

: OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS :**: OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS :**

Council Chambers, Peoria, Illinois, May 3, 2011, a Special City Council Meeting was held this date at 6:17 P.M., at City Hall, Council Chambers, 419 Fulton Street, with Mayor Jim Ardis presiding, and with proper notice having been posted.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call showed the following Council Members were physically present: Gulley, Irving, Jacob, Montelongo, Riggenbach, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis - 11.
Absent: None.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Ardis requested a moment of silent prayer or silent reflection and he requested that, in light of the current events in the last few days regarding the death of Osama Bin Laden, family members of those lost on September 11, 2001, and the first responders to the tragedy, who were lost on that day, and those retiring Council Members and the newly elected Council Members be remembered, and then Mayor Ardis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS**CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE, for the City of Peoria, with Recommendations as Outlined:**

- (11-189) * **Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of the APPLICATION for a CLASS H (Temporary Outdoor) LIQUOR LICENSE at 419 N. E. MADISON from the CATHOLIC CHARITIES of the DIOCESE of PEORIA on SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2011.**
- (11-190) **PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY FINANCIAL and STATISTICAL REPORT for Period Ending JANUARY 31, 2011, with Request to Receive and File.**
- (11-191) **PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL REPORT for Period Ending FEBRUARY 28, 2011, with Request to Receive and File.**

Mayor Ardis questioned if the Council wished to have any of the Consent Agenda items removed for further discussion.

On behalf of Council Member Jacob, Mayor Ardis requested that Item No. 11-189 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Council Member Van Auken moved to approve the Consent Agenda items as outlined in the Council Communications; seconded by Council Member Irving.

Items No. 11-189 through 11-191 (excluding Item No. 11-189, which was removed for further discussion) were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.
Yeas: Gulley, Irving, Jacob, Montelongo, Riggenbach, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis - 11;
Nays: None.

- (11-189) * Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of the APPLICATION for a CLASS H (Temporary Outdoor) LIQUOR LICENSE at 419 N. E. MADISON from the CATHOLIC CHARITIES of the DIOCESE of PEORIA on SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2011.**

Mayor Ardis said that Council Member Jacob indicated he would be abstaining from discussing and voting on this item because he was a liquor licensee and was prohibited from voting on liquor related matters by State Statute 235 ILCS 5/6-2.

Council Member Van Auken moved to approve the application for a Class H (Temporary Outdoor) Liquor license at 419 N. E. Madison from the Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Peoria on Saturday, May 21, 2011; seconded by Council Member Irving.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Irving, Montelongo, Riggenbach, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis - 10;

Nays: None;

Abstentions: Jacob - 1.

- (11-192) Consideration of Qualifications of Electees and, if Necessary, Action Thereon.**

Corporation Counsel Randy Ray said he felt the City Treasurer could verify that all members were qualified.

City Treasurer Patrick Nichting confirmed that all members were qualified at this time based on the letter that was provided by the City's Corporation Counsel.

Mayor Ardis stated there was no need for any additional action on this item.

CITIZENS' OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL/TOWN BOARD

- (11-193) REQUEST from CITIZENS to Address the CITY COUNCIL/TOWN BOARD Regarding Various Items.**

Savino Sierra, a Peoria resident, wished Council Member Jacob well in his recovery and he congratulated the newly elected City Council Members.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was determined that an Executive Session was not needed.

PRESENTATIONS TO RETIRING AT-LARGE COUNCIL MEMBERS

RESOLUTION **JIM MONTELONGO**

Mayor Ardis called Council Member Montelongo forward and presented him with a gift and the following Resolution:

"WHEREAS, Jim Montelongo has served as a Council Member for the City of Peoria, Illinois, from May 2007 to May 2011, and this year brings an end to four years of dedicated service by Jim Montelongo to the City of Peoria, during which he has given freely of his time in an unselfish effort and has demonstrated the highest ideals of public service by his dedication; and

WHEREAS, Jim Montelongo, by his many years of efficient service as Council Member representing the residents of Peoria, has served as a member of the GIS Policy Committee, the Business Development Committee, IT Committee, City Council/Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce Committee, worked with the ELITE group to solve issues occurring during summer events, among others, and co-founded Breakfast Chat and has well earned the endless gratitude of the citizens of Peoria;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council, on behalf of its members, the officials and employees of the City of Peoria, and the citizens of the community, do hereby express to Jim Montelongo sincere and profound appreciation and thanks for his years of dedicated service as a Peoria City Council Member.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Honorable Jim Montelongo be presented this resolution, and this resolution be spread upon the permanent records of the City of Peoria, Illinois, attested to by the City Clerk.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, this 3rd of May 2011 A.D.

