





July 2, 2019

Police Chief Michael Starman addressed the Council on the legalization of cannabis in Illinois, which goes into effect January 1, 2020. He recommended the City approve an ordinance to collect 3% sales tax which is payable up to four times per year. He would like to see the City prohibit smoking in public parks, sidewalks, etc., and strongly suggested prohibiting smoking especially in areas where children are present. The sale of marijuana can be licensed like liquor sales, otherwise people are able to do what they want. The issue was referred to the Ordinance Committee. If violations are handled through the code hearing system it is a non-criminal offense and if the fine isn't paid, there is no way to enforce it.

The south end of Clarksville Road is done and Gunterman Construction plans to start saw cuts on the north end of Clarksville at the Fayette Street intersection on Monday. The City plans to start tomorrow on finishing the edge of the alley project between South Monroe Street and South Madison Street. They also plan to begin saw cutting along the building at Gianni's where the coal chutes were Monday at 5 a.m. Gianni's is closed for two weeks so now is the time to do it.

Mayor Hayden reported there was a Joint Review Board meeting today and was one of the better ones that has been held. They were able to have discussion with the school officials present about the road in front of the high school.

Mayor Hayden asked the City employees working out in the heat to please take more breaks and drink more water to stay hydrated.

Alderman Wilson stated he is pleased with the work done with Clarksville Road.

Police Chief Starman reported Joel Lipcamon graduates from training next Thursday.

Justin Krohn, a Peace Corp member working with Pike County Economic Development Director Brenda Middendorf and a volunteer for Picture Pittsfield, updated the Council on the disc golf course at Pittsfield Lake. The eighteen baskets have been installed and a workday is scheduled for July 13 to install the tee pads and level out the areas. Small signs will also be installed. He asked the City to install the parking lot as soon as possible since the course will be available soon. Justin reported Street and Alley Foreman Jeff Griggs has done a great job clearing the area and asked for the poison ivy in the area to be sprayed. They are hoping to have the disc golf up and running by the end of the month.

Patrick Lamb, also a volunteer for Picture Pittsfield, addressed the Council on installing a kayak ramp at Pittsfield Lake. Many kayaks are made from high density polyurethane plastic and inserting them into the water causes friction on the bottom of the kayak, which in turn causes them to wear. He asked for a ramp to be installed with no steepness in and out of the water. The main concern is the slope of the ramp. The area should also be marked on maps. One of the aldermen suggested a ramp could also be installed on the north end if it was close to the lake since many people are using kayaks at the lake. Patrick said he didn't know who would be financing the project – the City or Picture Pittsfield, but the sooner they are installed, the better. Mayor Hayden said it is no problem – go for it.

Alderman Hollahan asked Police Chief Starman if the City Police are providing security at the courthouse. Chief Starman said a City officer worked security in his Pittsfield uniform but was working for the County, not the City.

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Mayor Hayden announced City Clerk Cindy Prentice will be submitting her formal written resignation in the next week or two. He would like the Finance Committee to meet with the people interested in being appointed until the next election in the spring of 2021. Two people have already inquired. He would like to be able for the new employee to have sixty days of training or as much as possible but the sooner someone is hired the better. Economic Development Director Diana Halmick asked Mayor Hayden if he would like her to advertise the position with an outside source such as Indeed.com but Mayor Hayden stated the opening is generally known in the community and would like the opening posted on the City website only.

An Ordinance Committee was set for July 10, 2019, at 5:00 p.m. to discuss solar panels, legalization of marijuana, and social media policy. The Historical Preservation Advisory Committee will be meeting Monday, July 8, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. to discuss a proposed mural in the downtown area.

Alderman Knight moved to adjourn this meeting at 6:50 p.m.

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City Clerk