The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pittsfield, Pike County, Illinois, was held on Tuesday, September 15, 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, Robert Ritchart, Beth White, Robert Wilson, Kevin Wombles, and Robert Wood. Alderman Paul Lennon was absent. Mayor Hayden presided.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve the minutes of the September 1, 2020 Council meeting. Alderman White seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Alderman Wood moved to approve the August 2020 Treasurer’s Report. Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to approve the Zoning Committee’s recommendation to allow the variance request of Tammy Brewer, owner of 231 North Madison Street, in Pittsfield, to construct an addition which will leave a rear yard of eleven (11’) feet instead of the required twenty feet (20’).

Alderman Grimsley seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to approve the Zoning Committee’s recommendation to allow the variance request of Jason and Danielle Lemons, owner of #12 Shane Lane, to place an accessory building on the east side of the house which will be four (4’) from the main building instead of the required ten feet (10’).

Alderman Grimsley seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Chief Starman shared photos of the intersection of Monroe and Perry Streets and stated he believes this to be a dangerous intersection. Alderman Ketchum states that he also thinks this intersection is a problem. Alderman Wood asked how many accidents have occurred at this intersection, to which Chief
Starman answered one since he has been employed here. Alderwoman White asked if the intersection to the west had a 4-way stop and it does.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve an ordinance be drafted for the placement of 4-way stop signs to be placed at the intersection of Monroe and Perry Streets. Alderman Grimsley seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart White, Wombles (5)
Present: None (0)
Nay: Wilson, Wood (2)
The motion carried

Mayor stated that there had been interest in Industrial park lots and both entities are not permitted uses in I1. He feels that we should revisit this matter if interest continues.

Mayor stated that Ordinance 1366 states that Trick or Treat will be on October 30 and October 31 during the hours of 6pm – 8pm. That Ordinance remains in effect and Trick or Treat hours will be as the ordinance states. He also stated that IML has asked for guidance on this matter from IDPH. Unless IDPH or the local Health Department or the Governor rules that Trick or Treating cannot occur there will be no change. He has been informed that the coordinator of the Truck or Treat will not host that event, however there is a group that is coordinating a Golf Cart Parade on October 31, at 1pm. The route has not yet been submitted to Chief Starman for approval. Attorney Hollahan stated that the Health Department can override the Trick or Treat decision.

Alderman Wood moved to accept the bid of Joe Petty, Petty Construction in the amount of $27,800.00 for the Basement Wall Project at 122 E Adams Street.

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

Alderman Wood moved to approve the addition of Ann Moffit, City Clerk and Wanda Martin, City Treasurer, and removal of retired City Clerk Cindy Prentice, from Great Rivers Bank CD, Account Number 1390070.

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

The brush yard will close Wednesday, September 16, for safety precautions, until after harvest.

Mayor expressed gratitude to Bill Lowry for all of the additional improvements he has made to Lowry Park.

Rotomilling has begun on Jackson Street. Sidewalks on Jackson Street have been completed and have been started on Washington Street.

Mayor plans to meet with the Park Board and Picture Pittsfield tomorrow to discuss the tennis court project.

The local Girl Scout troop has contacted the City and expressed interest in cleaning at Lowry Park. We appreciate any service they provide.

The gas main repairs on Piper Lane have been completed.

Alderman Grimsley said he has received concerns about the Quail Ridge oil and chip project. He understands that dust is going to occur but his is concerned about the washboarding at the beginning of the neighborhood. Mr. Reinhardt said that it looks like it has occurred due to the stopping at that area. Alderman Grimsley asked if the contractor can look into a solution. Mr. Reinhardt will have Superintendent Jeff Griggs contact them. Mayor Hayden has also received calls and emails as well.

Alderman Ketchum stated Sandy Smothers asked if a no outlet or dead-end sign could be placed on East Perry. Tom Reinhardt said he thought that there was a sign there. Mayor stated that he will have Jeff Griggs look into it.

Alderman Wood moved to enter into closed session at 6:27 pm. Alderwoman White seconded the motion.

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

Alderman Ketchum moved to enter into open session at 6:32 pm. Alderwoman White seconded the motion.

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

Alderman White moved to hire Clint Weir as a full time police officer with a starting date of November 1, 2020.
Alderman Ritchart seconded the motion.
Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Ritchart, White
Wilson, Wombles, Wood (7)
Present: None (0)
Nay: None (0)
The motion carried

Chief Starman stated that he plans to fill Officer Weir’s part-time SRO position with Ashli Freesmeyer.

Alderwoman White moved to adjourn this meeting at 6:34 p.m.

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City Clerk