

**MINUTES
NEW COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN THE CIVIC COMPLEX
401 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS**

MAY 2, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of East Peoria, Illinois was called to order by his Honor Mayor John P. Kahl presiding at 6:00 P.M. with proper notice having been given.

Upon the roll being called the following answered present: Mayor John P. Kahl, Commissioner Daniel S. Decker, Commissioner Mark E. Hill, Commissioner Seth D. Mingus, and Commissioner Michael L. Sutherland.

Absent: None.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Hill.

Mayor Kahl led the Council and the audience in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Decker; Mr. Mayor, I move that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 18, 2023 be approved as printed.

Yeas: Commissioner Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Communication from John C. Ackerman, County Clerk, certifying that the Canvassing Board of Tazewell County canvassed the returns of the election held on April 4, 2023 and further certifying that the following list of candidates each received the number of votes recorded to him or her for the offices on the attached Statement of Votes Cast. Based upon the votes as canvassed, the following individuals were elected to the City Council: Mayor – John P. Kahl; Commissioners- Seth D. Mingus, Daniel S. Decker, Michael Lee Sutherland, and Mark Hill.

Mayor Kahl stated if there was anyone in the audience who wanted to speak on any items on the agenda to come to the podium and state the matter or matters to be discussed. There was no response.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS BY OMNIBUS VOTE:

Mayor Kahl asked if any Commissioner wished to remove any items from the Consent Agenda for discussion. There was no response.

Motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Decker; Mr. Mayor, I move to adopt a consent agenda consisting of items numbered 1 through 13 as listed on the agenda for this meeting to be considered by omnibus vote.

Item Number 1 – Adoption of Resolution No. 2223-199 – Resolution to Approve Payment of the Schedule of Bills Listed on Schedule No. 24 in the amount of \$3,513,367.71.

Item Number 2 – Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-188 on its Second Reading - Resolution Accepting and Approving the Proposal from Heart Technologies for the Microsoft 365 Email Migration Project.

Item Number 3 – Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-189 on its Second Reading - Resolution Accepting and Approving the Proposal for the City Servers Warranty Renewal for 2023.

Item Number 4 – Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-190 on its Second Reading - Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a Case IH F75C Tractor with L360 Loader for EastPort Marina from CNH Industrial Capital America LLC.

Item Number 5 – Adoption of Ordinance Number 4722 on its Second Reading - (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4193, AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING AN ENTERPRISE ZONE WHICH INCLUDES TERRITORY LOCATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE

LIMITS OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA AND APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA AND OTHER UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATING IN THE DESIGNATION OF THE ENTERPRISE ZONE AND AMENDING THAT CERTAIN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT REGARDING AN ENTERPRISE ZONE LOCATED IN NORTHERN TAZEVELL AND SOUTHERN WOODFORD COUNTIES.)

Item Number 6 – Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-198 on its Second Reading – Resolution Authorizing a Contribution to Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (Discover Peoria).

Item Number 7 – Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-191 on its Second Reading - Resolution Accepting and Approving Proposal from Hoerr Construction, Inc. for the 117 Siesta Drive Storm Sewer Outfall Slip Lining Project.

Item Number 8 – Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-192 on its Second Reading - Resolution Accepting Low Bid from Otto Baum Company, Inc. for the Pinecrest Drive Pavement Patching Project.

Item Number 9 – Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-193 on its Second Reading - Resolution Accepting Low Bid from Miller & Sons Construction Co. for Center Street and Cass Street Intersection Concrete Repair Project.

Item Number 10 - Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-187 on its Second Reading - Resolution Approving Second Amendment to Master Service Agreement for Water Main Installation Services During 2023-2024 Fiscal Year.

Item Number 11 - Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-195 on its Second Reading - Resolution Authorizing and Approving the Purchase of Two LIFEPAK Cardiac Monitors for the Fire Department.

Item Number 12 - Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-196 on its Second Reading - Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Stainless-Steel Food Service Equipment for the Concessions Upgrade Project from Johnson HVACR & Foodservice Equipment.

