

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

Council Chambers, Peoria, Illinois, December 13, 2011, a Regular City Council Meeting was held this date at 6:15 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: Akeson, Gulley, Irving, Riggerbach, Sandberg, Spain, Spears (arrived at 6:19 P.M.), Turner, Van Auken, Weaver, Mayor Ardis - 11. Absent: None.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Jim Ardis requested a moment of silent prayer or silent reflection, and then he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS, COMMENDATIONS, ETC.

PROCLAMATION: WORLD AIDS DAY - December 1, 2011

MINUTES

Council Member Spain moved to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on November 22, 2011, as printed; seconded by Council Member Turner.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES & COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OF PEORIA

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE, for the City of Peoria, with Recommendations as Outlined:

- (11-532) NOTICE OF LAWSUIT Filed on Behalf of WANDA THOMAS Requesting Reimbursement for Medical Bills on basis of the Illinois Worker's Compensation Act, with Request to Receive for Information and Refer to the Legal Department.**
- (11-533) NOTICE of LAWSUIT Filed on Behalf of JUNIE and RON CATO Claiming Injury from a Sidewalk Fall on June 9, 2011, with Request to Receive for Information and Refer to the Legal Department.**
- (11-534) NOTICE of LAWSUIT Filed on Behalf of OSF HEALTHCARE SYSTEM Regarding Medical Bills due to Mario Raines Being in Custody of the City of Peoria, with Request to Receive for Information and Refer to the Legal Department.**
- (11-535) NOTICE of LAWSUIT Filed by YATISHA L. STURDIVANT Against the City of Peoria and Police Officers Regarding an Alleged Injury on November 14, 2010, Involving an Accident, with Request to Receive for Information and Refer to the Legal Department.**

- (11-536) NOTICE of LAWSUIT Filed on Behalf of HOLLY B. PIASSE Against the City of Peoria and Greater Peoria Mass Transit District Regarding an Injury Claim When her Vehicle was Struck by a CityLink Bus, with Request to Receive for Information and Refer to the Legal Department.
- (11-537) Communication from the City Manager and Fire Chief Requesting Approval to DISPOSE of a 1983 FIRE LADDER TRUCK through a METAL RECYCLER.
- (11-538) Communication from the City Manager and Acting Director of Planning and Growth Management with Recommendation from the Human Resources Commission (HRC) to Award Public Service Funding at the Level Indicated Utilizing 2012 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDS from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and Permission to Adjust Said Funding, if Necessary, for Each Funded Application by the Percentage of Change in HUD's 2012 CDBG ALLOCATION to the City of Peoria, if Said Funding is no More than 5% Above or Below the CDBG Allocation Received in 2011 (City Wide).
- (11-539) Communication from the City Manager Requesting Approval to EXTEND the BOUNDARY for the SOUTHERN GATEWAY FACADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.
- (11-540) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of an AMENDMENT to the 1996 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT Between the City of Peoria and the PEORIA CIVIC CENTER AUTHORITY Concerning Funding for ARTSPARTNERS of CENTRAL ILLINOIS.
- (11-541) Communication from the City Manager and Acting Director of Planning and Growth Management Requesting Approval of an EXTENSION of the RESIDENTIAL DEMOLITION CONTRACT with ACCURATE SITE DEMOLITION EXPERTS Until MARCH 31, 2014, a Price Reduction, and the Addition of FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS to the CONTRACT in Order to Comply with Community Development Block Grant Regulations (City Wide).
- (11-542) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with Recommendation from the Peoria City/County Landfill Committee to Approve a CONTRACT with FOTH INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENT for 2012 ENGINEERING SERVICES for the PEORIA CITY/COUNTY LANDFILL, in the Amount of \$445,000.00.
- (11-543) Communication from the City Manager Requesting Approval of an AMENDMENT to an INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT Between the COUNTY OF PEORIA and CITY OF PEORIA that CONTINUES FEDERAL REPRESENTATION RELATIONSHIPS, Adds TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION to the Agreement, and Establishes a Contract Length and Cost.

