The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pittsfield, Pike County, Illinois, was held on Tuesday, September 1, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Fire Department Meeting Room at 121 East Jefferson Street. The following officers were present: Mayor John Hayden, City Clerk Ann Moffit, Aldermen Bill Grimsley, Kevin Ketchum, Paul Lennon, Robert Ritchart, Beth White, Robert Wilson, and Robert Wood. Alderman Kevin Wombles was absent.

Mayor Hayden presided.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2020 Council meeting. Alderman Lennon seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Lennon, Ritchart, White, Wilson, Wood (6)
Present: Ketchum (1)
Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.

Alderman Ketchum moved to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the request from BlessingCare Corporation d/b/a Illini Community Hospital to permanently rezone the property located at 320 West Fayette Street and Church of the Nazarene to permanently rezone the property located at 310 West Fayette Street in Pittsfield to B-3 Highway Business District. Alderman Wilson seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Ritchart, White, Wilson, Wood (7)
Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to approve the Zoning Committee’s recommendation to allow the variance request of Terry and Susan Evans, owners of 414 East Morrison Street to construct a front porch which will leave a front yard of sixteen feet (16’) instead of the required twenty-five (25’) feet. Alderman Grimsley seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Ritchart, White, Wilson, Wood (7)
Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to approve Pay Request No. 2, being the final pay request, in the amount of $8,505.50 for RP Coatings, Inc. for the King Park Repainting project. Alderman Wilson seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Ritchart, White, Wilson, Wood (7)
Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.
Mayor stated that the Finance Committee met recently and approved having Attorney Hollahan draft a Resolution to establish a monthly meter fee, a resolution to establish a water service tap fee for residential customers to a time and material basis with a minimum charge of $1,000.00 and a business customer charge at time and material.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve Resolution 2020-02, a City of Pittsfield Resolution establishing a monthly meter fee increase of $4.00 effective October 1, 2020, a $4.00 increase effective April 1, 2021, and an additional $2.00 increase on October 1, 2021.
Alderman Wood seconded the motion.

Roll Call: 
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Ritchart, White, Wilson, Wood (7)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve Resolution 2020-03, a City of Pittsfield Resolution establishing a water service tap fee for residential customers at a time and material basis with a minimum charge of $1,000.00; the water service tap fee for business customers shall be on a time and material basis.

Roll Call: 
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Ritchart, White, Wilson, Wood (7)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Ordinance NO. 1665 – Meter Read Damage Fee was tabled

Attorney Hollahan explained to Mr. Donnie Swartz the procedure per 65 ILCS 5/7-3-4, a written petition, signed by the owners of record must me filed at least 30 days before it is considered by the corporate authorities, as well as certified proof the taxes have been paid.

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, Lennon, Ritchart, White, Wilson, Wood (7)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried.

Mayor Hayden reiterated that City Clean-up dates will be October 31 – November 7.

There are gas main repairs underway on Piper Lane. Steel main is being replaced with plastic main.

The tennis court asphalt is being removed. 6 – 8 inches of dirt may be needed to fill the area. The Park Board along with Picture Pittsfield will determine what will replace the tennis courts.
Alderman Wood advised that Gas and Water Superintendent Steve Watkins stated that several gas leaks are being repaired.

Alderwoman White asked about Grove Street and if more gravel was to be laid. Mayor stated that yes, gravel was to be laid.

Alderman Ritchart believes the Neighborhood Vehicle Ordinance should be reviewed, matters such as can a sticker be transferred to a new owner and annual inspections should be reviewed. Chief Starman agreed that the Ordinance should be reviewed.

Ed Knight stated that he has had a current business express interest in Lot 3 of the Industrial Park.

Alderman Grimsley stated that he was at the Airport for a meeting and wants to thank Mark Gerard for the work he has done. The airport looks great.

Ed Knight stated that we will need to keep an analog telephone line at the Airport for the Credit Card Machine until at least January. He also spoke with CDS in reference to internet service and computers at the airport, they will check antenna signal for WIFI.

Alderman Ketchum would like to have the matter of a 4-way stop sign at the intersection of Monroe and Perry Streets placed on the Agenda for the next Council Meeting.

Chief Starman updated that Council that the employee that was approved to begin the Police Academy was unable to pass the physical test to be accepted in the Academy and failed to retest. At this time Chief Starman will fill the shifts himself until such time an officer is hired.

Alderman Ketchum stated that he would like the Council to start thinking about Halloween, as this year may be different based on the COVID 19 pandemic. It was thought that the Governor or IDPH may also issue an opinion on the matter as the event nears.

Alderwoman White moved to adjourn this meeting at 6:33 p.m.

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City Clerk