July 06, 2021

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pittsfield, Pike County, Illinois, was held on Tuesday, July 07, 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 Gary Mendenhall, City Clerk Ann Moffit, Aldermen Bill Grimsley, Kevin Ketchum, Paul Lennon, Chris Little, Robert Ritchart, Beth White, Robert Wilson, and Kevin Wombles.

Mayor Mendenhall presided.

Alderwoman Ketchum moved to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2021 Council meeting. Alderman Wombles seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Lennon, Little, Ritchart, Wombles, White, Wilson (7)
Nay: None (0)
Present: Ketchum (1)

The motion carried.

Planning Commission Meeting was continued to July 20, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Alderman Wombles moved to direct Attorney Hollahan to draft an Ordinance Approving the Annexation of Assembly of God to the City of Pittsfield, Pike County Illinois. Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to direct Attorney Hollahan to draft an Ordinance Approving the Annexation of property owned by the City of Pittsfield to the City of Pittsfield, Pike County, Illinois. Alderman Wilson seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to accept the Zoning Committee’s recommendation to approve the variance request of Assembly of God Church to construct a new home which will have a thirteen feet rear yard instead of the required twenty-five feet, pending the Annexation of said property into the City of Pittsfield. Alderman Lennon seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, Ritchart, Wombles, White, Wilson (8)
Nay: None (0)
Present: None 0
The motion carried.

Street and Alley Chairman Kevin Wombles stated that he has went to the prison road and assessed it with Pittsfield Township Road Commissioner, Kirby Hobbs. Mr. Hobbs has offered to complete the road repair if the City purchases the material.

Alderman Wombles also updated that council on the street repair projects that the committee has discussed.

Alderman Little moved to accept the Street & Alley Committee recommendation to begin the bid process to complete the Memorial Street Intersection Reconstruction at Fair Street.

Alderman Wombles seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

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

The motion carried.

Kathy Zimmerman and Bob Norris, co-chairman of the Abe Lincoln thanked the council for the support of the Civil War Reenactment. There were a record number of reenactors this year with approximately 350-380 in attendance. This was the 19th reenactment held at the Pittsfield Lake and planning has started for next year’s event. Ms. Zimmerman also stated that the Looking for Lincoln group hosted a 4th of July band on the square and it was well attended. They distributed an Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area Visitors Guide and noted that the William Watson Hotel has a passport for the National Registry.

Alderman Wombles moved to approve Resolution 2021-02 – A Resolution relating to Participation by Elected Officials in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund.

Alderman White seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

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

The motion carried.

Alderman Wombles moved to approve Ordinance 1682 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 110.03 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Pittsfield, on its first reading.

Alderman Ritchart seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Ritchart, Wombles, White, Wilson (7)
Nay: Little (1)
Present: None 0)

The motion carried.

Alderman Wombles moved to suspend the rules and have the second reading of Ordinance 1682, as stated above, by title only.
Alderman Wilson seconded the motion.

Roll Call:  
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Ritchart, Wombles, White, Wilson (7)  
Nay: Little (1)  
Present: None (0)  
The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to approve Ordinance 1682, as stated above, by title only, on its second reading. Alderman Wilson seconded the motion.

Roll Call:  
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Ritchart, Wombles, White, Wilson (7)  
Nay: Little (1)  
Present: None (0)  
The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to approve Ordinance 1683 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 110.08 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Pittsfield, on its first reading. Alderman Little seconded the motion.

Roll Call:  
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, Ritchart, Wombles, White, Wilson (8)  
Nay: None (0)  
Present: None (0)  
The motion carried.

Alderman Wombles moved to suspend the rules and have the second reading of Ordinance 1683, as stated above, by title only. Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.

Roll Call:  
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, Ritchart, Wombles, White, Wilson (8)  
Nay: None (0)  
Present: None (0)  
The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to approve Ordinance 1683, as stated above, by title only, on its second reading. Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.

Roll Call:  
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, Ritchart, Wombles, White, Wilson (8)  
Nay: None (0)  
Present: None (0)  
The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to approve Ordinance 1684 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 110.12 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Pittsfield, on its first reading.
Alderman Little seconded the motion.

Roll Call: 
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, Ritchart, Wombles, White, Wilson (8) 
Nay: None (0) 
Present: None 0)
The motion carried.

Alderman Wombles moved to suspend the rules and have the second reading of Ordinance 1684, as stated above, by title only. 
Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.

Roll Call: 
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, Ritchart, Wombles, White, Wilson (8) 
Nay: None (0) 
Present: None 0)
The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to approve Ordinance 1684, as stated above, by title only, on its second reading. 
Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.

Roll Call: 
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, Ritchart, Wombles, White, Wilson (8) 
Nay: None (0) 
Present: None 0)
The motion carried.

Alderwoman White moved to approve the City Seal as presented. 
Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.

Roll Call: 
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, Ritchart, Wombles, White, Wilson (8) 
Nay: None (0) 
Present: None 0)
The motion carried.

Alderwoman White moved to adopt the Organizational Chart as presented for the City of Pittsfield. 
Alderman Lennon seconded the motion.

Roll Call: 
Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, Ritchart, Wombles, White, Wilson (8) 
Nay: None (0) 
Present: None 0)
The motion carried.

Mayor Mendenhall distributed notes from the Business Meeting held on June 29, 2021. The Business Meetings will be held quarterly.
Mayor Mendenhall asked if anyone had any additional City Goals they would like to discuss. There were no additions to the City Goals at this time. Mayor Mendenhall asked that any additional goals be brought to next Council Meeting. Alderwoman White will then organize all goals.

Alderman Ritchart moved to pay bills as stated by City Clerk. Alderman Ketchum seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, Ritchart, Wombles, White, Wilson (8)
Nay: None (0)
Present: None 0)
The motion carried.

Mayor Mendenhall will be out of town from July 7 – July 16 and Alderman Wombles will be Mayor Pro Tem.

The garden tractor pull will be held at Lake Pittsfield this weekend.
Alderman Lennon asked if rock could be placed in the pot holes at the lake since there will be extra traffic this weekend.

Mayor Mendenhall and Ed Knight have been in discussion with CGI, a company that shoots videos in reference to Pittsfield to be placed on our website. There is no cost to the City for these videos.

Alderman Ritchart asked about the status of the former Hardees building. Mr. Knight believes the building has been sold to Allen’s and will house their used car lot.

Alderman Ritchart complemented the Street and Alley department on brush pick up from the recent storms.

Alderman Ritchart called an Ordinance Committee meeting for July 20, 2021 at 5:00 pm to discuss Solar Panels.

Alderman Grimsley commended the Street & Alley and Gas & Water for the work they have completed this summer.

Mayor Mendenhall asked that a Finance Committee meeting be scheduled. Finance Committee will meet on July 20, 2021 at 4:30 pm.

Alderman Ketchum seconds Alderman Grimsley’s thoughts on the Street & Alley and Gas & Water departments.

Alderman Little stated that the Picture Pittsfield commercials on Cass Cable are great.

Chief Starman announced the names of the officers that were approved for hire at last council meeting. Our two new officers are Steven Watkins and Daniel Banahan. Both individuals will begin the academy on August 8, 2021. Officer Carsey will be attending as a class supervisor which will allow our cadets to attend at no cost.
Mayor Mendenhall announced that an AED has been purchased for the pool. Additional locations for placement are being researched.

Jeff Griggs inquired about the status of Phase 3 of the walking path at King Park. Max Middendorf believes Picture Pittsfield has secured a grant to complete the project but does not know details.

Alderwoman White moved to adjourn this meeting at 6:58 p.m.

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City Clerk