- (11-544) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works Requesting Approval of RESOLUTION NO. 11-544 to PARTICIPATE in Portions of the REGIONAL STORMWATER PLAN, in an Amount of \$7,226.97, Due to Peoria County, in Anticipation to Receive SPECIAL APPROPRIATION ACT PROJECT GRANT FUND REIMBURSEMENT, in an Amount of \$57,750, Received Through Peoria County; and Approve the PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT with PATRICK N. MEYER & ASSOCIATES, INC., Totaling \$16,500.00, Including a Lump Sum Amount of \$10,500.00, as the City's Share of Engineering Costs for the Subject Grant Processing, Plus Three Annual Lump Sum Payments in the Amount of \$2,000.00 for Participation in the NATIONAL POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) MUNICIPAL STORMWATER GROUP for THREE YEARS.
- (11-545) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with the Following Recommendations:
- A. ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 16,774 Amending the City of Peoria Budget for Fiscal Year 2011 Relating to the USE of EAGLEVIEW TIF FUND BALANCE, in the Amount of \$56,941.00;
 - B. APPROVE REIMBURSEMENT to BEHR RECYCLING of Approximately \$56,940.75 for Half of the Costs of Providing Temporary Repairs to Clark Street.
- (11-546) Communication from the City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller Requesting Adoption of the Following:
- A. ORDINANCE NO. 16,775 LEVYING a TAX for Fiscal Year 2012 for the WEAVERRIDGE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA PARCEL A - GOLF COURSE;
 - B. ORDINANCE NO. 16,776 LEVYING a TAX for Fiscal Year 2012 for the WEAVERRIDGE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA PARCEL D – LOT 600;
 - C. ORDINANCE NO. 16,777 LEVYING a TAX for Fiscal Year 2012 for the WEAVERRIDGE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA PARCEL 136-B;
 - D. ORDINANCE NO. 16,778 LEVYING a TAX for Fiscal Year 2012 for the WEAVERRIDGE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA LOT 308 (TALLGRASS CONDO).
- (11-547) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel Requesting Adoption of ORDINANCE NO. 16,779 LEVYING a TAX for Fiscal Year 2012 for the WESTLAKE SPECIAL SERVICE AREA.
- (11-548)
* Communication from the City Manager and Acting Director of Planning and Growth Management with Recommendation from the Zoning Commission and Staff to Adopt an ORDINANCE Rezoning Property Located at 2308 W. NEBRASKA AVENUE from the Present Class O-2 (Exclusive Office Park) District to a Class R-3 (Single Family Residential) District and Granting a SPECIAL USE for ELDERLY HOUSING, with Conditions.

- (11-549) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of a SITE APPLICATION for a CLASS K (Catering) LIQUOR LICENSE at 3113 DRIES LANE, with Recommendation from the Liquor Commission to Approve.
- (11-550) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of a SITE APPLICATION to Add a SUBCLASS 1A (2:00 A.M. Closing) to a CLASS B (Restaurant, Full-Service Bar/50% Food) LIQUOR LICENSE at 5025 W. AMERICAN PRAIRIE, with Recommendation from the Liquor Commission to Approve.
- (11-551) APPOINTMENT by Mayor Ardis to the MAYOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE for the DISABLED, with Request to Concur:
- Greg Speck - Term Expires 6/30/2014
- (11-552) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works with Request to HOLD a POLICY SESSION on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2012, at 10:00 A.M. at The Waterhouse, 619 Water Street, Peoria, Illinois, to Discuss the PRELIMINARY PLANS for IMPROVING the WAREHOUSE DISTRICT Per the FEDERAL TIGER II AGREEMENT, to Discuss the CONVERSION of JEFFERSON and ADAMS STREETS to TWO-WAY STREETS, and to Consider any Regular Business that May Arise Per a Listed Agenda. (Refer to Item Nos. 11-493 and 11-525.)
- (11-553) Communication from the City Manager and Finance Director/Comptroller Regarding the QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT Ending SEPTEMBER 30, 2011.
- (11-554) REPORT of the CITY TREASURER PATRICK A. NICHTING for the MONTH of OCTOBER 2011, with Request to Receive and File.
- (11-555) ADOPTION of COMMITTEE REPORT Regarding IMPROVING the WAREHOUSE DISTRICT Per the FEDERAL TIGER II GRANT.

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

Council Members Van Auken requested that Item No. 11-548 be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Spain moved to approve the Consent Agenda items as outlined in the Council Communications; seconded by Council Member Riggerbach.

