teleconference), Jensen (Teleconference), Kelly (Teleconference), Moore (Teleconference), Montelongo, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis – 11. Absent: None.

**ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE**

In accordance to Governor JB Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-07 issued on March 16, 2020, prohibiting the gathering of 50 people or more in a single room or single space at the same time; and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommending gatherings of no more than 10 people in a single room or single space and social distancing of at least 6 feet between persons; Mayor Ardis declared a local State of Emergency on March 19, 2020, and has closed City Hall to the public to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. To comply with these recommendations and requirements, the City is complying with the spirit of the Open Meetings Act by permitting 5 City Council Members and the Mayor to attend the Regular City Council Meeting on March 24, 2020, in person while the remaining 5 City Council Members will attend via phone. Those City Council Members attending the meeting via phone shall be declared present.

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**MINUTES**

Council Member Ruckriegel moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Joint City Council and Town Board Meeting held on March 10, 2020, as printed; seconded by Council Member Riggerbach.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Cyr, Grayeb, Jensen, Kelly, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 11;

Nays: None.

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

**(20-066)**      **Communication from the City Manager and the Community Development Director with a Request for the Following:**  
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**A. APPROVE the 2020-2024 CONSOLIDATED PLAN for Submittal to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), with a Total 2020 Grant Allocation of \$2,678,077.00;**

**B. ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending the City of Peoria 2020 - 2021 BIENNIAL BUDGET Relating the CDBG Fund and Capital Fund to Reallocate CDBG Program Income to the Capital Fund, in the Amount of \$5,052.00; and to Adjust the CDBG Fund and Home Fund Revenues and Expenditures to Reflect the 2020 Federal Grant Award.**

**(20-067)**      **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. 17,760 Approving a SPECIAL USE in a Class R-7 (Multi-Family Residential) District for a Non-Conforming Use Change for a Residence, Office and Music Studio, for the Property Located at 7150 N UNIVERSITY STREET, (Parcel Identification No. 14-08-301-010), Peoria, IL**

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

Council Member Ali requested Item No. 20-066 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 Riggerbach.

Item Nos. 20-066 through 20-067 (excluding Item No. 20-066) were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.

Yeas: Ali, Cyr, Grayeb, Jensen, Kelly, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 11;

Nays: None.

**(20-066)**      **Communication from the City Manager and the Community Development Director with a Request for the Following:**  
\*

**A. APPROVE the 2020-2024 CONSOLIDATED PLAN for Submittal to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), with a Total 2020 Grant Allocation of \$2,678,077.00;**

**B. ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending the City of Peoria 2020 - 2021 BIENNIAL BUDGET Relating the CDBG Fund and Capital Fund to Reallocate CDBG Program Income to the Capital Fund, in the Amount of \$5,052.00; and to Adjust the CDBG Fund and Home Fund Revenues and Expenditures to Reflect the 2020 Federal Grant Award.**

Council Member Ali expressed her appreciation for the efforts of City Staff and the Community Development Department for reaching out to the community to obtain citizen input.

Council Member Ali moved to approve the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for submittal to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), with a Total 2020 Grant Allocation of \$2,678,077.00; seconded by Council Member Cyr.

Council Member Jensen commended City Staff for the outreach process in obtaining community input, and she asked for clarification of the priorities outlined in the Plan.

Community Development Director Ross Black said the priorities were based on feedback from the community with the top priorities being housing, public service, and economic development. He explained the Consolidated Plan was a multi-year plan, but the City submitted an annual plan each year addressing the funding of the priorities. He said next March an annual plan would be submitted for the 2021 allocation of funds. He said the items the City Council adopted for other priorities were associated with the public service aspect of the CDBG Funds. He explained the Federal guidelines for public services stating it could not exceed a certain percentage. He said there was no change to the City Council's priorities outlined in the Consolidated Plan.

Council Member Moore expressed her appreciation to the Community Development Staff stating how the Department had exceeded all expectations. She said she had attended two out of three community meetings, noting they went well. She said the process used by the Department would achieve good results. Regarding the priorities the City Council outlined, she said those priorities were addressed by the Human Resource Commission.