Item Number 13 - Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-197 on its Second Reading - Resolution Authorizing and Approving the Purchase of One Pallet of Blue String Lights for the Festival of Lights from Reinders Distribution Company.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; Mr. Mayor, I move you that Items numbered 1 through 13 listed on the Consent Agenda be hereby approved and adopted, the items numbered 2 through 13 having been read once by their title and having laid on the table for no less than one week for public inspection be adopted as presented.

Item Number 1 – Adoption of Resolution No. 2223-199 – Resolution to Approve Payment of the Schedule of Bills Listed on Schedule No. 24 in the amount of \$3,513,367.71. (Adopted by omnibus vote)

Item Number 2 – Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-188 on its Second Reading - Resolution Accepting and Approving the Proposal from Heart Technologies for the Microsoft 365 Email Migration Project. (Adopted by omnibus vote)

Item Number 3 – Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-189 on its Second Reading - Resolution Accepting and Approving the Proposal for the City Servers Warranty Renewal for 2023. (Adopted by omnibus vote)

Item Number 4 – Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-190 on its Second Reading - Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a Case IH F75C Tractor with L360 Loader for EastPort Marina from CNH Industrial Capital America LLC. (Adopted by omnibus vote)

Item Number 5 – Adoption of Ordinance Number 4722 on its Second Reading - (AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4193, AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING AN ENTERPRISE ZONE WHICH INCLUDES TERRITORY LOCATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA AND APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA AND OTHER UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATING IN THE DESIGNATION OF THE ENTERPRISE ZONE AND AMENDING THAT CERTAIN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT REGARDING AN ENTERPRISE ZONE LOCATED IN NORTHERN TAZEWELL AND SOUTHERN WOODFORD COUNTIES.) (Adopted by omnibus vote)

Item Number 6 – Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-198 on its Second Reading – Resolution Authorizing a Contribution to Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (Discover Peoria). (Adopted by omnibus vote)

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Item Number 12 - Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-196 on its Second Reading - Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Stainless-Steel Food Service Equipment for the Concessions Upgrade Project from Johnson HVACR & Foodservice Equipment. (Adopted by omnibus vote)

Item Number 13 - Adoption of Resolution Number 2223-197 on its Second Reading - Resolution Authorizing and Approving the Purchase of One Pallet of Blue String Lights for the Festival of Lights from Reinders Distribution Company. (Adopted by omnibus vote)

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried and the items adopted by omnibus vote designation.

Mayor Kahl then asked for comments from Council.

There were no comments from the City Council.

Motion by Commissioner Sutherland, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; Mr. Mayor, I move you that the Sitting City Council of the City of East Peoria, Illinois be adjourned SINE-DIE.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:07 P.M.

**MINUTES OF THE NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL
NEW COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN THE CIVIC COMPLEX
401 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS
MAY 2, 2023**

An oath of office was given to the newly elected Commissioners, Daniel S. Decker, Mark E. Hill, Seth D. Mingus, and Michael L. Sutherland by the City Clerk.

An oath of office was given to the newly elected Mayor John P. Kahl by the City Clerk.

After the oaths were given, the newly elected City Council took their positions to begin their official duties as Mayor and Commissioners of the City of East Peoria for the four-year terms of office beginning May 2, 2023 and ending May 1, 2027.

The Regular Meeting of the Newly Elected City Council of the City of East Peoria, Illinois was called to order by his Honor Mayor John P. Kahl presiding at 6:15 P.M. with proper notice having been given.

Upon the roll being called the following answered present: Mayor John P. Kahl, Commissioner Daniel S. Decker, Commissioner Mark E. Hill, Commissioner Seth D. Mingus, and Commissioner Michael L. Sutherland.
Absent: None.

Mayor Kahl proclaimed May 15, 2023 as "Peace Officers Memorial Day" and May 14-20, 2023 as "Police Week." Mayor Mingus read the proclamation. Mayor Mingus explained that the Police Officer profession has been scrutinized and that the City is thankful for their service and willingness to keep us safe.

Mayor Kahl proclaimed May 2023 as "Building Safety Month." Mayor Kahl read the proclamation at length. He passed presented the proclamation to Commissioner Hill to pass on to city staff.

Mayor Kahl stated if there was anyone in the audience who wanted to speak on any items on the agenda to come to the podium and state the matter or matters to be discussed. There was no response.

