

: OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS :

: OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS :

A Special Meeting of the City Council & Town Board of Peoria, Illinois, was held November 5, 2019, 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, Cyr, Grayeb, Jensen, Kelly, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis – 11. Absent: None.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

(19-335) Communication from the Town Officials Budget Committee with a Request to APPROVE the PROPOSED ESTIMATED TAX LEVY OF \$1,786,330 (Estimated Tax Rate of .119) (Pursuant to 35 ILCS 200/18-60) for the TOWN OF THE CITY OF PEORIA.

Trustee Grayeb moved to approve the proposed estimated tax levy of \$1,786,330 (estimated tax rate of .119) (pursuant to 35 ILCS 200/18-60) for the Town of the City of Peoria; seconded by Trustee Kelly.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OF PEORIA

(19-329) Communication from the City Manager with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending Chapter 13, Article II, Sec. 13-60 of the CODE of the City of Peoria Pertaining to the REFUSE FEE.

Council Member Riggerbach moved to adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article II, Sec. 13-60 of the Code of the City of Peoria pertaining to the refuse fee; seconded by Council Member Moore.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,722 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

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(19-330) Communication from the City Manager and Finance Director with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending the CODE of the City of Peoria Relating to REGISTRATION OF FORECLOSED PROPERTY.

A handout comprising a revised Ordinance was distributed to all Council Members.

Council Member Riggerbach moved to adopt the revised Ordinance amending the Code of the City of Peoria relating to registration of foreclosed property; seconded by Council Member Moore.

Council Member Kelly discussed a refund option contingent on a lack of violations on the foreclosed property, and he explained his reluctance to penalize property holders in compliance.

Council Member Jensen said she supported the motion, however, she expressed concern regarding the projected revenue amounts and asked how Staff arrived at the \$300,000.00. City Manager Patrick Urich explained that, while no revenue forecast was completely accurate, the amount was based on the average foreclosures in the City per year. He said the projected revenue could be less than originally anticipated. Council Member Jensen responded to the possible revenue reduction asking if the plan would remain to outsource the process. City Manager Urich explained that, while outsourcing would still be an option, keeping the procedure in-house would also be considered. He also said that any outsourcing contract would have to be approved by the Council. Council Member Jensen and City Manager Urich also discussed what City departments could potentially be responsible for processing the registration and fees.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,723 amending the Code of the City of Peoria relating to registration of foreclosed property, as revised, was adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Cyr, Grayeb, Jensen, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach, Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: Kelly - 1.

(19-331) Communication from the City Manager with a to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Amending Chapter 18, Article XIV, Sec 18-613 and Sec 18-614 of the CODE of the City of Peoria Pertaining to CIGARETTES.

Council Member Moore moved to adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 18, Article XIV, Sec. 18-613 and Sec. 18-614 of the Code of the City of Peoria pertaining to cigarettes; seconded by Council Member Riggerbach.

Council Member Ali asked City Manager Urich about the cost of a City liquor license. City Manager Urich explained there was a range of costs depending on the class. He described the procedure and reason for raising the fee, citing Police concerns for license turnovers and comparing fees to other municipalities. Council Member Ali expressed concern with raising prices for those business owners who complied with the laws. City Manager Urich clarified the costs incurred by the City for administrative duties and he commented that public safety justified the fee increase. Council Member Ali said she could not support this Ordinance due to the immediate large increase it imposed on business owners.

Council Member Kelly concurred with Council Member Ali's concerns and he said there was a lack of communication between City Staff and the Police Department regarding business owners applying for tobacco licenses who had caused issues.

At the end of his comments, Council Member Kelly moved for a substitute motion to increase the fee for cigarette retailers from \$60.00 to \$90.00.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Council Member Grayeb discussed recurring crime and issues regarding the sale of tobacco in addition to why regulations for businesses were necessary. He described how costs incurred by the City regarding licensing and safety as well as the need to deter unscrupulous activities necessitated an increase in fees. He said the revenue businesses received from tobacco sales would easily cover the fee increase. City Manager Urich referred the Council to the information in the packet that further described crime and community safety concerns as well as regulations and background check requirements. Council Member Grayeb concluded his comments by saying he would support the Ordinance as written.

After agreeing with Council Member Grayeb's comments, Council Member Jensen asked Senior Attorney Chrissie Peterson if the background checks were used to look for previous offenses of selling tobacco to minors. Senior Attorney Peterson said it was not specifically mentioned in the State legislation; however, it would be included under the broader exceptions listed. Council Member Jensen asked why background checks were included at the City level when the State already excluded applicants with specific criminal histories. Senior Attorney Peterson explained that the State Statute did not mention background checks nor necessitated them. She said it would allow the City discretion on the type of crimes for applicant exclusion. Discussions were held on applicant rehabilitation and the potential appeal process.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,724 amending Chapter 18, Article XIV, Sec. 18-613 and Sec. 18-614 of the Code of the City of Peoria pertaining to cigarettes was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: Ali, Kelly - 2.

(19-336) Communication from the City Manager and the Finance Director/Comptroller with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE LEVYING the TAXES for FISCAL YEAR 2020 for MUNICIPAL PURPOSES for the City of Peoria, Illinois.

Council Member Riggerbach said there was no East Bluff Special Service Area Tax Levy for fiscal year 2020, noting the current levy would expire 12/31/2019. He said it was determined that more time was needed to discuss and formulate a levy for 2021.