Motion to approve the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for submittal to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), with a Total 2020 Grant Allocation of \$2,678,077.00 was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Cyr, Grayeb, Jensen, Kelly, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggenbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 11;

Nays: None.

Council Member Ali moved to adopt an Ordinance amending the City of Peoria 2020 - 2021 Biennial Budget relating to the CDBG Fund and Capital Fund to reallocate CDBG Program Income to the Capital Fund, in the amount of \$5,052.00; and to adjust the CDBG Fund and Home Fund Revenues and Expenditures to Reflect the 2020 Federal Grant Award; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Council Member Jensen asked why funds were being transferred from the CDBG Program Income to the Capital Fund, and Director Black explained that the CDBG Program Income was any income the City generated from CDBG dollars from the community. He said HUD allowed for CDBG income, less than \$25,000.00, to be converted into non-CDBG dollars; however, he said that money still had to be used for neighborhood stabilization. He said those funds did not have the same federal regulations and it provided the City with more flexibility on how that money could be used.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,761 amending the City of Peoria 2020 - 2021 Biennial Budget relating to the CDBG Fund and Capital Fund to reallocate CDBG Program Income to the Capital Fund, in the amount of \$5,052.00; and to adjust the CDBG Fund and Home Fund Revenues and Expenditures to Reflect the 2020 Federal Grant Award was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Cyr, Grayeb, Jensen, Kelly, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 11;

Nays: None.

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

**(20-068) Communication from the City Manager and the Corporation Counsel with a Request to Approve an Agreement Between RED CARPET PROPERTIES, INC. and the City of Peoria.**

Council Member Riggerbach moved to approve an agreement between Red Carpet Properties, Inc. and the City of Peoria; seconded by Council Member Cyr.

Council Member Ali commented that Red Carpet was an established business within the City of Peoria that provided a wonderful service to the community and had maintained a great workforce. She said the situation was an unfortunate circumstance and she thanked Red Carpet for working with the City to address the issue. She said it was her hope to get the business back in operation.

Council Member Kelly inquired about the sanitary sewer that ran under the property, and City Manager Ulrich said he had contacted the Greater Peoria Sanitary District wherein they reported those sewer lines were in good condition and were on the list to be relined, which would extend the life of those lines by 50 years.

Motion to approve the agreement between Red Carpet Properties, Inc. and the City of Peoria was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Cyr, Grayeb, Jensen, Kelly, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 11;

Nays: None.

**(20-069) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending the EMERGENCY POWER OF THE MAYOR.**

A replacement Ordinance was distributed to all Council that corrected some typographical errors.

Interim Corporation Counsel Chrissie Peterson provided an overview of the proposed Ordinance explaining that it clarified the Mayor's authority when an emergency had been declared. She said Legal Staff reviewed the Illinois Municipal Code, the Illinois Emergency Management Act (IEMA), and the City's Municipal Code Sections 7-35.2 and 7-35.3. She said the City had been operating under a declared State of Emergency since March 18, 2020, which was due to expire March 24, 2020. She explained that the proposed Ordinance would extend the State of Emergency from seven (7) days to 14 days to coincide with regular or special City Council Meetings, which was consistent with the Illinois Municipal Code. She said the City Manager had the same authority under the Emergency Succession Act. She said Legal Staff was not recommending a change of the seven (7) days' time limit of the City Manager's authority. She

said there was a thorough listing of the City Manager's authority during an emergency listed in the Code, however, the Code did not outline all the Mayor's authority. She said the adoption of this item would be for the sake of transparency for the public with what the Mayor's powers would include, especially during extreme cases. She provided some historical background reporting the City had declared a State of Emergency six times since 2006. She said when the Mayor signed the emergency declaration, Staff and services that were procured and capital that was expended were tracked for potential FEMA or IEMA reimbursement. She said by adopting the proposed Ordinance it would not mean the Mayor would automatically implement any of the changes. She explained that the Mayor, as the Liquor Commissioner, automatically had the emergency power to ban the sale of all liquor within the City, which was reiterated in the proposed Ordinance.

It was clarified, with regards to the staffing of City offices and the closure of City Hall, that the Mayor and the City Manager had the power to adjust staffing levels and adjust City Hall hours and/or access accordingly during emergencies.