Resolution No. 2324-001 by Commissioner Hill; **RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE OFFICIAL BONDS OF THE NEWLY ELECTED AND SWORN MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, Title 1, Chapter 2, Section 3.6 of the City Code and State Statute (65 ILCS 5/4-4-2) require the Mayor and each Commissioner give a bond in a sum not to be less than three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00); and

WHEREAS, the attached bonds are proper and sufficient;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, TAZEWELL COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THAT the Official Bonds of Mayor John P. Kahl and Commissioners Daniel S. Decker, Mark E. Hill, Seth D. Mingus, and Michael L. Sutherland in the amount of at least \$3,000.00 each, attached hereto and signed by proper and qualified sureties be hereby approved, and that the bonds be placed on file in the office of the City Clerk as required by law be hereby approved, and that this Resolution No. 2324-001 be adopted as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Decker; Mr. Mayor, I move that Resolution No. 2324-001 be adopted as presented.

Commissioner Hill explained that this is a requirement by State law and is done after every city election.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried and Resolution No. 2324-001 be duly adopted as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; Mr. Mayor, I move you that Ordinance No. 4725 hereto attached, (AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS TO SERVE AS COMMISSIONERS OF SPECIFIC DEPARTMENTS AND REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE MAYORAL POSITION) be read at length by the Clerk, and that said Ordinance No. 4725 be accepted on its first reading, and be hereby adopted as presented.

The City Clerk read the ordinance at length. Commissioner Hill explained that this ordinance sets forth which department each commissioner is over and sets the compensation that was set forth in previous ordinances. He explained that he looks forward to working with everyone in the future.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried and Ordinance No. 4725 to be duly adopted as presented.

Resolution No. 2324-004 by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Decker; BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS that Resolution No. 2324-004, hereto attached, a Resolution to Approve Third Amendment to Development Agreement with Teekona Group for Riverfront Midrise Apartment Development, be approved. Mr. Mayor, I move you that this Resolution No. 2324-004 be accepted on its first reading as read by its title, and be laid on the table for no less than one week for public inspection.

Commissioner Hill commented on this being a Third Amendment to the Development Agreement with Teekona Group. The development has been delayed due to the pandemic. There will be 142 upscale apartments on the riverfront. He explained that they are working on finishing up the date and bonding. Commissioner Hill explained that he is hopeful that the project will get started in the next month.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Resolution No. 2324-005 by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS that Resolution No. 2324-005, hereto attached, a Resolution Approving Electric Service Agreement with Homefield Energy for Street Lighting, be approved. Mr. Mayor, I move you that this Resolution No. 2324-005 be accepted on its first reading as read by its title, and be laid on the table for no less than one week for public inspection.

Commissioner Hill commented on this being an electrical agreement for street lighting. The rate was \$.03950 per kilowatt hour. The new rate is \$.06505 per kilowatt hour, which is almost double the kilowatt hour that we have now. There was a discussion regarding the broker Good Energy that goes out and gets energy rates from someone else. The energy provider is Homefield Energy for this street lighting. The residential aggregation may not be the same provider.

Mayor Kahl explained that you must opt out in order to go with someone else if you are a residential property in the City. Otherwise, residences are with the residential aggregation provider. He explained that residents should not provide the solicitors with their information as there are some people who are aggressive and will switch someone over. He explained not to give them your bill because they can switch your coverage with that information.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Decker, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; Mr. Mayor, I move you that Ordinance No. 4724 hereto attached, (AN ORDINANCE UPDATING PROVISIONS IN THE EAST PEORIA CITY CODE PERTAINING TO AUTHORITY FOR MAKING CITY PURCHASES AND PERTAINING TO RESPONSIBLE CONTRACTORS AND BIDDERS) be read at length by the Clerk, and that said Ordinance No. 4724 be accepted on its first reading, and be hereby adopted as presented.

Mayor Kahl explained that this amendment is important to do right now because the costs of everything has gone up and this allows the City to keep things moving in the right direction. Commissioner Hill commented on there being necessary checks and balances which is why there are spending limits and the items have to have been budgeted. This will make the City more efficient.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried and Ordinance No. 4724 to be duly adopted as presented.

