

March 07, 2023

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pittsfield, Pike County, Illinois, was held on Tuesday, March 07, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Room at the Pittsfield City all at 215 N Monroe Street. The following officers were present: Mayor Gary Mendenhall, City Clerk Ann Moffit, and Alderman Bill Grimsley, Kevin Ketchum, Paul Lennon, Chris Little, Beth White, and Robert Wilson.

Alderman Robert Ritchart and Kevin Wombles was absent.

Mayor Mendenhall presided.

Alderman White moved to approve February 21, 2023 city council minutes.

Alderman Little seconded the motion.

Roll Call:	Yea:	Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, White, Wilson (6)
	Nay:	NONE (0)
	Present:	(0)

The motion carried.

Mayor's Announcements:

Mayor Mendenhall, Chief Michael Starman and Public Works Director Tom Reinhardt attended the Pikeland Unit 10 School Safety meeting.

Mayor Mendenhall, Economic Development Director Ed Knight, and City Clerk Ann Moffit attended the Trux, LLC ribbon cutting.

Mayor Mendenhall has continued to meet with sever potential businesses looking for homes in Pittsfield.

Mayor Mendenhall has begun the process of reviewing the City appointed boards and committees by-laws to ensure they do not conflict with City Ordinances.

Mayor Mendenhall, Public Works Director Tom Reinhardt and City Clerk Ann Moffit have worked on updating the summary of rules and regulations for the City Lake, of which will be presented to council as an agenda item.

2023-2024 budget discussions have begun.

The IMGA Annual Meeting is March 28, 2023, 8:30am – 1:30pm at the Northfield Inn, Springfield, IL

Mrs. Heavner with S & S School of Dance informed Mayor Mendenhall that she will vacate the space she is renting at the end of June 2023.

Alderman Little moved to approve Resolution 23-04 Well #4 Pay Request #3 in the amount of \$4,705.67 Alderwoman White seconded the motion.

Roll Call:	Yea:	Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, White, Wilson, (6)
	Nay:	NONE (0)
	Present:	NONE (0)

The motion carried.

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Public Works Director, Tom Reinhardt stated that Solar Permits have become increasing more popular, Mr. Gwartney has issued three permits recently. Our Ordinance identifies regulations for Solar Panels placed as an assessor building on a lot but does not address any roof placement guidelines. Mr. Reinhardt would like the council to consider reviewing the State guidelines for safety concerns in reference to an emergency fire department situation.

Mr. Reinhardt also stated that we have no ordinance in reference to replacement of sidewalks if a homeowner or contractor removes or damages a sidewalk. Many other communities have an ordinance in reference to this and he would like an opinion on this from the committee.

Additionally, Mr. Reinhardt addressed the brush pile. Use of the brush pile is being abused by contractors. There have been several large stumps or trees that will no burn without attention, and we have many man hours involved at the burn pile. Alderman Lennon asked if we could place signage that states the size accepted. Mr. Reinhardt stated that there is a sign that states nothing over 18 inches shall be dumped.

The council asked Mr. Reinhardt to compile information and present the results to the Ordinance Committee.

Alderman Little moved to have Ordinance Committee review placement of a yield or stop sign at the intersection of Madison Street and Kellogg Street and removal of the stop sign at Walnut Street and Grant Street.

Alderwoman White seconded the motion.

Roll Call:	Yea:	Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, White, Wilson, (6)
	Nay:	NONE (0)
	Present:	NONE (0)

The motion carried.

Alderman Ketchum moved to approve the Summary of Rules and Regulations for Lake Pittsfield. Alderman Lennon seconded the motion.

Roll Call:	Yea:	Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, White, Wilson, (6)
	Nay:	NONE (0)
	Present:	NONE (0)

The motion carried.

Alderman Ketchum moved to accept the recommendation to hire Eric Naughton for the Gas and Water Operator position effective March 10, 2023. Alderman Grimsley seconded the motion.

Roll Call:	Yea:	Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little, White, Wilson, (6)
	Nay:	NONE (0)

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Present: NONE (0)
The motion carried.

Alderwoman White moved to pay bills as stated by City Clerk.
Alderman Lennon seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Yea: Grimsley, Ketchum, Lennon, Little,
White, Wilson, (6)
Nay: NONE (0)
Present: NONE (0)
The motion carried.

New Business:

Mayor Mendenhall shared an email that Chief Starman sent to all city officers. He has asked officers to address the issue of litter, debris, and inoperative vehicles. He asked that residents be given a time period to correct the issue of litter, debris and inoperative vehicles before issuing citations.

Mayor Mendenhall stated that the usage of the DCEO Grant will be costs associated with the expansion of City Hall.

Mayor Mendenhall distributed sample ordinances in reference to Garbage and Trash and Park Model Homes as well as a sample Licensing Agreement between City of Pittsfield and Garbage Haulers. This has been a topic of discussion for quite a while and the samples were drafted for review.

Alderman Grimsley thanked the Public Works employees for their hard work, he has noticed many improvements.

Alderman Lennon asked about the advertising benches that had been previously discussed. Mr. Hollahan stated that he has spoken with David Freesmeyer, who would like to place the benches and believes that it will be April before they are ready to be placed.

Alderwoman White reminded everyone that the Fireman's Auxiliary will host a Father/Daughter dance on Saturday at the Crossroads Center. She noted that the event has been hosted each year since 2016, with the exception of 2021 due to Covid.

Alderwoman White called a Finance Committee meeting for March 21, to discuss Budget and Health Insurance.

Alderman Ketchum announced that Max and Brenda Middendorf were presented with a award for volunteering at the QUMA.

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Alderman Little asked about camping fees. Mayor stated that we will need review the costs associated with the campground and also consider the elevated electric rates and make that determination.

Alderman Little asked if we fill wells and cisterns in town. Tom Reinhardt stated that in the past materials have been provided.

Ed Knight stated that with the assistance of MECO we have submitted a grant application for Higbee Street resurfacing.

Mr. Knight also stated that with the elevated electric costs the option of solar has been reviewed and we have provided information to analyze the option.

Mr. Hollahan stated that in addition to the two sample ordinances that Mayor Mendenhall presented earlier his office will be preparing two more sample ordinances. He reminded the council that he is simply preparing the ordinances for review.

Max Middendorf stated that MECO has a new employee for CAD and they will assist with any brochures that the city would need.

Mr. Reinhardt stated that the tree has been removed from the yard north of the airport and the brush pile at the airport is being burnt. Tree removal in town is still in progress. The Lagoon fountain has been installed. Picture Pittsfield has ordered signs for the new dog park and they will be installed. New gas service has been installed at the new "Lunch Box" establishment.

Alderwoman White moved to adjourn this meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Ann Moffit