

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

**MAY 5, 2019**

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 Mingus, seconded by Commissioner Decker; Mr. Mayor, I move that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 21, 2020, and the minutes of the Special Meeting held on April 28, 2020 be approved as printed.

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

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Mayor Kahl explained that the City Council Meeting is being held via remote attendance by Zoom Meeting by the public due to the Governor's Executive Order regarding COVID-19 and the relaxing of the Open Meeting Act requirements. Public comments are being taken remotely via Zoom Meetings during the meeting. The meeting is also being shown on Facebook Live on social media.

Mayor Kahl stated if there was anyone who wanted to speak on any items on the agenda item to raise their hand on Zoom Meetings and state the matter or matters to be discussed. Anyone wishing to make comments needs to press \*9 to raise their hand on the telephone or click the raise your hand button online. There was no response.

Mayor Mingus stated that Resolution Number 2021-005 is being pulled from the agenda for further consideration.

Resolution No. 2021-001 by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Decker; **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS** that the claims as listed on Schedule No. 24 be allowed. Mr. Mayor, I, move that the Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to issue orders on the Treasurer for the various amounts, totaling \$1,354,379.73, and the schedule of bills be hereby adopted as presented.

Commissioner Hill explained the schedule of bills, including a Riverboat Gaming Payment to the City of Peoria.

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

Nays: None

Mayor Mingus declared the motion carried.

Resolution No. 2021-003 by Commissioner Decker, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS** that Resolution No. 2021-003, hereto attached, a Resolution Approving the 2020 Street Maintenance Program Contracts for Sealcoating, Heat Scarification, Spray Patching, Fog Coating Work, and Engineering Services Associated with said Program, be approved. Mr. Mayor, I move you that this Resolution No. 2021-003 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 Decker explained that the amount of funding has changed due to a decrease in the amount that will be received throughout the year for Motor Fuel Tax funds. The approvals are as follow with Pat Meyers doing the engineering services for the projects:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Description of Work</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
R.A. Cullinan & Son, Inc.	Sealcoating	\$250,213.64
American Asphalt Surface Recycling, Inc.	Heat Scarification	\$297,270.77
Midstate Asphalt Repair, Inc.	Spray Patching	\$ 80,000.00
R.A. Cullinan & Son, Inc.	Fog Coat	\$ 72,467.17

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

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Sutherland, seconded by Commissioner Hill; Mr. Mayor, I move you that Ordinance No. 4498 hereto attached, (AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AGREEMENT TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE OF A SINGLE TURNER VALVE MAINTENANCE TRAILER FOR THE CITY'S WATER 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 for a machine that turns the valves and removes the mud from the valves and that the purchase cannot be delayed as there is a requirement to turn water valves. There is a lot of digging to be done, and there are likely to be broken valves in the process. The company is allowing the City to lease for the first six months to help delay the large payment.

Commissioner Decker explained that this purchase will save money in the long run as it is required work to be done and there are possible fines if the valve turning is not done.

Mayor Kahl explained that the purchase is an absolute must and thanked the vendor for working with the City.

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

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Resolution No. 2021-004 by Commissioner Mingus, seconded by Commissioner Decker; BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS that Resolution No. 2021-004, hereto attached, a Resolution authorizing and directing the payment of an Invoice to ImageTrend, Inc. for the software licensing services for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 for running and administering many operational aspects of the Fire Department in the amount of \$12,888.72, be approved. Mr. Mayor, I move you that this Resolution No. 2021-004 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 Mingus explained that this resolution is necessary as the software is used in the Fire Department to track calls.

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

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Resolution No. 2021-002 by Commissioner Mingus; WHEREAS, David Sprague has been continuously employed by the City from March 21, 2000 through May 15, 2020, most recently occupying the position of Police Sergeant;

WHEREAS, David Sprague announced his intention to retire from employment effective at the end of his shift on May 15, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the City is appreciative of the long and continued service provided by David Sprague; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City to execute the attached Separation Agreement;

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

Section 1. The above recitals are found to be true and correct.

Section 2. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the Separation Agreement with such changes as the Mayor, in his sole discretion, may decide are in the best interest of the City of East Peoria.

Motion by Commissioner Mingus, seconded by Commissioner Decker; Mr. Mayor, I move that Resolution No. 2021-002 be adopted as presented.

Commissioner Mingus explained that this resolution approves a Separation Agreement for Sergeant David Sprague's retirement, and he wished him well in his retirement.

Commissioner Decker commented on Sergeant Sprague's service as a police officer, explaining that he is well respected.

Mayor Kahl thanked Sergeant Sprague for his service and wished him well in his retirement.

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

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried and Resolution No. 2021-002 be duly adopted as presented.

Mayor Kahl stated if there was anyone who wanted to speak on any items not on the agenda to raise their hand on Zoom Meetings and state the matter or matters to be discussed.

Melissa Fannon raised her hand and commented via Zoom by requesting that City Council allow residents to have chickens. She asked the City Council to reconsider the Chicken issue, and she believes that it deserves to have a vote. Ms. Fannon also inquired about moving the junk day to the Spring instead of having it in the Fall.