/s/ James E. Ardis, III
Mayor Jim Ardis

/s/ Clyde E. Gulley, Jr.
Clyde E. Gulley, Jr.

/s/ Barbara Van Auken
Barbara Van Auken

/s/ George Jacob
George Jacob

/s/ Timothy D. Riggerbach
Timothy D. Riggerbach

/s/ Gary Sandberg
Gary Sandberg

/s/ William R. Spears
William R. Spears

/s/ Ryan M. Spain
Ryan M. Spain

/s/ Dan L. Irving
Dan L. Irving

/s/ W. Eric Turner
W. Eric Turner

ATTEST:

/s/ Mary L. Haynes
City Clerk

EXAMINED AND APPROVED:

/s/ Randall Ray
Corporation Counsel"

REMARKS BY COUNCIL MEMBER JIM MONTELONGO

Council Member Montelongo said it had been an honor serving the people of Peoria for the last four years. He reflected back and explained what it was like to be a new City Council Member. He said he focused on constituent services and resolving everyday problems. He thanked Council Member Turner for co-hosting regular meetings with taxpayers. He said he cared about business owners in the community and he spoke of the Ad Hoc committee who met with businesses and pro-business groups to work toward making Peoria a great place to do business. He commended neighborhood leaders, who were the roots to the community, for their efforts and he thanked them for their service.

Council Member Montelongo said there was one neighborhood association, who he had worked with closely, and they had requested a neighborhood sign, but the constraints of the City's budget would not allow for the expenditure. He said he would personally write a grant so the sign could be installed.

Council Member Montelongo said it had been an honor to serve with Mayor Ardis and this Council as the City was maneuvered through some difficult times. He said there was a common thread of community service and making Peoria a better place to live without raising property taxes. He thanked the City employees for their service to the City Council and the citizens of Peoria. He wished newly elected Council Member Chuck Weaver and Council Member Beth Akeson the best in the future. He said it had been a pleasure to serve the people of Peoria.

RESOLUTION
GEORGE F. JACOB

Mayor Ardis called George Jacob, Jr. forward on behalf of his father, Council Member George Jacob, and presented him with a gift and the following Resolution:

"WHEREAS, George F. Jacob has served as Council Member At-Large for the City of Peoria, Illinois, from June 2005 to May 2011, and this year brings to an end six years of dedicated service by George F. Jacob to the City of Peoria, during which he has given freely of his time in an unselfish effort and has demonstrated the highest ideals of public service by his dedication; and

WHEREAS, George F. Jacob, by his many years of efficient service as Council Member representing the residents of Peoria, has served as a member of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee, Sustainability Committee, City/County Cooperation Committee, Mayor's Advisory Committee for the Disabled, City Budget Committee, Business Planning Committee, among others, assisted numerous neighborhood associations, and has been a quiet hero with his personal donations to various community activities and has well earned the endless gratitude of the citizens of Peoria;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council, on behalf of its members, the officials and employees of the City of Peoria, and the citizens of the community, do hereby express to George F. Jacob sincere and profound appreciation and thanks for his years of dedicated service as a Peoria City Council Member.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Honorable George F. Jacob be presented this resolution, and this resolution be spread upon the permanent records of the City of Peoria, Illinois, attested to by the City Clerk.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, this 3rd of May 2011 A.D.

/s/ James E. Ardis, III
Mayor Jim Ardis

/s/ Clyde E. Gulley, Jr.
Clyde E. Gulley, Jr.

/s/ Barbara Van Auken
Barbara Van Auken

/s/ Jim Montelongo
Jim Montelongo

/s/ Timothy D. Riggerbach
Timothy D. Riggerbach

/s/ Gary Sandberg
Gary Sandberg

/s/ William R. Spears
William R. Spears

/s/ Ryan M. Spain
Ryan M. Spain

/s/ Dan L. Irving
Dan L. Irving

/s/ W. Eric Turner
W. Eric Turner

ATTEST:

/s/ Mary L. Haynes
City Clerk

EXAMINED AND APPROVED:

/s/ Randall Ray
Corporation Counsel"

REMARKS BY JAKE JACOB on behalf of his father,
COUNCIL MEMBER GEORGE JACOB

Jake Jacob stated, on behalf of his father, that Council Member Jacob had been honored to be appointed by Mayor Ardis to serve on the Council, which changed his life forever, and he thanked him. He said he especially enjoyed attending neighborhood meetings and working with residents in the older neighborhoods. He extended his best wishes to the newly elected Council Members and he urged them to "soak it in" because the time would pass quickly.