Items No. 11-532 through 11-555 (excluding Item No. 11-548 which was removed for further discussion) were approved by roll call vote under the Omnibus Vote Designation.
Yeas: Akeson, Gulley, Irving, Riggerbach, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Weaver, Mayor Ardis – 11;
Nays: None.

- (11-548) * **Communication from the City Manager and Acting Director of Planning and Growth Management with Recommendation from the Zoning Commission and Staff to Adopt an ORDINANCE Rezoning Property Located at 2308 W. NEBRASKA AVENUE from the Present Class O-2 (Exclusive Office Park) District to a Class R-3 (Single Family Residential) District and Granting a SPECIAL USE for ELDERLY HOUSING, with Conditions.**

Council Member Van Auken noted, in addition to the Sterling Oaks Neighborhood Association and the surrounding neighbors, business neighbor, A.M.T., strongly supported this project. She thanked Mr. Ben Porush, the owner of 3 Diamond Development, for their belief in the Peoria community and for putting the right project in the right place. She urged the Council to support this item.

Council Member Van Auken moved to concur with the recommendation from the Zoning Commission and Staff to adopt the Ordinance rezoning property located at 2308 W. Nebraska Avenue from the present Class O-2 (Exclusive Office Park) District to a Class R-3 (Single Family Residential) District and granting a Special Use for Elderly Housing, with conditions; seconded by Council Member Spain.

ORDINANCE NO. 16,780 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

- (11-556) **PRESENTATION and REPORT Entitled "COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS IN THE CITY OF PEORIA" Prepared by the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce, with Request to Receive and File.**

Hearing no objections, Mayor Ardis granted Privilege of the Floor to Roberta Parks, President of the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce.

Roberta Parks, President of the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce, said she felt this was a joint effort between the City and the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce and was supported by City Manager Patrick Urich. She explained the focus was placed on the Planning and Growth Department, Inspections Department, Economic Development Department, and the Public Works Department. She said other departments were discussed when they were a part of a process.

Chamber President Parks explained after focus groups were formed, a survey was created, and they tried to determine the ease or difficulty of doing commercial development in the City of Peoria, to differentiate between interaction between Council Members, Staff, and Commissions, and to solicit suggestions for improvement or change.

Chamber President Parks recommended the One Stop Shop be retained because it worked well for the community and there was a strong message that Staff needed to be given more ability to approve changes and modifications at this level. She stated responders felt the City Staff was technically knowledgeable and understood regulations and Staff was very helpful.

Chamber President Parks indicated several responders felt Peoria had a “we need to regulate you” culture and she read several other comments made by participants. She said responders felt the commercial development process was more difficult in Peoria than in other cities, but some felt the process was better than it was.

Chamber President Parks reported developers wanted turn-around times shortened on almost all kinds of approvals. She said there was a suggestion that the City have a single permit for a large project to speed the process as opposed to the developer having to come back to the City for multiple permits. She noted developers requested that a project manager be assigned to every project for tracking and accountability purposes. She said Ordinances needed to be reviewed to make processes more streamlined, since there would be a reduction in Staff in the coming year, and every City department should be in the customer service business. She referred to temporary signage and she said the Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce would be glad to assist with making changes to those regulations. She expressed her appreciation for the request for the Chamber's participation and she looked forward to working with the City in the future.

Council Member Van Auken moved to receive and file the presentation and report entitled "Commercial Development Process in the City of Peoria;" seconded by Council Member Weaver.

In discussion with Council Member Turner regarding setting some time lines for these recommendations to be implemented, City Manager Patrick Urich stated he had discussed this with Staff and they would be coming back to the Council with recommendations.

In discussion with Council Member Akeson, Chamber President Parks clarified who was invited to participate, who had participated in the focus groups, and who had participated in the surveys. Council Member Akeson suggested it would be helpful to know how different segments of business owners and developers felt about their issues and concerns. She expressed concern that a small group of a silent minority would make changes for a majority of developers.

Motion to receive and file the presentation and report entitled "Commercial Development Process in the City of Peoria" was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

(11-557) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel Requesting Approval of an INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT Between the City of Peoria and VILLAGE of PEORIA HEIGHTS Pertaining to Property Commonly Known as 700 EAST WAR MEMORIAL DRIVE and Requesting Authorization for the City Manager to Execute the Agreement.