At the end of his statement, Council Member Riggerbach moved to adopt an Ordinance levying the taxes for fiscal year 2020 for Municipal Purposes for the City of Peoria, Illinois; seconded by Council Member Moore.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,725 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

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- (19-337) Communication from the City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller with a Request to ADOPT an ORDINANCE Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied to Pay Principal of and Interest on GENERAL OBLIGATION CORPORATE PURPOSE BONDS, of the City of Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois 2010 Series C & D, 2011 Series A & B, 2012 Series A & B, 2013 Series A, 2014 Series A & B, 2015 Series A, B, C & D, 2016 Series C, and Series 2018 A and the Partial Abatement of Taxes Levied to Pay Principal and Interest on 2009 Series A General Obligation Bonds in the Amount of \$368,575.00; the Partial Abatement of Taxes Levied to Pay Principal and Interest on 2014 Series A General Obligation Bonds in the Amount of \$450,800.00; the Partial Abatement of Taxes Levied to Pay Principal and Interest on 2016 Series A General Obligation Bonds in the Amount of \$244,310.00; and the Partial Abatement of Taxes Levied to Pay Principal and Interest on 2018 Series B General Obligation Bonds in the Amount of \$444,137.00.**

Council Member Grayeb moved to adopt an Ordinance abating the tax heretofore levied to pay principal of and interest on General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds, of the City of Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois 2010 series C & D, 2011 series A & B, 2012 series A & B, 2013 series A, 2014 series A & B, 2015 series A, B, C & D, 2016 series C, and series 2018 A and the partial abatement of taxes levied to pay principal and interest on 2009 series A General Obligation Bonds in the amount of \$368,575.00; the partial abatement of taxes levied to pay principal and interest on 2014 series A General Obligation Bonds in the amount of \$450,800.00; the partial abatement of taxes levied to pay principal and interest on 2016 series A General Obligation Bonds in the amount of \$244,310.00; and the partial abatement of taxes levied to pay principal and interest on 2018 series B General Obligation Bonds in the amount of \$444,137.00; seconded by Council Member Kelly.

ORDINANCE NO. 17,726 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

- (19-338) Communication from the City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller with a Request to ADOPT a RESOLUTION Adopting the 2020-2021 BIENNIAL BUDGET for the City of Peoria.**

Handouts including Report Backs 4 & 5 packets were distributed to all Council Members.

City Manager Patrick Urich explained that a motion would be required to restore demolition funding as written in Handout 4.6.

Council Member Riggerbach moved to restore \$559,000.00, which includes \$100,000.00 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds already included in the budget, in demolitions for 2020 and 2021 as outlined in Report Back 4.6; seconded by Council Member Moore.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

City Manager Urich provided an overview of the Biennial Budget totals for 2020-2021.

Council Member Riggerbach moved to adopt a Resolution adopting the 2020-2021 Biennial Budget for the City of Peoria; seconded by Council Member Moore.

Council Member Montelongo moved to amend the motion by removing the \$2,500,000.00 to relocate Fire Station #19 from the General Obligation Bonds in the 2021 Budget; seconded by Council Member Jensen.

City Manager Urich directed Council to Report Back 5.2 for options regarding that Fire Station and the proposed plan. Council Member Montelongo explained the reason for removing this item was due to a lack of discussion by Council in addition to the short distance the Fire Station would be moved as well as the minimal impact it would provide. Mayor Ardis clarified that no money was scheduled to be spent on any portion of this project until the studies and reports would be brought back before the Council. Mayor Ardis said he would not support removing this item because this was not an authorization to spend the allocated funds, but a way to reserve the money for the use of relocating Fire Station #19 should that be decided at a later date.

Amendment to remove the \$2,500,000.00 to relocate Fire Station #19 from the General Obligation Bonds in the 2021 Budget was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Ali, Cyr, Grayeb, Jensen, Kelly, Montelongo, Moore, Oyler, Riggerbach - 9;

Nays: Ruckriegel, Mayor Ardis - 2.

Mayor Ardis inquired if any Council Members wished to discuss any further aspects of the 2020-2021 Biennial Budget.

Council Member Oyler expressed his appreciation for the collaboration between the Realtors Association, the Business PAC of Central Illinois (BizPAC) and the City Manager both in the final stages of the budget process and future meetings regarding the budget. He talked about the accomplishments made and the plans to further improve the budget in upcoming years through collaboration with organizations such as these.

Council Member Ruckriegel described the positive feedback and progress that had been made in Peoria in recent years, but he described the economy as fragile and requiring a greater focus on the future. He explained areas of the budget to improve in upcoming cycles and asked that requested reports and surveys be delivered in a timely manner to allow earlier action by the Council. He said the need for economic growth was needed in order to refrain from raising taxes further or cutting services, and he mentioned the issues funding the public pension plans.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-338, as amended, adopting the 2020-2021 Biennial Budget for the City of Peoria was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

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.

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A concerned citizen of Peoria expressed apprehension regarding the Council's support of the RING subsidy, questioning RING's security and privacy policies. He said he did not support the fee increase for tobacco retailers and that he did not believe it would aid the health and safety of the community. He went on to describe the responsibilities of the government and citizens.

Cheryl Budzinski, a concerned citizen of Peoria, thanked Council Member Cyr for his concern and attention toward suggesting setting aside funds for future due diligence regarding possibly purchasing the water company.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Grayeb moved to adjourn the Special Joint City Council & Town Board Meeting; seconded by Council Member Kelly.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

The Special Joint City Council & Town Board Meeting was adjourned at 6:56 P.M.



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

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