Jake Jacob, on behalf of his father, stressed the importance of family and he indicated he considered the Council and City Staff his Tuesday night family. He said, even though there were disagreements at times, he respected each and every one on the Council and he thanked them for their friendship and support. He said he had tried to serve as best as he could, but he said he was not able to be there in the same way this past year, but his supporters had been there for him when he needed them the most. He said he had a strong faith, great friends, great parents and family, and he thanked them for their love and support. He especially thanked his wife and children for their inner strength. He said no one knows what tomorrow will bring, but he hoped he would one day be able to be of service to the community again.

Council Member Spears moved to approve the Resolutions presented to Council Member Montelongo and Council Member Jacob, and direct the City Clerk to spread the Resolutions upon the permanent record; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Gulley, Irving, Jacob, Montelongo, Riggensbach, Sandberg, Spain, Spears,
Turner, Van Auken, Mayor Ardis - 11;

Nays: None.

REMARKS BY CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Turner said, as Council Member Montelongo and Council Member Jacob departed from the City Council, he had always respected and appreciated their guidance, counsel, and friendship. He said the new City Council would work on the issues before them, but he assured them their experience, wisdom, and insight would be missed. He said they would always have a feeling of accomplishment as they reflected on their years of service. He thanked them for their commitment to the community.

Council Member Riggensbach reflected back on his early relationships with Council Member Montelongo and Council Member Jacob before they all served on the Council. He said both gentlemen exemplified their commitment to the City, but he really appreciated their commitment to the Third District. He said both Council Members were known for their response to constituent services and he said he was proud to have served with both Council Member Montelongo and Council Member Jacob. He wished them both the best in the future.

Council Member Spears said his friendship with Council Member Montelongo began when their children were small and he said it was a friendship that would not go away. He said he admired Council Member Montelongo's quiet leadership and he felt that was an important characteristic. He said he would be missed and he wished him well in his future. Council Member Spears said he had a different relationship with Council Member Jacob, since he was his brother-in-law. He said he was humbled by Council Member Jacob's service and he thanked him for his leadership example. He said it had been a privilege to serve with him and he had enjoyed their interactions. He said he wished him the best in the future.

Council Member Gulley said it was always a pleasure to interact with Council Member Montelongo on common issues and he said he appreciated his views on the "hot" issues and projects of the day. He said he would miss those opportunities to share. He said he had to remind Council Member Jacob that he was an At-Large Council Member rather than the First District Council Member because Council Member Jacob attended so many events and meetings in the First District. He expressed his appreciation to Council Member Jacob for his diligent work on all the projects in the Southside, which was very encouraging. He thanked him for his 110% efforts.

Council Member Spain said he had the opportunity to sit next to both outgoing Council Members in the horseshoe. He said it had been great serving with Council Member Montelongo as new Council Members together and it had been a pleasure to work with him and to understand his advocacy for neighborhoods, leadership on important issues, advocacy for the business community and putting that to work on the Council. He thanked him for his service. He said during his first two years on the Council, he sat next to Council Member Jacob and he felt it was a tremendous opportunity to serve with him. He cited the long list of projects Council Member Jacob had been involved in the last four years, which he felt was impressive. He thanked Council Member Jacob for his service to the community and he said he would miss both departing Council Members.

Council Member Van Auken said she would make her comments privately.

Council Member Irving thanked Council Member Montelongo for being well-thought out and well-prepared on every issue he talked to him about and he always appreciated that he took the time to talk. He said he appreciated his business logic and thanked him for his leadership in this area. He said it was a pleasure to work with him. He commended Council Member Jacob for his actions of being "all in" when it came to serving the community. He said he was a man of character and passion and he set the example for the rest of the Council. He wished Council Member Jacob and his family well in the future.

Council Member Sandberg said Council Member Montelongo and Council Member Jacob represented the continuum of leadership. He said he respected their efforts and each had brought unique talents, disciplines, and insights to address issues of different interests. He said Council Members were elected because of their commitment to the community and it had been an honor and privilege to serve with both in their quiet ways. He wished them well in the future.