Council Member Ruckriegel asked, regarding the posting of the Emergency Declaration, that the Peoria Public Library be added as a posting location along with the Police Department, Fire Department, City Hall, and the City's website.

In response to Council Member Cyr's question regarding the Mayor's emergency successor, should he not be available and whether a Declaration of Emergency could be entered automatically should there not be a Council Meeting, Interim Corporation Counsel Peterson said the Declaration would either expire at the end of the 30 days or until the adjournment of the next City Council Meeting. She said since the Council met bi-monthly, the Declaration would expire and be renewed at each meeting. She said should a Council Meeting be canceled the Declaration would expire at the end of the 30-day period. She stated the Mayor's emergency successor would be the City Manager should the Mayor be unavailable.

Council Member Montelongo expressed a concern that the City Council was not notified when important actions were being taken as it related to the City budget and revenue loss. City Manager Ulrich said the only real expense currently incurred was securing enough laptops for City Staff to work remotely from home in the event City Hall should be shut down. He said the other expense came from the inordinate amount of Staff time dedicated to address the current emergency. He said Staff time had gone beyond the City's budget, however, many Staff were salaried employees. He said since the City was in a National, State, and Local State of Emergency, the City would get reimbursed through the Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA).

Council Member Montelongo asked that the City Council be notified of unanticipated expenses, such as the purchase of laptops, and unusual Staff hours during times of emergencies, especially as it related to the City's budget. He asked that a provision be added to the Ordinance that would provide for such communication with the City Council for expenses that were not included or exceeded the City's budget.

Council Member Oyler expressed his appreciation for the discretion that had already been used prior to and during this time of emergency. He expressed a concern with adopting the proposed Ordinance amendment during a time of emergency, commenting more time was needed for the City Council to discuss the matter more thoroughly.

Council Member Ali expressed her appreciation to Interim Corporation Counsel Peterson for addressing her constituents' questions prior to the Council meeting. She expressed an interest in the City maintaining its efforts and goals for contracting with women and minority businesses. City Manager Urich said the City would keep those goals in the forefront for emergency procurements, noting it was an achievable goal.

Council Member Grayeb expressed his appreciation for everyone's efforts during the State of Emergency. He said all Council Members should have a copy of the City's Emergency Plan, that addressed all types of emergencies the City could encounter. City Manager Urich said he recently emailed copies of the plan to all Council Members for reference. He said the plan could be revisited, particularly as it related to spending. Historically, he said should the City have to spend over and above its budget, then a plan would have to be brought to the City Council to pay for that spending.

Council Member Jensen said she was in support of the proposed Ordinance stating it codified the Mayor's current authority under IEMA. She expressed her appreciation for bringing the matter to the City Council for the sake of transparency. Going forward, she asked that Council Member input be sought on these types of matters.

Mayor Ardis stated there had never been a time where he had to act beyond his current powers, even during a State of Emergency. He said should there need to be drastic measures taken he would consult with the Council prior to acting.

Council Member Kelly expressed a concern that the City Council would not have the ability to review, restrict or expand powers provided in the proposed Ordinance. He remarked on the importance of the Council continuing to function during an emergency. He asked that the proposed Ordinance be amended, or the matter be deferred until the next City Council meeting. He said there have been many historical cases where a leader abused his power, and he said the decisions currently being made were based on the current Mayor. He remarked on the importance of protecting the City Council for the future.

At the conclusion of his comments, Council Member Kelly moved to defer this item until the April 14, 2020, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Montelongo.

In response to Council Member Montelongo's question regarding potential negative impacts of deferring the item, Interim Corporation Counsel Peterson said, procedurally, the Mayor would continue to authorize a local Declaration of Emergency every seven days, which was designated only to the Mayor by the State of Illinois. She said he was the only individual for the City who could authorize a declaration unless he was unable to serve. She said it could be possible to cite other sections of the Code, depending on the action needed; however, if a corresponding section in the Code could not be found, looking at the existing authority of the City Manager, he not only had all the existing powers listed, but additional ones he could take in the Mayor's absence.