Resolution No. 2324-002 by Commissioner Decker

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, TAZEWELL COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THAT the following officers of the City of East Peoria be hereby reappointed:

Morgan R. Cadwalader – City Clerk

Scott A. Brunton – City Attorney

Jeffery M. Becker – Treasurer

Rich Brodrick – Police Chief

Bobby Zimmerman – Fire Chief

Ty Livingston – Director of Planning and Community Development

Kory Brown – Director of Tourism and Special Events

Ric Semonski – Superintendent of Operations for Streets, Public Improvements &
Solid Waste Collection (Sanitation)

Cord Crisler – Superintendent of Operations for Water/Wastewater

and that this Resolution No. 2324-002 be adopted as presented.

Commissioner Decker explained that this item is done every four years after the election.

Motion by Commissioner Decker, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; Mr. Mayor, I move that Resolution No. 2324-002 be adopted as presented.

Commissioner Decker explained that this resolution is done every four years.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried and Resolution No. 2324-002 be duly adopted as presented.

Resolution No. 2324-003 by Commissioner Sutherland; WHEREAS, the City Code provides that the Mayor serves as the Local Liquor Control Commissioner for the City of East Peoria (the "City"); and WHEREAS, the City Code further provides that the Mayor may appoint other persons to the East Peoria Liquor Control Commission to assist him in the exercise of his duties; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Mayor John P. Kahl wishes to recommend the appointment of Commissioner Mark E. Hill and Commissioner Seth D. Mingus to serve as members of the Local Liquor Control Commission for the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS, THAT the appointment by Mayor John P. Kahl of Commissioner Mark E. Hill and Commissioner Seth D. Mingus to the Local Liquor Control Commission for the City be approved.

AND THAT THIS RESOLUTION NO. 2324-003 BE ADOPTED AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Commissioner Sutherland, seconded by Commissioner Decker; Mr. Mayor, I move that Resolution No. 2324-003 be adopted as presented.

Commissioner Sutherland explained that this is done after the election to appoint individuals to the Liquor Control Commission.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried and Resolution No. 2324-003 be duly adopted as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Sutherland, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; Mr. Mayor, I move you that Ordinance No. 4726 hereto attached, (AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY IN THE POSSESSION OF THE EAST PEORIA PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AND THE EAST PEORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT) be accepted on its first reading as read by its title, and be laid on the table for no less than one week for public inspection.

Commissioner Sutherland explained that there is old equipment that the Public Works and Fire Departments need to get rid of and this authorizes that process.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Resolution No. 2324-006 by Commissioner Mingus; WHEREAS, Title 1, Chapter 5, Section 2.1 of the East Peoria City Code authorizes the City Council to determine from time to time by Resolution the number of individuals to hold each rank on the East Peoria Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 2223-049 approved in August 2022, the number of firefighters in the Fire Department was indefinitely increased to 33; and

WHEREAS, Assistant Fire Chief Dan Decker has now submitted his intent to retire effective September 27, 2023, and will use benefit time to reach that date; and

WHEREAS, Fire Lieutenant April Rieker is retiring effective May 2, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Fire Lieutenant Justin Hale has previously submitted his intent to retire effective June 16, 2023, and is currently using benefit time to reach that date, and pursuant to Resolution No. 2223-157, the number of Lieutenants was temporarily increased to ten until his retirement on June 16, 2023; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure a smooth transition at the time of each of these retirements in the Fire Department Command Staff and to allow the appointment of successors to each of these Fire Department Command Staff positions, it is in the best interest of the City to temporarily increase the number of Assistant Fire Chiefs by one until September 27, 2023, and to temporarily keep the number of Lieutenants at ten from June 16, 2023, to September 27, 2023; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City to appoint Firefighters to these Command Staff positions at this time to fill the vacancies created by these retirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, TAZEWELL COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THAT:

Section 1. Effective immediately, the Fire Department of the City of East Peoria shall consist of the following personnel:

- A. One Fire Chief
- B. One Deputy Fire Chief
- C. Four Assistant Fire Chiefs
- D. Ten Lieutenants
- E. Thirty-Three Firefighters

Section 2. The Fire Chief is hereby authorized and directed to notify the Police and Fire Commission of these changes and to request the Police and Fire Commission to undertake the process of appointing a new Probationary Firefighter to fill the open positions hereby created.

