

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

AUGUST 24, 2018

The Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of East Peoria, Illinois was called to order by his Honor Mayor David Mingus presiding at 11:32 A.M. with proper notice having been given.

Upon the roll being called the following answered present: Mayor David W. Mingus, Commissioner Daniel S. Decker, Commissioner Gary R. Densberger, Commissioner Timothy J. Jeffers, and Commissioner John P. Kahl.
Absent: None.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Jeffers.

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

Mayor Mingus 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.

Mayor Mingus asked for any other comments from the audience. There was no response.

Resolution No. 1819-056 by Commissioner Jeffers; RESOLUTION REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 1819-050 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A REFERENDUM ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA SHOULD RETAIN THE COMMISSION FORM OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS, on August 7, 2018 the City Council passed Resolution No. 1819-050 authorizing the submission of a referendum on the question of whether the City of East Peoria should retain the commission form of municipal government; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has duly reconsidered Resolution No. 1819-050 at a properly called special meeting for the purpose of said reconsideration; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it is in the best interest of the City and its citizens that Resolution No. 1819-050 be repealed;

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

Section 1. Resolution No. 1819-050 Authorizing the Submission of a Referendum on the Question of Whether the City of East Peoria Should Retain the Commission Form of Municipal Government is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 2. The City Clerk is hereby directed to not certify the question to the Tazewell County Clerk.

Section 3. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval in the manner provide by law.

Motion by Commissioner Jeffers, seconded by Commissioner Kahl; Mr. Mayor, I move that Resolution No. 1819-056 be adopted as presented.

Discussion ensued on the proposed resolution. Mayor Mingus and Commissioners Densberger and Kahl expressed their support of the resolution while Commissioners Decker and Jeffers expressed their opposition.

Commissioner Decker discussed the proposed referendum question. He indicated that nothing has changed in his position on putting the question on the ballot.

Commissioner Jeffers discussed the public question. He discussed moving to the default is not clearly defined with state laws. He is optimistic that moving to the aldermanic form could work if there are state legislative changes. He feels that the government depends on the quality of the people that you elect.

Commissioner Kahl feels that the City Council should not place this on the ballot and that it should be the citizens placing the question on the ballot. He feels that accountability is a big factor in government. It comes down to the people who are serving the citizens.

Commissioner Densberger discussed people feeling that it is time for a change in the form of government. He discussed confusion as to election of members of the City Council should this question be placed on the ballot and be voted to not retain the form of government.

Yeas: Commissioners Densberger, Kahl and Mayor Mingus.

Nays: Commissioners Decker and Jeffers.

Mayor Mingus declared the motion carried and Resolution No. 1819-056 be duly adopted as presented.

Mayor Mingus 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.

Rachel Oedewaldt came up to the podium to address what she had heard Commissioner Decker state during the Regular Meeting on August 21st that there are two sides to every story regarding an employee that was terminated and brought back and that she is concerned should any employee be terminated in the future they will hire an attorney and cost the City. Commissioner Decker responded that the Council is bound by laws that protect employees. He stated that he and Commissioner Jeffers are the only two members of the Council who heard the employee's side of the story, that the employee stated that what had been done had been done in the past with permission. Commissioner Decker asked the Supervisor if this were true, the Supervisor confirmed it and that he (Commissioner Decker) does not view the situation as theft. Commissioner Kahl stated he takes exception that there are two sides to every story, theft is theft, he had asked for the Police investigation, and urged citizens to submit a FOIA.

Mayor Mingus commented on the dangers of Commission Form of government when three commissioners cannot override the decision of one Commissioner in certain instances.

Commissioner Densberger explained that the City Council is the only municipal body that can dispose of city property.

Frank Borrer came up to the podium and expressed his belief that the City should do away with the Commission Form of government because any single commissioner can unilaterally make decisions that can affect the day to day operations of the city. He believes that the city council should make the policy and not be involved in the day to day operations. He believes that the commission form of government is not a good form of government. He believes that it is a good decision to remove the question from the ballot.

Jeff Giebelhausen came up to the podium to express his belief that the City should do away with the Commission Form of government and gave examples of reasons why he believes the form of government should change, including the authority given to an elected official over the departments they administer. He discussed the petition turned in being short signatures

Charlie Morgan came up to the podium and commented on the City's Sewer Upgrade Project loan. He inquired as to whether the increase in the sewer fee would go away and he discussed the length of the increase to pay for the loan. He shared what he feels is the importance of filing a Police Report before taking any further steps in regard to any alleged theft by an employee.

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

Mayor Mingus then asked for comments from Council.

Commissioner Kahl thanked everyone for being in attendance.

Motion by Commissioner Jeffers, seconded by Commissioner Kahl; Mr. Mayor, I move you that we adjourn until Tuesday evening, September 4, 2018 at 6:00 P.M.

Yeas: Commissioners Decker, Densberger, Jeffers, Kahl and Mayor Mingus.

Nays: None

Mayor Mingus declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 12:18 P.M.

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