Council Member Montelongo said he wanted to be notified of all expenditures as it related to the crisis. He said Peoria was a small enough community that the City Council could assemble quickly and have a meeting. He said changes to the Ordinance should be made now or before the next City Council meeting, and he said he would support a deferral at this time.

Council Member Ruckriegel said there were times when someone had to take the lead and act quickly during life and death situations. He said what was proposed was a clarification to put the City in line with the Code. He said he hoped for more communication as it related to the budget. He said there was nothing to gain by deferring this matter to the next Council meeting. Council Member Riggerbach said the City was in the middle of an emergency and that the Illinois Municipal Code was clear. He said he did not want to defer this item. He expressed an appreciation for the City Manager's daily reports, and he noted that the City/County Health Department had daily press conferences with the Mayor and County Board Chair.

In response to Council Member Cyr regarding the duties of the City Council during a State of Emergency, City Manager Urich said, according to the National Command, the policymakers were to step aside and allow professionals to execute on behalf of the City. He said currently the City was under a public health crisis and the incident commander was the City/County Public Health Department, who held the expertise to address the situation. He said there was a role for the Mayor and County Board Chair as the chief elected decision makers as part of the policy group. He said the current Ordinance provided that certain issues, such as funding, would have to come back before the City Council. He said the role of the Council being fiscal stewards of the City would remain, but not immediately present during an emergency.

Council Member Oyler said the proposed Ordinance would not change what had to be done tomorrow. He said there was no emergent situation that required the Council to pass the item and he said he supported the deferral.

Council Member Ali said she did not see any gain by deferring the item. She said the emergency powers of the Mayor would not change under the proposed amendment. She said the amendment clarified and provided more transparency. She said it was important to the public that the Mayor's powers were defined. She recommended approving the item as presented and review it later for potential amendments. She said currently the City needed to proceed and move forward with the clarity that was outlined.

Council Member Grayeb commented on the need to move forward and adopt the Ordinance as presented. He said emergency powers were for critical times and it was not always practical for the City Council to call a special meeting. He remarked on the importance of providing these emergency powers to the Mayor, but noted those powers could be revoked if necessary. He said these powers were needed for the crisis that was occurring and he said it would be unwise to defer this item.

Council Member Jensen said it was not necessary to defer this item. She said by adopting this Ordinance it would codify the authority the Mayor had under IEMA and would provide transparency to the citizens of Peoria. She commented that there were extreme situations where the City Council was not a part of an emergent situation. She said she was in favor of the Ordinance and the situation warranted the City Council to vote on the matter rather than defer it.

Council Member Kelly expressed his appreciation for the ongoing communication. He said the emergency powers the Mayor had exercised under the existing Ordinance were done responsibly. He expressed a concern that the Ordinance would not be revisited once it was adopted. He said there needed to be more discussion about inserting the City Council's role during an emergency into the Ordinance and to determine whether it was practical. He said the Ordinance was not about the current situation, but was about the future.

Council Member Moore said the proposed Ordinance was in line with the Mayor's current role, stating it was not a change, but was just being codified. She recommended holding a future Policy Session, if necessary. She said it was appropriate to codify this Ordinance with the Mayor's role.

Motion to defer this item to the April 14, 2020, City Council Meeting was DEFEATED by roll call vote.

Yeas: Kelly, Montelongo, Oylar – 3;

Nays: Ali, Cyr, Grayeb, Jensen, Moore, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis – 8.

Council Member Moore moved to adopt an Ordinance amending the Emergency Power of the Mayor; seconded by Council Member Riggerbach.

Council Member Montelongo said he would approve this item stating he did not have a problem with the powers. He requested that when an emergency expenditure happened that the Council be notified immediately.

Council Member Ruckriegel said he also wanted to be notified when expenditures changed. He said such notifications were more procedural and was not necessary to be outlined in the Ordinance. He said emergency powers were not taken lightly and the ability to communicate with the Council on every aspect could affect the effectiveness of the emergency state. He said true leadership happened during times of emergencies.

Council Member Cyr said their constituents wanted to be safe and have good leaders. He said it was very important to support the Mayor to lead the City out of a crisis. He remarked on bringing the item back later to review and possibly amend; however, he said he would be supporting this Ordinance at this time.