Section 3. Effective immediately, Veronica Marmitt is appointed to fill the fourth Assistant Fire Chief position in the Fire Department of the City of East Peoria.

Section 4. Effective September 27, 2023, the Fire Department of the City of East Peoria shall consist of the following personnel:

- A. One Fire Chief
- B. One Deputy Fire Chief
- C. Three Assistant Fire Chiefs
- D. Nine Lieutenants
- E. Thirty-Three Firefighters

Motion by Commissioner Mingus, seconded by Commissioner Hill; Mr. Mayor, I move that Resolution No. 2324-006 be adopted as presented.

Commissioner Mingus explained that they try to get people in ahead of time so that they do not go without positions and that those positions can be filled. Veronica Marmitt will be the first female Assist Fire Chief in the City's history. The Promotion Ceremony is Monday, May 8, 2023 at 9:00 am at the Festival Building.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried and Resolution No. 2324-006 be duly adopted as presented.

Resolution No. 2324-007 by Commissioner Mingus, seconded by Commissioner Decker; BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS that Resolution No. 2324-007, hereto attached, a Resolution Approving the Proposal for the Purchase of the Fire Alarm and Security Systems for the New Fire Station on Centennial Drive, be approved. Mr. Mayor, I move you that this Resolution No. 2324-007 be accepted on its first reading as read by its title, and be laid on the table for no less than one week for public inspection.

Commissioner Mingus explained that the resolution is for the security and alarm system for the new fire department.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Resolution No. 2324-008 by Commissioner Mingus, seconded by Commissioner Decker; BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS that Resolution No. 2324-008, hereto attached, a Resolution Approving Additional Improvements for New Turf Fields at EastSide Centre, be approved. Mr. Mayor, I move you that this Resolution No. 2324-008 be accepted on its first reading as read by its title, and be laid on the table for no less than one week for public inspection.

Commissioner Mingus commented on this being for concrete work at EastSide Centre to finish entry ways into the new turf fields in the amount of \$13,928.00.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Mayor Kahl stated if there was anyone in the audience who wanted to speak on any items not on the agenda to come to the podium state the matter or matters to be discussed.

Bob Sinks came up to the podium and inquired about a house that was torn down after it caught fire. He asked who and how is the decision made when a house is torn down. Mayor Kahl and Fire Chief Bobby Zimmerman explained that they made the decision due to the extent of the fire it was a safety issue to the community, and the owner was made aware of the decision.

Deputy Chief of Police Horn came up to the podium and congratulated Commissioner Decker on his retirement. He was late because he was presenting an award to Officer Bieber for his work on a DUI that resulted in a conviction. He explained that there is a Police Memorial Service ceremony scheduled on Monday, May 15 at the Festival Building at 2:00 pm. Everyone is invited to attend. They recognize the officer that was lost in service. The Wednesday during Police week there will be a luncheon for former officers. The Police Department is currently in the hiring process for probationary officers. The City is currently four down, and there is a retirement coming up. He presented the proclamation for "Peace Officers Memorial Day" and May 14-20, 2023 as "Police Week."

Mayor Kahl congratulated Chief Horn on his graduation from the Northwestern staff and command school.

Don Norits came up to the podium and on spoke about an electrical power issue that he had. He asked anyone with questions about electrical aggregation to contact Robert Cole with the City as he is a wealth of information. He explained that he had an anomaly in his electrical system at his home on April 5 between 5:30 pm and 6:00 pm in East Peoria. It caused his home some damage which cost him quite a bit of money. He talked to Ameren about compensation for the repair and replacement. Ameren uses a third-party to take care of claims. He explained that he received a denial letter that states that Ameren is not liable unless you can prove gross negligence on their part. He explained that the previous power company, CILCO, honored claims and took care of people. He feels that when Ameren took over, they started denying the claims. He thinks that Ameren is the only provider and that there is essentially no recourse. He wanted to let other people know to take care of your equipment and take other protections. He feels that ground fault breakers will not be enough, and he feels that you need phased protection as well. It might be good for people to get surge protection. Mr. Norbits feels that the power in Illinois is no longer reliable, and he feels that these things will happen more and more.