Mayor Ardis said he had found Council Member Montelongo to be one of the most thoughtful Council Members to citizens and other Council Members, but also to the reasonable approach he has taken to resolve complex issues. He said he appreciated that characteristic. He said he agreed that Council Member Montelongo's Hispanic roots were not the reason for his election to the Council, but he was elected ahead of the curve and the fact that the Hispanic population was one of the fastest growing demographics in the nation. He said he felt Council Member Montelongo would have many opportunities to serve in the future and he wished him and his family the best. He said everyone in the community felt they knew Council Member Jacob. He said Council Member Jacob had more giving ability than anyone he knew and he appreciated

that quality in him. He commended Council Member Jacob's parents and their family values. He said it had been an inspiration to witness what a strong faith was like and what that faith would help people go through in the most trying of times. He said Council Member Jacob was the strongest person he had ever met and he said he had every reason to believe that Council Member Jacob was in this position to teach himself and others something. He said he felt there was work left for Council Member Jacob to accomplish. He thanked the Jacob family for their service to the community. He said Council Member Jacob would someday be back in service to his community.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Montelongo moved to adjourn the Special City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Jacob.

Approved by viva voce vote.

The City Council Meeting adjourned sine die at 7:07 P.M.

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Mary L. Haynes, MMC, City Clerk
City of Peoria, Illinois

*****ADMINISTERING THE OATHS OF OFFICE *** AT-LARGE COUNCIL MEMBERS**

City Clerk Mary L. Haynes gave a welcoming address and administered the Oath of Office to the following newly elected Council Members At-Large:

Council Member At-Large Beth A. Akeson
Council Member At-Large Gary L. Sandberg
Council Member At-Large Ryan M. Spain
Council Member At-Large W. Eric Turner
Council Member At-Large Charles E. Weaver

*****CONVENING OF NEW COUNCIL*****

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed the following Council Members were physically present: Akeson, Gulley, Irving, Riggerbach, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Weaver, Mayor Ardis - 11.
Absent: None.

INVOCATION by PASTOR CAL RYCHENER of NORTHWOODS COMMUNITY CHURCH

Pastor Cal Rychener gave the invocation.

**REMARKS BY NEWLY ELECTED AT-LARGE COUNCIL MEMBERS
AND DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Council Member Turner thanked the citizens for his re-election to the City Council. He congratulated the other newly elected or re-elected At-Large Council Members and welcomed them. He stated the next four years would be about accountability and those decisions could not be made by optimizing special agendas. He said citizens re-elected three incumbent City Council Members to use the leadership and experience gained to address issues that would ultimately determine the future of Peoria. He said he looked forward to working with the new City Council and new ideas, energy and commitment to initiate change.

Council Member Irving congratulated Council Members Sandberg, Spain, and Turner on their re-election. He said he had enjoyed working with them in the past and looked forward to the future. He welcomed newly elected Council Member Akeson and Council Member Weaver. He said being a public official was a privilege with high expectations and he was sure they would excel. He said he looked forward to working with both of them.

Council Member Spears welcomed Council Members Sandberg, Spain, and Turner back to the City Council and he said he felt the consistency they brought would enhance the next four years. He also welcomed newly elected Council Members Akeson and Weaver and he warned there would be ups and downs, but he hoped they enjoyed the experience and would always remember they served the community. He said he felt the City would move forward if the new Council Members stayed consistent with that message.

Council Member Gulley said he was excited about the new Council and he welcomed the newly elected Council Members. He said it was evident that nothing was approved by the Council with one vote and the Council needed to act as a team and work together. He said he looked forward to what would be accomplished in the next few months.

Council Member Spain stated he was honored and humbled to return to the Council for another term. He thanked his wife and their families for their support and help with his campaign. He especially thanked his parents for the values they instilled in him that he could use in his work with the City Council. He also thanked neighborhood leaders for their support. He welcomed the newly elected Council Members and he said it had been an honor working with the District Council Members and the returning At-Large Council Members. He stated he looked forward to the new perspectives that would be brought by newly elected Council Member Akeson and Council Member Weaver. He said there were some significant challenges facing Peoria, but there were also some great opportunities ahead. He stated he wanted the City Council to take advantage of the opportunity to come together through the leadership of the new City Manager on common elements for the future of Peoria. He said he felt there was positioning now in place to make a difference in facing struggles regarding the budget and key issues over the next four years. He thanked everyone for the confidence they had in him and for re-electing him to the City Council.

Council Member Riggerbach congratulated Council Member Turner, Council Member Sandberg, and Council Member Spain for their re-election to the City Council. He discussed the ways each were unique in their own manner. He commended the institutional knowledge that Council Member Sandberg brought to the Council. He assured the Council that he and Council Member Akeson would interact with each other very well because they both had passion for the City of Peoria and he felt Council Member Akeson and Council Member Weaver would be great additions to the Council. He stated he looked forward to working with both.