Council Member Oylar said passing this Ordinance did not have to happen tonight. He said it was something the Council needed to do right the first time rather than pass the Ordinance now and clean it up later. He said this Ordinance did not affect the current safety of the City.

Council Member Grayeb said the Council may not be able to quickly convene to address an issue, stating it was prudent to approve this item tonight.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,762 was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Cyr, Grayeb, Jensen, Kelly, Montelongo, Moore, Oylar Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 11;

Nays: None.

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

**COVID-19 Information through Channel 22**

Council Member Moore expressed her appreciation to Strategic Communications Manager Stacy Peterson and George Bean of Focal Point Video for making COVID-19 information available to the community on Channel 22, stating there were many people who did not have access to Facebook for information. She requested that the graphics on Channel 22 be larger in order for people to read. She said some presentations did not translate well to other forms of media, but she remarked on the importance of ensuring the COVID-19 information was easy to read on Channel 22.



## NEW BUSINESS

### Financial Impact from COVID-19

Council Member Ruckriegel said the Council had not received communication on the City's expenses during the crisis and he remarked on the importance of communication. He said the City would suffer some type of financial impact with a large portion of revenues coming from sales taxes and property taxes. He inquired when the City would begin to see a forecast of the City's budget.

City Manager Urich said there were concerns about the impact of the crisis on the City's budget, stating the economic-based revenues would greatly diminish. He reviewed how the economic revenues would impact the City's budget in comparison to the expenses, noting there would be a significant gap. He said he anticipated having preliminary estimates for the City Council at the next Council meeting. He commented on challenges such as the uncertainty of a stimulus bill from Washington and what the State's General Assembly would do when they met next. He said no one knew when things would get back to normal, locally.

### Request for City Projects Slated for the 2020-2021 Biennial Budget

Council Member Ruckriegel requested a list of projects included in the 2020-2021 Biennial Budget noting that the City may have to place some of those projects on hold. He commented on the importance of being proactive for the taxpayer and being cognizant that taxpayers may have a difficult time paying their tax bills.

### Tax Anticipation Warrant or Extension for Lines of Credit

Council Member Ruckriegel remarked on the need to develop a plan, prepare a timeline, and gather information on the tax anticipation warrant process. City Manager Urich said the City would not be able to issue tax anticipation warrants. He said all the City's property taxes went towards roads and pensions. However, he said the City would look at interim borrowing from local banks. He said the Finance Department was starting to look at that and how to extend some lines of credit with the City's banking institutions.

### Business Recovery Plan and Business Directory

Council Member Montelongo said the sales tax revenues from restaurants and retailers would be minimal. He said action plans needed to be implemented quickly, stating he was glad to hear City Manager Urich had those in process. He said the City needed to think about a recovery plan for the businesses, stating the City had to provide that leadership from the Economic Development Department. He remarked on the need to continue to pass an Ordinance where the City retrieved contact information for all businesses within the City limits, and he recommended that be placed on the next City Council agenda. He said there were programs available for recovery, and he said the City needed to be that source of information and leadership to help the small and medium businesses. He remarked on the need to take advantage of the proposed stimulus package and to ensure the City was getting its fair share. He said he would forward information to the City's Economic Development Department and schedule an online meeting to discuss these items.

Council Member Ali agreed with the need to assemble a business recovery plan, stating there would be opportunities available that would require a timely response. She said it may mean deploying Staff in a different way in order to be able to respond to those opportunities. She said a recovery plan was necessary in order to rebuild the City's businesses and economy. She said establishing a business directory should be a priority that contained contact and demographic information.

**Non-Owner-Occupied Registration Fee Due Date**

Council Member Ali inquired about an extension to the non-owner-occupied registration fees, and City Manager Urich said those fees were due March 1, 2020, stating those rental registrations were now in arrears. He said a communication was sent to the Landlord's Association stating that the City was not going to extend the due date since they were due on March 1, 2020.

**Current City Reserves**

Council Member Grayeb inquired about the City's current reserves, and City Manager Urich provided an overview across all funds, noting that not all the money could be accessed.

**Emergency Operations Center**

Council Member Jensen requested an overview of the Emergency Operations Center and housing plan.