Council Member Riggerbach moved to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Peoria and Village of Peoria Heights pertaining to property commonly known as 700 East War Memorial Drive and requesting authorization for the City Manager to execute the Agreement; seconded by Council Member Van Auken.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

(11-558) Communication from Council Member Tim Riggerbach with Recommendation Related to the DISPOSITION of FY2012 EAST BLUFF SPECIAL SERVICE AREA REVENUE as Outlined.

Council Member Riggensbach moved that the East Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services Board follow the six month benchmark criteria in order to enter into an agreement in 2012 with the criteria to include implementation of specific, measurable activities that provide a direct benefit to individual households within the SSD area by March 1, 2012, which would be measured by quantifiable performance outcomes; establish a partnership with a community development national intermediary such as LISC, Enterprise Foundation, and Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation by June 30, 2012; submit at least 10 grant applications and other funding requests to public and private organizations by June 30, 2012; secure \$65,000 in financial commitments by June 30, 2012, to be used for programming beginning in YR2013, which would in effect create a 1 for 1 match for SSD funds; and establish the EBNHS as a core leader in the East Village Growth Cell program; seconded by Council Member Van Auken.

Council Member Riggensbach explained his desire to make the East Bluff one of the best neighborhoods to live in in the City. He said he wanted to make sure the taxpayers' money was spent in a responsible and efficient manner. He gave a brief history of issues raised by the East Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services Board over the years. He further explained that, through no fault of their own, the lending regulations changed, and loans could no longer be made as in the past. He said he had a meeting with the President of the EBNHS Board and he asked for clarification regarding activities or programs that would not continue if the financial assistance was terminated. He said the EBNHS Board had requested time to explore other sources of income, grants, etc.

Council Member Riggensbach stated his recommendation was to release funds for additional police presence in the East Bluff, but he said the Board would not agree with the suggestion. He proposed placing funding for six months in an escrow while he and the EBNHS Board developed a plan. He said he and the Board would come back to the Council in six months with measurable goals and a review of the criteria that was to be met within that time frame. He requested the Council's support in this endeavor.

Motion that the East Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services Board follow the six month benchmark criteria in order to enter into an agreement in 2012 with the criteria to include implementation of specific, measurable activities that provide a direct benefit to individual households within the SSD area by March 1, 2012, which would be measured by quantifiable performance outcomes; establish a partnership with a community development national intermediary such as LISC, Enterprise Foundation, and Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation by June 30, 2012; submit at least 10 grant applications and other funding requests to public and private organizations by June 30, 2012; secure \$65,000 in financial commitments by June 30, 2012, to be used for programming beginning in YR2013, which would in effect create a 1 for 1 match for SSD funds; and establish the EBNHS as a core leader in the East Village Growth Cell program was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akeson, Gulley, Riggensbach, Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Weaver, Mayor Ardis – 9;

Nays: Irving, Sandberg – 2.

(11-559) Communication from the City Manager and Acting Director of Planning and Growth Management Recommending Adoption of an ORDINANCE LEVYING a TAX for FY2012 for the EAST BLUFF NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES (EBNHS) SPECIAL SERVICE AREA and Direct the City Clerk to File a Certified Copy of the Ordinance with the Peoria County Clerk to Allow this Tax to be Extended as Provided by Law.

Council Member Riggensch moved to adopt the Ordinance levying a tax for FY2012 for the East Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services (EBNHS) Special Service Area and direct the City Clerk to file a certified copy of the Ordinance with the Peoria County Clerk to all this tax to be extended as provided by law; seconded by Council Member Van Auken.

Council Member Sandberg moved to grant Privilege of the Floor to anyone who wished to address this issue; seconded by Council Member Riggensch.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Ardis granted Privilege of the Floor to anyone who wished to address this issue.

Rev. Simon Holly, President of the East Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services, read a statement and expressed concern that he felt the Board had not agreed to the proposal presented by Council Member Riggensch, and he did not feel the Board had received adequate notice of the proposed change in funding. He stated he felt the Board had met all the requests made by the City in the past. He urged the Council to reconsider their decision so the EBNHS Board and the City could work together to resolve the issues.

