June 18, 2019

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pittsfield, Pike County, Illinois, was held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the City Council room at 215 North Monroe Street. The following officers were present: Mayor John Hayden, City Clerk Cindy Prentice, and Aldermen Bill Grimsley, Kevin Ketchum, Ed Knight, Robert Ritchart, and Robert Wood. Absent: Aldermen Paul Lennon and Kevin Wombles. Mayor Hayden presided.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve the minutes of the last regular Council meeting. Alderman Wood seconded the motion.
Roll Call:
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, Wilson, Wood (5)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve the Treasurer’s Monthly Report for the month of May 2019. Alderman Ritchart seconded the motion.
Roll Call:
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, Wilson, Wood (5)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Alderman Wood moved to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve rezoning the property owned by Todd and Joann Smith located behind 1313 West Washington Street from B-3, Highway Business District to R-2, Single-Family Dwelling District to allow for construction of a single-family house. Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.
Roll Call:
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, Wilson, Wood (5)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to approve the Lions Club 3K July 13, 2019 at 7:00 a.m., pending approval of the route by Chief of Police Michael Starman. Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.
Roll Call:
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, Wilson (4)
Nay: None (0)
Present: Wilson (1)
The motion carried.
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Alderman Ketchum moved to approve a recommendation to the Park Board to allow the Pike County Leos to plant a tree at King Park, subject to final approval from the Park Board.

Alderman Wood seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, Wood (4)

Nay: None (0)

Present: Wilson (1)

The motion carried.

Bob Evans announced two professors from the University of California who wrote a book about John Nicolay will have a book signing July 29-30, 2019 (time to be determined), at the William Watson Hotel. There will be a 4’x8’ sign placed in the Courthouse lawn across from the William Watson during the signing. The gentlemen spent five years researching for the book.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve the resignation of Gas and Water Foreman Bruce McKee effective September 5, 2019. Mr. McKee will be using the remainder of his accumulated time and will be off from tomorrow at noon until his retirement.

Alderman Wood seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, Wilson, Wood (5)

Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to advertise for a new gas employee.

Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, Wilson, Wood (5)

Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve Ordinance No. 1633, An Ordinance Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the Year 2019 to Pay the Debt Service on $270,000 General Obligation Bonds (Sewerage System Alternate Revenue Source), Series 1999, of the City of Pittsfield, Pike County, Illinois, on its first reading.

Alderman Wood seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, Wilson, Wood (5)

Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.
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Alderman Wood moved to suspend the rules and have the second reading of Ordinance No. 1633, An Ordinance Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the Year 2019 to Pay the Debt Service on $270,000 General Obligation Bonds (Sewerage System Alternate Revenue Source), Series 1999, of the City of Pittsfield, Pike County, Illinois, by title only.
Alderman Wilson seconded the motion.
Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, Wilson, Wood (5)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to approve Ordinance No. 1633 (described above) on its second reading by title only.
Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.
Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, Wilson, Wood (5)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve Ordinance No. 1634, An Ordinance Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the year 2019 to Pay the Debt Service on $600,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2016, of the City of Pittsfield, Pike County, Illinois, on its first reading.
Alderman Ritchart seconded the motion.
Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, Wilson, Wood (5)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Alderman Wood moved to suspend the rules and have the second reading of Ordinance No. 1634 (described above) by title only.
Alderman Wilson seconded the motion.
Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, Wilson, Wood (5)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to approve Ordinance No. 1634 (described above) on its second reading by title only.
Alderman Wilson seconded the motion.
Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, Wilson, Wood (5)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.
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Alderman Ritchart moved to approve the Finance Committee Report and the Clerk be directed to issue the claims thereon.
Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.

Roll Call:  Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, Wilson, Wood (5)
            Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.

Mayor Hayden reported the maintenance on the alley behind the William Watson Hotel has come a long way and they are making good headway. New hot asphalt is scheduled to be put on Clarksville Road next Monday if everything goes as planned. He also said he has had calls regarding the placement of a yield sign, or a stop sign at the corner of North Madison Street and East Kellogg Street due to several close calls with accidents.

There will be a Corridor 54 meeting Thursday, June 20, 2019 at 10:00 at John Wood Community College Southeast Education Center. This meeting is very important.

There will be a Joint Review Board meeting at City Hall July 2, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

The Ordinance Committee met tonight to discuss a solar panel ordinance. City Attorney Mike Hollahan will check with the Illinois Municipal League for sample ordinances and will send a copy of the ordinance adopted by Rochester, Illinois to City Clerk Prentice to forward to the Ordinance Committee members. City Zoning and Building Permit Inspector Tom Reinhardt stated Greg Wyatt will also send a copy of the ordinance adopted by the County of Pike, and Economic Development Director Diana Halmick will be attending a state Economic Development meeting and will check with others there.

Several City alleys have been torn up and have been patched due to garbage truck traffic through the alleys. It was suggested that garbage not be picked up in the alleys. Street and Alley Foreman Jeff Griggs suggested talking to Area Disposal about the issue.

Mayor Hayden said the tennis courts at King Park continue to be an eyesore and he is ready to get the mess out of there. Alderman Ketchum will talk to the Park Board. We need to get bids to take out the concrete, etc., haul it off, and level off the ground. The flat rocks that were taken out from in front of the pool for placement of the sidewalk can be hauled off from there as well. Gas and Water Foreman Bruce McKee said he knows a guy who wants the flat rock and Mayor Hayden said he is welcome to come and get them.

Mayor Hayden said there has been some discussion about doing all major street repairs at one time and obtaining a loan to do so, with an annual loan payment about the same cost as we are spending on roads each year anyway.

Alderman Grimsley asked who would be taking over for retiring Gas and Water Foreman Bruce McKee. Mayor Hayden reported Steve Watkins will be filling Mr. McKee’s position until he is officially retired September 5, at which time a decision will be made on the new foreman salary.
Alderman Wilson commended the Street and Alley Department for the work on the sidewalk at King Park.

Chief of Police Michael Starman stated grass that has not been mowed continues to be a problem. The City ordinance states only one warning notice must be issued in a twelve-month period. Currently the department has been continuing to give warnings each time, but from this point forward, they will proceed as the ordinance states and after one warning each year no further notices will be given that year, and a ticket will be issued. He also reported Joel Lipcamon will be graduating from training July 11 and he has received word that Joel is rated fourth out of thirty-six in the academy.

City Attorney Hollahan will draft an ordinance for a special use permit for a cell tower lease in a non-residential district.

Alderman Ketchum moved to adjourn this meeting at 6:35 p.m.

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City Clerk