January 18, 2022

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pittsfield, Pike County, Illinois, was held on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, 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 Gary Mendenhall, City Clerk Ann Moffit, and, Alderman Grimsley, Paul Lennon, Chris Little, Robert Ritchart, Robert Wilson, and Kevin Wombles, Alderwoman Beth White attended via teleconference. Alderman Kevin Ketchum was absent. Mayor Mendenhall presided.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2022 Council meeting. Alderman Knight seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yea: Grimsley, Lennon, Little, Ritchart, White, Wilson, Wombles (7)

Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.

Alderman Wombles moved to approve the December 2021 Treasurer’s Report. Alderman Grimsley seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yea: Grimsley, Lennon, Little, Ritchart, White, Wilson, Wombles (7)

Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.

The Airport Committee met January 19, 2022 and heard an update from Airport Manager Mark Gerard in reference to the tree and stump removal at the Airport. There was also discussion of cash rent for the farm ground. The current tenant has requested a three-year extension. It was decided that there would be research completed on the average of cash rent and the matter would be revisited.

The Economic Development Committee met on January 12, 2022 to discuss incentives for new business. Since the meeting Business Incentive Applications have been located and research will be done on the prior programs.

The Gas Committee met on January 13, 2022, USDI presented a gas system model summary. USDI will create several proposals. Mayor Mendenhall indicated that USDI has since provided a quote for overseeing our entire Gas System which was $5,400 per month.

Animal Shelter matter was tabled.

Alderman Wombles moved to approve Ordinance No. 1689, An Ordinance providing for installation of Handicapped Parking Space within the City of Pittsfield, Pike County, Illinois, on its second reading. Alderman Wilson seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yea: Grimsley, Lennon, Little, Ritchart, White, Wilson, Wombles (7)

Nay: None (0)

The motion carried.
January 18, 2022

Alderman Ritchart seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Alderman Lennon moved to accept the resignation of Steven Watkins as Gas and Water Superintendent effective January 28, 2022.
Alderman Grimsley seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Alderman Lennon moved to pass a Proclamation naming January 25, 2022 Illini Community Hospital Day in the City of Pittsfield.
Alderman White seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Alderman Ritchart moved to direct the Clerk to pay bills as stated.
Alderman Grimsley seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Mayor Mendenhall has had several positive comments in reference to leaving the lake road open.

Alderman Wilson asked whose responsibility it is to clean the handicap ramps. Alderman Wombles stated it is not the states responsibility. Alderman Wilson asked Chief Starman if inmates could assist with that task. Chief Starman will look into that.

Mayor Mendenhall asked that everyone review the employee handbook and if they have update suggestions or personnel suggestions to give them to Alderman Little.
January 18, 2022

Attorney Hollahan asked if the Ordinance Committee has reviewed the gaming fee ordinance. They have not.

Tom Reinhardt stated that the council room is being remodeled and the next meeting may be at the Fire Department.

Steve Watkins thanked the City for the opportunities that has been provided to him over the last 28 years. Everyone expressed gratitude for a job well done by Mr. Watkins.

Chief Starman stated that brail signage will be placed at the entrance to City Hall.

Ed Knight asked Mr. Watkins if our current gas and water system would handle a truck wash near the Industrial Park. Mr. Watkins stated that based on the USDI report presented at the Gas Committee meeting our system would handle that.

Alderman Grimsley moved to enter into closed session at 6:33 p.m. Alderman Wilson seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Alderman Wombles moved to enter into open session at 6:58 p.m. Alderman Lennon seconded the motion.

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

The motion carried.

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

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City Clerk