The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pittsfield, Pike County, Illinois, was held on Tuesday, August 20, 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, Paul Lennon, Robert Ritchart, Robert Wilson, Kevin Wombles and Robert Wood.
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, Knight, Lennon, Ritchart, Wood (6)
Nay: None (0)
Present: Wilson, Wombles (2)
The motion carried.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve the Treasurer’s Monthly Report for the month of July 2019. Alderman Knight seconded the motion.
Roll Call:
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Knight, Lennon, Ritchart, Wilson, Wombles, Wood (8)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to accept the recommendation of the Zoning Committee to approve the variance for Rex A. Lothridge, owner of the property located at 210 Chestnut Street, to construct a dwelling with a front yard of sixteen feet (16’) instead of the required twenty-five feet (25’), a rear yard of twelve feet (12’) instead of the required average of twenty-five feet (25’), and a lot size of four thousand eight hundred square feet (4,800 sq. ft.) instead of the minimum required seven thousand five hundred square feet (7,500 sq. ft.).
Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.
Roll Call:
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Knight, Lennon, Ritchart, Wilson, Wombles, Wood (8)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Alderman Wood moved to approve the Shoebox Run 5K and 1 mile run on Wednesday, October 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. with the same routes as last year.
Alderman Lennon seconded the motion.
Roll Call:
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Knight, Lennon, Ritchart, Wilson, Wombles, Wood (8)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.
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Alderman Ketchum moved to approve Resolution No. 2019-3, A Resolution for the Tax Levy of .02% of the Value of all Taxable Property in the City as Equalized or Assessed by the Department of Revenue for Maintenance, Repairs, and Alterations of the Public Library Building and Equipment.
Alderman Wombles seconded the motion.

Roll Call:  
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Knight, Lennon, Ritchart, Wilson, Wombles, Wood (8)
Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.

Alderman Wilson seconded the motion.

Roll Call:  
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Knight, Lennon, Ritchart, Wilson, Wombles, Wood (8)
Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.

Alderman Lennon moved to approve Resolution No. 2019-5, a resolution appointing Priscilla A. Moffit as Authorized Agent for the City of Pittsfield for Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund purposes and giving her the power and duty to sign all related reports and communication to Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, effective September 12, 2019.
Alderman Wilson seconded the motion.

Roll Call:  
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Knight, Lennon, Ritchart, Wilson, Wombles, Wood (8)
Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.

Alderman Knight moved to approve Change Order No. 1 for Gunterman Construction for an additional amount of $1,704.00.
Alderman Lennon seconded the motion.

Roll Call:  
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Knight, Lennon, Ritchart, Wilson, Wombles, Wood (8)
Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve Pay Request No. 1 (Final) for Gunterman Construction in the amount of $75,148.00.
Alderman Knight seconded the motion.

Roll Call:  
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Knight, Lennon, Ritchart, Wilson, Wombles, Wood (8)
Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.
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Alderman Ketchum moved to allow MECO Engineer Max Middendorf to proceed with the west water tower bid process.
Alderman Lennon seconded the motion.
Roll Call:
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Knight, Lennon, Ritchart, Wilson, Wombles, Wood (8)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Permitted use for retail business in B-3 was tabled for further discussion.

Alderman Ketchum moved to direct City Attorney Hollahan to draft an ordinance amending the definitions of commercial and residential properties.
Alderman Wilson seconded the motion.
Roll Call:
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Knight, Lennon, Ritchart, Wilson, Wombles, Wood (8)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Alderman Wood moved to direct City Attorney Hollahan to draft an ordinance stating the City of Pittsfield intends to collect a 3% tax on cannabis sales should they decide to allow the sales.
Alderman Wilson seconded the motion.
Roll Call:
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Knight, Lennon, Ritchart, Wilson, Wombles, Wood (8)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to approve the Finance Committee Report and the clerk be directed to issue the claims thereon.
Alderman Grimsley seconded the motion.
Roll Call:
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Knight, Lennon, Ritchart, Wilson, Wombles, Wood (8)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

City Attorney Mike Hollahan reported there is a new expedited procedure to avoid court action on fix or flatten properties. It is only for open and notorious buildings and not for buildings that need less repair.

Mayor Hayden asked Chief Starman to look at the intersection of North Monroe Street and East Perry Street to give an opinion of whether or not to install additional stop signs on Monroe Street.
Chief Starman reported the Pikeland School Board will be meeting tomorrow, August 21, and if approved, the Public Safety Committee and three school officials will be interviewing for a full-time School Resource Officer (SRO) Tuesday, August 27. The school will pay half of the $50,000 salary. Two applicants currently employed with the City of Pittsfield Police Department will be interviewed, as well as two other applicants. Officer Jennifer Thompson is currently serving as the temporary SRO. The City of Pittsfield and the school will each pay 50% of the cost for nine months of the year and the City will pay 100% of the cost for the remaining three months. If the successful applicant is currently employed by the City, a new full-time officer will need to be hired but if the successful applicant is not currently employed by the City, they will only need to be sent to schooling for SRO training. Missouri is mandating SRO’s in classrooms and Chief Starman stated from what he learned at a recent Chief of Police orientation, it is only a matter of time until Illinois also requires it. The plan is for Officer Paul Petty to work part-time at the high school and the new SRO work full-time at Pikeland Community School and South Elementary School. Officer Clint Weir is also working one day per week.

Mayor Hayden said work will begin soon on the alleys behind Jiffi Stop and the Moose. Permits had to be resubmitted for the water extension project on West Street from Washington Street to Fayette Street.

Alderman Knight set a Gas Committee meeting for Monday, August 26, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. to discuss meter reading software and financing and possible purchase of meter reading material.

Alderman Wombles asked if anyone had mentioned the stoplight that is burned out at Washington Street and Memorial Street. Mayor Hayden said he had called about it and is trying to get it fixed.

Alderman Wilson asked what the hole is next to the street north of the new IHS Pharmacy. Mayor Hayden said it is a collapsed storm sewer and is the owner’s responsibility to repair it. It was supposed to be repaired before the pharmacy was built. It is a clay pipe and the 2” rock placed on top of it crushed it. Alderman Wilson asked if Mr. Petty had been given a timeframe to complete the repair. Street and Alley Foreman Jeff Griggs said he knows Mr. Petty got the pipe last week. It was suggested Mr. Petty be contacted to see what his plan is and if there isn’t one, a committee meeting be held, and Mr. Petty be invited to attend.

Mayor Hayden reminded the Council there is an Airport Committee meeting in ten minutes to discuss the airport cash farm lease and approval for the windmill project, as well as items that need to be done at the airport and who is going to do them.

Alderman Ritchart asked that it be put in the minutes that the Council thanks City Clerk Cindy Prentice for the thirty-seven years she has worked for the City.

Alderman Knight moved to adjourn this meeting at 6:38 p.m.

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City Clerk