Council Member Riggensch reiterated the information regarding the change in regulations for the loan program and he said at the November 30th meeting he explained there was a need to see more specific and measurable results from the EBNHS Board. He said the Board expressed their frustration with the proposal for additional police presence in the East Bluff area. He said he explained to the Board he would need the approval from the Council regarding the six-month proposal. He said he felt the six-month proposal referred to in his motion for the previous item would benefit the East Bluff area if completed as proposed.

Council Member Akeson stated she attended the November 30th EBNHS Board Meeting and she said it was her understanding the benchmarks had been finalized yet. She felt there needed to be input from Staff and citizens and she thought there would be a period of time before the escrow would begin. She also stated she felt there would be pressure for the EBNHS Board to get something accomplished, but she felt input from the citizens was needed. She said she would submit her concerns in a letter for discussion.

Council Member Riggensch said he would welcome Council Member Akeson's input. He said he had discussed the benchmarks with Council Members and they agreed with what had been proposed.

In discussion with Council Member Weaver regarding a deadline, Council Member Riggensch said he would meet with the Board in early January 2012 to work on the plan.

Motion to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 16,781 levying a tax for FY2012 for the East Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services (EBNHS) Special Service Area and direct the City Clerk to file a certified copy of the Ordinance with the Peoria County Clerk to all this tax to be extended as provided by law was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akeson, Gulley, Riggensch, Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Weaver,
Mayor Ardis – 9;

Nays: Irving, Sandberg - 2.

**(11-560) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel
Recommending Adoption of an ORDINANCE Adopting the BICYCLE
ROUTE MAP for the City of Peoria.**

Council Member Turner moved to adopt the Ordinance adopting the Bicycle Route Map for the City of Peoria; seconded by Council Member Weaver.

Motion to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 16,782 adopting the Bicycle Route Map for the City of Peoria was approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

(11-561) Communication from the City Manager and Corporation Counsel Regarding a SITE APPLICATION for a CLASS A (Tavern) with a Subclass 1 (4:00 A.M. Closing) and a SUBCLASS 2 (Live Entertainment) LIQUOR LICENSE at 815 S.W. ADAMS STREET, 2ND FLOOR, with Recommendation from the Liquor Commission to DENY.

Council Member Gulley moved to approve a Site Application for a Class A (Tavern) with a Subclass 1 (4:00 A.M. Closing) and a Subclass 2 (Live Entertainment) Liquor License at 815 S. W. Adams Street, 2nd Floor; seconded by Council Member Sandberg.

Council Member Turner expressed concern that ingress and egress to the second floor was hazardous and that there had been a murder committed at this location when it was owned previously and operated as a bar. He said there had been numerous police calls to address problems in this area and mixing alcohol with this environment would be a problem. He urged the Council to vote against the motion.

Discussion was held regarding the capacity of the second floor facility. Director of Inspections John Kunski indicated there was a stairway in front of the building and one in the back of the building. He said he would report back regarding Council Member Sandberg's request pertaining to capacity of the second floor. Police Chief Settingsgaard read from Liquor Investigator Scott Jordon's report indicating there was a front and rear stairway to the second floor.

Council Member Turner moved for a substitute motion to defer this item until the first meeting in January, which would be the January 10, 2012, Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Van Auken.

In discussion with Council Member Gulley regarding his concerns pertaining to the process, Mayor Ardis requested that Council Member Gulley provide a list to City Manager Patrick Urch prior to the January 10, 2012, Council Meeting.

Substitute motion to defer this item until January 10, 2012, was approved by roll call vote.

Yeas: Akeson, Irving, Riggerbach, Sandberg, Spain, Spears, Turner, Van Auken, Weaver, Mayor Ardis – 10;

Nays: Gulley - 1.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO MOTIONS TO RECONSIDER ITEMS, IF ANY, FROM THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING)

(11-485) Communication from the City Manager and Director of Public Works Requesting Adoption of an ORDINANCE Vacating IOWA STREET from Grant Street Northeasterly to the Termination of Iowa Street, and that Portion of Grant Street which Extends from a Point Approximately 790 Feet Southeast of Iowa Street to the Illinois River.

Following words of appreciation for all those involved in finding a resolution to this issue, Council Member Gulley moved to adopt the Ordinance vacating Iowa Street from Grant Street northeasterly to the termination of Iowa Street, and that portion of Grant Street which extends from a point approximately 790 feet southeast of Iowa Street to the Illinois; seconded by Council Member Van Auken.