City Manager Urich provided an overview of the Emergency Operations Center, noting it was a joint effort with Peoria County. He identified the various organizations that were involved with emergency operations. He reported the emergency managers from both the City and the County were coordinating with other emergency management agencies throughout the State, Air National Guard and IEMA. He said the Public Health Administrator was the incident commander overseeing operations in planning. From the housing side, he said Staff was trying to determine the need for housing. In addition, he said Staff was reviewing how to enforce the Governor's Executive Order as it related to essential businesses. Regarding finances, he said the Mayor sent a letter to all congressional delegation outlining four key areas of concern. He said he would continue to send emails to the City Council and Staff daily during this time.

**Business and Employment Recovery Plans**

Council Member Moore encouraged utilizing the Greater Peoria Economic Development Council (EDC) when developing a business recovery plan, commenting that the EDC sent daily updates. She said as the City developed and reviewed a recovery plan, to consider the minority businesses as outlined in the Consolidated Plan and to develop an Employment Recovery Plan.

**Comments by Mayor Ardis**

Mayor Ardis commended all those involved with the Emergency Plan, remarking on the challenges the City faced the last two weeks. He remarked on the excellent communication of all those involved, and he stated how fortunate the City was to have several excellent healthcare facilities in the community. He remarked the community should not become overly confident with the small number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the City, stating it could quickly change. He said the City needed to continue with a "Shelter in Place." He said the Council Members had the small business community at the top of their list and he expressed his appreciation to all Local, State and Federal Representatives who have been on daily morning conference calls.

**CITIZENS' OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL/TOWN BOARD**

Hearing no objection, Mayor Ardis asked City Clerk Beth Ball to read the citizen comments into the record as follows:

Renee Bulmer, a concerned citizen, commented on the hardships that would come from closing the gas stations.

Gloria Wolf, a concerned citizen, said the City should be shut down for safety reasons.

Benjamin Watt, a citizen of Peoria, expressed a concern for giving the Mayor emergency powers, stating there was not a genuine emergency. He commented that Peoria was the best equipped City downstate to handle a healthcare crisis.

Casey, a concerned citizen, expressed a concern for the state of the City.

Kymmie Hicks, a citizen of Peoria, asked that the City not close the gas stations, stating it would affect her commute to work.

John Schick, a Peoria resident, expressed a concern for giving the Mayor emergency powers and he recommended looking for another approach. He remarked on the need for the community to act with care and to work together to overcome the current pandemic.

Marcia Biggar, a concerned citizen, encouraged the community to take advantage of curbside services and deliveries for groceries, medicine and restaurant take-outs. She recommended reaching out to those in the community who did not have online capabilities to help them place orders for pickup or deliver. She said the community could work through this situation but needed to take better and safer steps to do so.

Matthew Shering, a concerned citizen, expressed a concern about granting emergency powers to the Mayor. He said the City had done a great job of self-quarantining and closing non-essential businesses. He said he saw no benefit to approving the emergency powers and that the City did not need to follow the precedent set by other cities and states.

Kurt Winder, a concerned citizen, stated that granting the Mayor emergency powers was unnecessary, and if they were granted, should be on a temporary basis.

Lenette Barth, a healthcare professional, recommended reaching out to the tattoo and nail establishment to see if they would consider donating their mask supplies.

Donna Dalrymple, a citizen of Peoria, said she disagreed with giving the Mayor emergency powers, specifically the ability to impose curfews and to limit the sale of gasoline and alcohol.

Steve Hippie, a citizen of Peoria, said it was dangerous to give one person emergency powers and it would take away from the representation of the Council Members. He said this topic should be discussed at a time for the public to attend the meeting and to provide comment.

Walid Mohamad, a concerned citizen, said the liquor stores should be closed because they encouraged people to leave their homes late at night.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

ADJOURNMENT

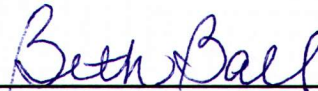
Council Member Cyr moved to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Ruckriegel.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Cyr, Grayeb, Jensen, Kelly, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach,  
Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 11;

Nays: None.

The Regular City Council was adjourned at 8:06 P.M.



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

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