Commissioner Decker explained that he would not want to do a Spring Cleanup too quickly, because the City needs time to plan and inform people. He explained that he would look to see if the Cleanup Week could be moved earlier.

Mayor Kahl explained that he would have Director of Planning and Community Development, Ty Livingston, reach out to the elected officials individually regarding allowing residents to have chickens.

Zach Burmeter raised his hand and commented via Zoom. Mr. Burmeter inquired as to the type of machine the Water Department is purchasing. Commissioner Sutherland explained that it is a versatile machine that turns water valves, suction mud that may be on the valves, and pressure wash. It is a soft excavator and is used to do locating with as well. It is a versatile machine.

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

Mayor Kahl then asked for comments from Council.

Commissioner Decker announced that there are going to be some Rebuild Illinois Funds that may be coming to East Peoria. The plan is over a 3-year period to further growth and have more road projects. The City will find out the rules soon. With the limited funds the City has currently, the additional Rebuild Illinois Funds will give the City a chance to make improvements. He explained that he has received lots of comments regarding recycling and wants to get curbside recycling back as soon as possible. People were happy that there were other options being investigated, such as drop off locations. There are things to investigate to make sure it is safe and make sure there are not inappropriate items dropped off. Commissioner Decker is continuing to discuss options so that the recycling program can continue in a different way, and costs may be picked up by the partners. Commissioner Decker is supportive of Mayor Kahl and the Tri-County Plan. There is a decision made to try to adhere to safety procedures while still allowing people to continue working. He commented on people in fear of losing their entire business. These are extremely difficult decisions, and he believes that the smart approach is what the City is doing with facilitating a safe way to earn a living and trying to move forward. The virus is going to be here until there is a vaccine, and we need to figure out a way for people to live until then. He emphasized the need to work together to find a solution.

Commissioner Hill explained that since the announcement of the Tri-County Plan, he received contact from people who did not agree with the plan. He explained what was behind his decision in supporting the plan. He explained that the plan did not have hard metrics; however, he has been watching the metrics for weeks, and those numbers have been steady or improving. The rate at which someone infects others (the R0 or R naught) has gone down to 1.2 which indicates signs of improvement. The state has been looking at the cases by the percentage of tests and those numbers have done nothing but decreased. He commented about intensive care unit and ventilator use being at a good level in the area. He explained that the Governor's Plan has metrics in the plan, and that Phase 2 of his plan goes until May 29 with social distancing and frequent hand washing still being in the plan. Although not defined in the Tri-County Plan, the metrics would still be monitored in conjunction with the Tri-County Plan. The Tri-County Plan phases would be changed dependent upon the numbers which will continue to be monitored. He commended the Tri-County Health Departments and hospital systems in the area. He believes that the Tri-County Plan is a good plan and is based upon scientific measures which are evolving.

Commissioner Sutherland explained that he made two promises to potentially upset people and that he is not here to make friends. He explained that individuals can obtain information on the Tri-County Plan on the City's website. He explained that the plan does not require anyone to open or go out, and he believes that people that want to open should be able to open and explained that all politics are local. Commissioner Sutherland commented on hospital workers being furloughed and those furloughs hurting families in the area. He explained that he received a medical alert that there was a need for medical personnel at the same time hospitals were furloughing workers. He feels that Governor Pritzker is making decisions based upon the increased number of cases in Chicago.

Commissioner Mingus stated that he supports the Mayor's phased in approach for the City and that the phased in approach is a balance between keeping people safe and opening businesses. The Mayor's phased in approach or plan also states that vulnerable people should stay home and he feels that the Plan is a balanced look that is the best for this area. Commissioner Mingus explained that open burning is being opened back up for the next couple of weeks beginning on Monday, May 4, 2020 and ending on Monday, May 18, 2020.

Mayor Kahl reminded everyone to fill out their Census response to ensure that everyone is counted because funds received based upon those numbers are critical to everyone. He reminded everyone that their personal information that is collect in the response process is protected for over seventy years. Mayor Kahl extended thoughts and prayers to the Mingus family on the passing of Commissioner Mingus' grandmother. Mayor Kahl explained that Governor Pritzker did not support the Tri-County Plan as the Governor did not weigh in on the plan after receiving it. Mayor Kahl explained that his oath is to the citizens of East Peoria including the business community and that City is not alone in thinking about what is on the other side of this pandemic. Over the last forty-five days, he has witnessed people and businesses being decimated and expressed the need to find a balance between the health and financial wellbeing of individuals. People have been made aware of the decision being made by the Council and the support of that decision has been made by others across the state with people stepping up and stepping out. The Tri-County Plan has commonsense thinking recognizing that the virus will be around for a while. Mayor Kahl explained that people are looking for answers and normalcy; there is mental suffering occurring; and the Tri-County Plan is the prudent thing to do. Mayor Kahl explained that he did not see anyone putting together a plan two weeks ago and the timelines in the Tri-County Plan are subject to change. Individuals are looking for direction and support, and Mayor Kahl supports not only the Constitution of the United States but also the Constitution of the State of Illinois. He commented on the Council's fortitude during this time.

Motion by Commissioner Sutherland, seconded by Commissioner Decker; Mr. Mayor, I move you that we adjourn until Tuesday evening, May 19, 2020 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 6:48 P.M.

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