ORDINANCE NO. 16,783 was adopted by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

NEW BUSINESS

WELCOME to NEIGHBORHOOD ADVOCATE NANCY MITCHELL to the Council Meeting

Mayor Ardis welcomed Neighborhood Advocate Nancy Mitchell to the meeting and wished her well following her accident with a neighborhood dog.

WELCOME the RETURN of CITY CLERK MARY HAYNES

Mayor Ardis welcomed the return of City Clerk Mary Haynes following her recovery from surgery and he said it was nice to have her back at the meetings.

City Clerk Mary Haynes thanked the Mayor and Council for their well wishes and she thanked her Staff for filling in during a difficult time of the year. She also thanked City Manager Patrick Ulrich and Corporation Counsel Randy Ray for their support.

EXPRESSION of SYMPATHY for the FAMILY of PAT SULLIVAN Due to His Mother's Recent Passing

Mayor Ardis said he and the Council wanted to express their thoughts and prayers for Pat Sullivan and his family following the recent passing of his mother. He said everyone knew Pat Sullivan, who is an advocate for the City and is a strong developer of the Peoria Riverfront, and he has a huge family who enjoys giving back to the community. He said his thoughts and prayers were with the Sullivan family.

CONGRATULATIONS to NEWLY APPOINTED ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF GARY VAN VOORHIS

Mayor Ardis congratulated Gary Van Voorhis who was recently promoted to Assistant Fire Chief, and who has served on the Peoria Fire Department for many years. He said he was pleased Assistant Fire Chief Van Voorhis accepted the move into the new position and he wished him well in his career.

COMMENTS Regarding the "TAKING BACK THE NEIGHBORHOOD" EVENT Held at Glen Oak School

Council Member Riggerbach thanked Neighborhood Specialist Steve Fairbanks and everyone involved in the "Taking Back the Neighborhood" event held at Glen Oak School last Thursday, December 8, 2011. He said 150 people attended and it was exciting to see the commitment made by people in the neighborhood to make their area a better place to live. He thanked everyone for their attendance.

ANNOUNCEMENT Regarding ANNUAL SHOP WITH A COP EVENT at WALMART

Council Member Van Auken said the Annual Shop with a Cop event would be held on Wednesday, December 14, 2011, at 5:00 P.M. at Walmart on University Street near Forrest Hill Avenue. She said this gave children an opportunity to become more familiar with Police Officers and she commended the Police Officers for their contribution to the program.

(11-562) PRESENTATION of a PETITION Signed by a Majority of the COUNCIL Supporting the CANCELLATION of the DECEMBER 27, 2011, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING, due to the Holidays.

Mayor Ardis said he was presented with a Petition signed by a majority of the City Council supporting the cancellation of the December 27, 2011, Regular City Council Meeting, due to the holidays.

Corporation Counsel Randy Ray stated this was provided for in the Council Rules that a majority of the City Council may sign a Petition canceling a Regular City Council Meeting.

Council Member Sandberg expressed concern that the Petition to cancel the December 27, 2011, Regular City Council Meeting was signed prior to Item No. 11-561 being deferred. He pointed out the Petitioner would now have to wait until the second Tuesday in January 2012 for a Council decision.

CITIZENS' OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL/TOWN BOARD

(11-563) REQUEST from CITIZENS to Address the CITY COUNCIL/TOWN BOARD Regarding Various Items.

Hearing no objections, Mayor Ardis granted Privilege of the Floor to those citizens wishing to address the City Council.

Robert Vogel, a Peoria resident, urged the Council to change the present Ordinance pertaining to banning pet ducks from the City of Peoria. He said he would be glad to pay a license fee to be able to keep his pet ducks.

Christina Vogel, a Peoria resident, also spoke in support of an Ordinance change pertaining to banning pet ducks. She said charging a fee for pet owners would provide additional revenue for the City of Peoria.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

(11-564) Consideration of a Motion to enter into EXECUTIVE SESSION to Discuss 2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity; 2(c)11 Litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting; and 2(c)21 Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06.

Council Member Turner moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss 2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity; 2(c)11 Litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting; and 2(c)21 Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06; seconded by Council Member Riggerbach.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Irving moved to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting; seconded by Council Member Weaver.

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None.

The Regular City Council Meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

bb

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