March 02, 2021

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pittsfield, Pike County, Illinois, was held on Tuesday, March 02, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the City Hall Council Room at 215 North Monroe 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, Kevin Wombles, and Robert Wood.

Mayor Hayden presided.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2021 Council meeting.
Alderman Lennon seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to accept the recommendation of the Zoning Committee to approve the variance request of Linda Hittner as requested.
Alderman Grimsley seconded the motion.

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

Alderman Wood moved to approve Resolution 2021-02.
Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Mayor Hayden stated that the gas rate situation continues to evolve. Congressman Lahood has been in contact with FERC and IMGA is continuing to seek relief for the municipalities due to this issue. However, our gas bill will be due before any decisions on relief are made. The Illinois Finance Authority has offered one (1%) percent loans to cover these bills. Resolution 2021-03 Authorized the City of Pittsfield to borrow on behalf of the City for the Gas Department.

Alderman Wood moved to approve Resolution 2021-03.
Alderman Wombles seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

The Finance Committee met March 1, 2021 and approved a payment plan of 12 or 18 months for customers to repay the excess gas rate for the month of February.

Alderman Wood moved to allow a repayment plan of the utility surcharge for terms of 12, 18, 24 or 30 months.
Alderman Lennon seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Alderman Lennon moved to hold Spring Clean-up for the City of Pittsfield from Saturday, April 17, 2021 through Saturday, April 24, 2021. Hours will be 7:00 am to 7:00 pm Monday – Friday and 7:00 am – 4:00 pm on Saturdays. There will be no Sunday hours.

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

The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to approve paying bill as stated by City Clerk.
Alderman Grimsley seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart asked about the status of the vehicles parked near Wright Auto Body. Alderman Wilson stated he has spoken with Mr. Wright and they will be moved.

Alderman Ketchum has been in contact with Blake Ruebush with IDNR and they will remove fall trout fishing from the IDNR calendar. He also stated that we have less than 4 weeks to decide on the Kid's Fishing Tournament, it is normally held on the 1st Saturday of April. Mayor Hayden asked what type of contact and/or social distancing measures could be implemented? Max Middendorf stated that the only contact was while distributing tackle boxes and during the photo.

Alderman Wood read a letter to the council stating that he will withdraw as a Mayoral Candidate.

Alderman Wilson thanked Economic Development Director Ed Knight, City Clerk Ann Moffit and Staff for their time and efforts on the gas situation.

Max Middendorf stated that the test well was drilled last Thursday. There was a fine layer of sand found at Seventy-Five Feet (75'). The test results are pending; however, he believes there is a good resolution.

Alderwoman White moved to adjourn this meeting at 6:49 p.m.

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City Clerk