Mayor Kahl asked for any additional comments from the audience. There was no response.

Mayor Kahl then asked for comments from Council.

Commissioner Decker commented on the excellent job that Officer Bieber did on an incident that occurred. It was important to the victims' families that justice prevailed. He explained that he retired from the Fire Department with Saturday being his last shift day. He explained that on that shift there was a fire at a home that was a dangerous situation. Commissioner Decker expressed supporting the decision to have the house come down due to the danger to the community. That fire was dangerous for those in the home. He is reminded how dangerous being a firefighter is with these types of situations. Commissioner Decker explained that his father was an East Peoria Firefighter. He feels that his decision to be an East Peoria fighter was the best career choice that he has ever made. He has admiration for everyone that he works with in the fire department. He commented on the great class of promotions coming up that includes Veronica Marmitt to Assistant Fire Chief and Bradly Reinhart and Samuel Sauder to Fire Lieutenant. He thanked those he worked with and his family. He explained that there are events and things that are missed when someone is a firefighter. He thanked his family for the sacrifices that they made, especially his wife who has become that do-everything kind of person out of necessity. He explained that the City has had a rough four years due to COVID, different legislation, attacks on police, and other things and worked through it all getting many things accomplished. Commissioner explained that he has enjoyed working with the other elected officials even though they may not always have agreed. Public Works has made a lot of improvements, including street maintenance over the past four years. He looks forward to the future.

Commissioner Hill congratulated Deputy Chief Horn on graduating from staff and command school. He congratulated Commissioner Decker and others that are retiring. Clean Sweep is May 6, 2023 from 8am-noon at the Festival Building. Please try to register ahead so that they have the supplies ready. The Flower Sale for City of East Peoria residents only on May 6, 2023 beginning at 9am until noon or until supplies last. There is a limit of three flats per household. The Farmers Market begins the first week of June and applications are still being accepted for vendors.

Commissioner Sutherland commented on things accomplished over the last four years, including (1) Circle Drive having a washout that was repaired, (2) Faulkner sewer washout repair, (3) ICC sewer washout repair (behind Liberty), (4) two lift stations were replaced, (5) three sewer breaches off of Pinecrest were repaired, (6) sewer partial replacement on West Camp Street, (7) boring in about a 600-700 foot main going from Springfield Road subdivision between Springfield Road and I-74, and (8) installed around 1,000 feet of water main on Farmdale Road done in-house, with each project costing tens of thousands of dollars instead of hundreds of thousands of dollars had they been left unrepaired and the projects gone undone. All the projects were left behind by previous administrations. Now these things are fixed under his time in water and sewer these projects were fixed, and these will not happen when he is over that department. Those items were unfinished when he took office. Supervisor of Water and Wastewater Crisler and he had to fight the EPA, COVID, bureaucrats, and the riots. He is proud of the City Council. There have also been thousands of feet of water main pipe installed in the past four years. He now plans to put down 10,000-14,000 feet of pipe he intends to put down every year from now on.

Commissioner Mingus commended the City Council for working together and accomplishing what they have done over the last four years. He is excited for the next four years to come. He commented on the fire that occurred on Saturday that was dangerous and explained that he fully supports the decision to bring the house down. He commented on the car seat check event coming up tomorrow at Central House.

Mayor Kahl congratulated Commissioner Decker on his retirement and wished him well. He explained that this City Council had a full agenda at this first meeting, as this City Council is about getting things done. He commented on a book of strategic plans of councils dating back to the early 1990s. Each city council talked about the same goals and fixing the same things. This council has accomplished items in the last four years that are many of the items that were included in that strategic planning/goals, which is phenomenal. The City Council has taken things on that have been kicked down the road for far too long. He is excited to get work done. Mayor Kahl thanked the families for their help and sticking around.

Motion by Commissioner Sutherland, seconded by Commissioner Decker; Mr. Mayor, I move you that we adjourn until Tuesday evening, May 16, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Hill, Mingus, Sutherland, and Mayor Kahl.

Nays: None

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

/s/ Morgan R. Cadwalader
City Clerk Morgan R. Cadwalader