Council Member Van Auken congratulated the newly re-elected Council Members and she used the example of Council Member Spears, who was a quiet leader. She urged the newly elected Council Members to be brief and to listen.

Council Member Sandberg congratulated Council Member Turner and Council Member Spain for being re-elected to the City Council and he welcomed the two newly elected Council Members. He said he felt Council Member Akeson would make a great At-Large Council Member after understanding what she stood for, because the rules were different. He said her focus on a vision would serve the citizens in Peoria quite well. He also welcomed Council Member Weaver and he said he looked forward to working with him on the City Council in the future. He stressed the importance of the next four years for the City of Peoria and he urged Council Members to never forget their past. He said the lessons of a strong, vibrant, economically hardy Peoria had been lost in many ways and for Peoria to regain true prosperity for all three classes, lessons would need to be relearned for Peoria to be an icon across the nation once again. He challenged the Council to work together to take Peoria to its greater good.

Mayor Ardis thanked the families of the re-elected Council Members for their support and sacrifice. He said it was very important to understand what families give up to provide elected officials the opportunity to serve. He said he felt fortunate that three Council Members were re-elected because it validated the work that had been accomplished, and was due to the unique talents brought by each Council Member. He stated this community was fortunate that, under these difficult times and the number of challenges the City faced, Council Member Akeson and Council Member Weaver would make the sacrifice to come forward to serve. He read quotes from President Teddy Roosevelt and he encouraged the Council to give strength to each other and to support the new City Manager.

Council Member Akeson discussed her reasons for running for a seat on the City Council. She said it was the perfect time for her to serve the City of Peoria and she was honored and humbled to have this opportunity. She stated she was passionate about helping Peoria become a city that worked well for all citizens and her pledge was to listen to citizens. She stated the community would be better if different points of view were embraced and she said a City initiative with a focus on core neighborhoods would improve all citizens' quality of life. She thanked former Mayor Dave Ransburg for her appointment to the Heart of Peoria Commission and the development of the Heart of Peoria Plan, which was brought forward by thousands of citizens with the sole idea of making Peoria a more livable place. She said the concepts of the plan must be embraced by City leaders as decisions were made and she explained she decided to run for a place on the City Council for this reason. She thanked those volunteers whose assistance on her campaign was immeasurable. She thanked her children for their support and the neighborhood leaders who assisted her in so many ways. She thanked her mother for her influence in her life and for encouraging her to be a leader. She thanked her husband for his support and she expressed her appreciation for his willingness to listen and participate. She said she would do her best to continue the work started by Council Member Jacob and to focus her energy in the areas he cared so deeply about. She thanked Council Member Montelongo for his service and she hoped he would provide advice in the future as needed. She thanked the City Staff, the City Manager, and the Council and she said she looked forward to working with everyone and bringing greater transparency to the process.

Council Member Weaver thanked his parents for their hard work and perseverance. He thanked his wife, children, and family for their sacrifices and support, and he thanked the volunteers for working on his campaign. He stated he was honored to be a City Council Member and he asked for their guidance and patience. He said any direction would be welcomed. He commended the City Staff on the orientation procedure and he said the City should be proud. He discussed his meetings with individual Staff Members in the Fire and Police Departments and he said he presented some of their ideas to the City Manager regarding improvements for the City. He cited four quotes that he planned to keep in front of him during Council Meetings that regarded integrity, matters of principal, and challenging mediocrity. He

said he looked forward to working with the City Council as they promoted working families, attracting businesses to the City, and making big changes to big things. He said he was prepared to embrace the new economy in the world, but it would take working together in businesses, charities, and in the neighborhoods. He said he appreciated the comment that he did not own his Council seat and he planned to bring honor to the position.

Mayor Ardis thanked Communications Manager and Assistant to the Mayor Alma Brown, Linda Cooper from the City Manager's Office, City Clerk Mary Haynes and her Staff, and members of the Public Works Department for their work in preparing for this evening's meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was determined that an Executive Session was not needed.

BENEDICTION BY PASTOR CAL RYCHENER

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Akeson moved to adjourn the Special City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Weaver.

Approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akeson, Gulley, Irving, Riggerbach, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auker, Weaver, Mayor Ardis - 11;

Nays: None.

The City Council Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Mary L. Haynes, MMC, City Clerk
City of Peoria, Illinois

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***** RECEPTION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING *****