

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

**APRIL 21, 2020**

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.

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.

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 7, 2020 be approved as printed.

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

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Mayor Kahl stated if there was anyone who wanted to speak on any items on the agenda item to raise their hands on Zoom Meetings 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 5 as listed on the agenda for this meeting to be considered by omnibus vote.

Item Number 1 – Adoption of Resolution Number 1920-144 – Resolution to Approve Payment of the Schedule of Bills Listed on Schedule Number 23 in the amount of \$3,824,391.66.

Item Number 2 – Adoption of Resolution Number 1920-134 on its Second Reading - Resolution Regarding Reinsurance Carrier for the City's Group Health Insurance Plan (Approving Reinsurance Coverage with Reunion Health Services Inc. for 2020-2021 fiscal year).

Item Number 3 – Adoption of Resolution Number 1920-135 on its Second Reading – Resolution Regarding Preferred Physician and Hospital Network for the City's Group Health Insurance Plan.

Item Number 4 – Adoption of Resolution Number 1920-137 on its Second Reading – Resolution Regarding the Prescription Drug Benefit Manager for the City's Group Health Insurance Plan.

Item Number 5 – Adoption of Resolution Number 1920-129 on its Second Reading – Resolution Accepting Third Change Order for City's Sanitary Sewer System Upgrade Project (Phases A – C Construction Project) (Change Order #3) in the amount of \$63,035.14.

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 5 listed on the Consent Agenda be hereby approved and adopted, the items numbered 2 through 5 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 Number 1920-144 – Resolution to Approve Payment of the Schedule of Bills Listed on Schedule Number 23 in the amount of \$3,824,391.66. (Adopted by omnibus vote)

Item Number 2 – Adoption of Resolution Number 1920-134 on its Second Reading - Resolution Regarding Reinsurance Carrier for the City's Group Health Insurance Plan (Approving Reinsurance Coverage with Reunion Health Services Inc. for 2020-2021 fiscal year). (Adopted by omnibus vote)

Item Number 3 – Adoption of Resolution Number 1920-135 on its Second Reading – Resolution Regarding Preferred Physician and Hospital Network for the City's Group Health Insurance Plan. (Adopted by omnibus vote)

Item Number 4 – Adoption of Resolution Number 1920-137 on its Second Reading – Resolution Regarding the Prescription Drug Benefit Manager for the City’s Group Health Insurance Plan. (Adopted by omnibus vote)

Item Number 5 – Adoption of Resolution Number 1920-129 on its Second Reading – Resolution Accepting Third Change Order for City’s Sanitary Sewer System Upgrade Project (Phase A – C Construction Project) (Change Order #3) in the amount of \$63,035.14. (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.

Motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Decker; Mr. Mayor, I move you that Ordinance Number 4493, hereto attached, (ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR FROM THE FIRST DAY OF MAY A.D. 2020 TO THE LAST DAY OF APRIL A.D. 2021) be accepted on its first reading as read by its title and as now amended, and be laid on the table for no less than one week for public inspection.

Commissioner Hill commented on the ordinance and explained that the Appropriation Ordinance has been amended, and therefore, the ordinance is being read on a first reading again.

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

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Resolution Number 1920-124 by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS that Resolution Number 1920-124 hereto attached, a Resolution to approve the Working Cash Budget for the Fiscal Year from the first day of May A.D. 2020 to the last day of April A.D. 2021, be hereby approved. Mr. Mayor, I move you that this Resolution Number 1920-124 be accepted on its first reading as read by its title and as now amended, and be laid on the table for no less than one week for public inspection.

Commissioner Hill explained that the City had a budget created; however, with the COVID-19 Pandemic, the City needed to make many changes regarding revenue decreases resulting from the COVID-19 Pandemic. As a result, the working cash budget is being amended and is being read on a first reading again. This is the budget that the city came up with based upon estimated decreased revenues. He commended the department heads and others on their work these past few weeks and explained that these charges are hurtful; however, they are a necessary.

Mayor Kahl asked each Commissioner to give department specific changes

Commissioner Decker provided comments on the changes in the Street Department budgets. He explained that there is a meeting set up later this week for the Teamsters to speak about concessions. He explained that one of the proposed changes is not having recycling for the fiscal year. There was other trimming of costs in the budget under various line items as well. The Street Department will seek to make changes regarding overtime as well. He explained that there is plenty of time to adjust scheduling for plowing and not getting into the neighborhoods to the extent that they normally do, along with the opportunity to use sand mixed in with the salt rather than making a large salt purchase.

Commissioner Hill provided comments on the changes in the Account and Finance and Planning and Community Development budgets that include changes in people resources, shortening hours, and not bringing someone back temporarily. There were other reductions in expenses as well.

Commissioner Sutherland provided comments on the changes in the Water and Wastewater Departments. He explained that the revenue decreases are upsetting his goal for infrastructure improvements. He explained that the Water and Wastewater Departments five open positions that are not filled at this time. He explained that the water and wastewater departments have absorbed an employee from recycling and that person will be there temporarily or for a long time. He explained that there are no capital projects including Highview Road in the amended budget; however, if there is any money to prevent the mains from rupturing, he will do it.

Commissioner Mingus provided comments on the changes in the Fire Department budget and explained that the Fire Department had to reduce their budget by around \$900,000. He thanked the command staff and the fire union on working together to set up a plan. In addition to reducing expenses that they felt could be cut, the Fire Department also cut overtime expenses, two Deputy Chief positions are being suspended, and the Department will be two individuals lighter. Concessions are being made by the fire union by forgoing wage increases for this year and forgoing clothing allowances for the year. In addition, the Northern Tazewell Fire District contract will go away with additional calls for service providing additional revenues to be gained. As a result of all of the cuts, no one will lose positions; however, through attrition, positions will not be replaced. He assured everyone that the same quality of service that is being provided currently will be provided.

Mayor Kahl explained that Police Department budget was looked at line by line to determine reductions. The order for the police vehicles in the current fiscal year was cancelled and the newly hired officers were laid off. The new officers were not able to attend academy and were not counted toward manpower. There were no concessions by the police union, and as a result, there will need to be another layoff. In addition, a newly hired officer that left the city employment for employment in another city will not be replaced.

The City is estimating a shortfall of just under \$5.4 million. As a result, the City took out all capital expenditures for 2020-2021 and asked each department for 15% reduction in each operating budget. Mayor Kahl explained that the City is within about a \$450,000 gap, and he would like to address it the gap up front. He explained that the casino was shut down and then there were further restrictions on businesses. At that time, non-essential spending was frozen as was hiring. Mayor Kahl expressed hope that those early measures to freeze spending and hiring along with changes made in the last few years with additional revenue sources will make up for that shortfall.

Mayor Kahl asked for further comments from the commissioners.

Commissioner Decker commented on the enormous amount of work that everyone has done on the budget and the work done by Ric Semonski since Public Works Director Dennis Barron left the city. Commissioner Decker explained that he will be supporting the budget tonight. He will try to continue recycling by alternative means if possible and explained that he has ideas; however, he needs to see if the ideas can be proven. He will never stop trying to save parts of the city budget. He explained that there are other potential revenue opportunities in the Public Works Department; commented on the budget being a working document; explained that a plow truck will not be purchased; and explained that Motor Fuel Tax ("MFT") funds may be lower due to the lower amount in the gas price. He will be working on those MFT funds and some road improvements will be done.

Commissioner Hill explained that the all non-represented staff is forgoing the raises for 2020-2021.

Commissioner Sutherland commented on the City reviewing the garbage service and expressed his opinion that the City should get out of the garbage toter business. He commented on some recycling being rejected at recycling centers due to (1) glass being in the recycling, (2) plastic that cannot be recycled being included, and (3) any food or excess liquid being in and on containers. He explained that he feels that privatizing the garbage is the right thing to do and recycling could be brought back. He commented on other private garbage businesses also picking up landscape waste and picking up larger items more frequently. He thinks we should take a hard look at garbage and recycling. He costs being paid by residents; however, he feels that it should be a stepped program with the full amount being paid by residents after a time. He feels that we need to get a handle on garbage; because, if not, then every year the tipping fees will go up. Commissioner Sutherland would rather the reductions in personnel be had through attrition.

Commissioner Mingus thanked all the departments for their work on the budget reductions. He commented on recycling and solid waste. He explained that there is no excess money and explained that he looked at the basic public services and he considers garbage a basic public service; however, he does not see recycling as a basic public service. He will support the budget tonight.

Commissioner Decker explained that the recycling tipping fee is \$66.56 per ton plus \$7 fee for recycling. Garbage is around \$56 per ton. In the past, recycling was quite a bit lower. Costs went up when certain countries stopped taking recycling. Sometimes things can be removed that are not recyclable; however, sometimes, it is less costly to get rid of the entire batch of items. He would much rather make this tough decision than lay people off. He is looking forward to looking at this over the next week before the second reading on the budget. Commissioner Decker explained that clean-up week is still scheduled for the Fall.

Mayor Kahl explained that recycling is stopping effective on May 1, and he thinks everything said tonight has been accurate. He explained that his family has recycling for a long time and the markets were heavily affected by China no longer taking recycling, and sadly, some items does end up going to the garbage dump. The recycling toters will be picked up by the solid waste drivers and as solid waste during this time. This budget is as lean as it gets and the last couple of weeks have been difficult for several reasons. He explained that the City is taking a measured approach and it is the right thing to do.

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

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Resolution Number 1920-138 by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS that Resolution Number 1920-138, hereto attached, a Resolution Regarding Renewal of Group Term Life Insurance Policy for City Employees with Standard Insurance Company, be approved. Mr. Mayor, I move you that this Resolution Number 1920-138 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 explained that this resolution is the renewal of life insurance that is provided to City employees and the amount is the same as last year.

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

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Resolution Number 1920-139 by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS that Resolution Number 1920-139, hereto attached, a Resolution Regarding Revisions to the City's Group Health Insurance Plan, be approved. Mr. Mayor, I move you that this Resolution Number 1920-139 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 explained that the resolution is for approval of changes to the Group Health Insurance Plan. The changes involve preventative measures that are being included regarding mammograms and colonoscopies, in addition to plan benefit changes due to the COVID-19.

Commissioner Decker explained that he would be abstaining from voting on Resolution Numbers 1920-139, 1920-140, 1920-142, and 1920-143 and Ordinance Number 4497 out of an abundance of caution due to his employment with the city and him paying for the benefits on those some of those items.

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

Abstain: Commissioner Decker.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Resolution Number 1920-140 by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS** that Resolution Number 1920-140, hereto attached, a Resolution Regarding Employee Contribution Rates for the City's Group Health Insurance Plan, be approved. Mr. Mayor, I move you that this Resolution Number 1920-140 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 explained that the resolution is for changes to the contribution rates for employees and that the rates have increased due to higher utilization amounts over the last year. Increases in rates are shared with the City and employee splitting the rate increases.

Mayor Kahl explained the rates to the plan in the Preferred Provider Option and High Deductible Health Plan.

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

Abstain: Commissioner Decker.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Resolution Number 1920-141 by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Decker; **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS** that Resolution Number 1920-141, hereto attached, a Resolution Regarding the Utilization Manager for the City's Group Health Insurance Plan, be approved. Mr. Mayor, I move you that this Resolution Number 1920-141 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 explained that the change in the utilization manager is a key component in keeping costs down on the Group Health Insurance Plan.

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

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Resolution Number 1920-142 by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS** that Resolution Number 1920-142, hereto attached, a Resolution to approve the salaries, wages, and employee benefits for certain non-union employees of the City of East Peoria for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2020 and ending on April 30, 2021, be approved. Mr. Mayor, I move you that this Resolution Number 1920-142 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 explained that the salaries and wages are not being increased this year to non-represented employees.

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

Abstain: Commissioner Decker.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; Mr. Mayor, I move you that Ordinance Number 4497 hereto attached, (AMENDING THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL) 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 explained that the changes involve cannabis regulation and tax act changes and changes made the personnel policy manual to change the City Administrator to say Mayor, use of employees vehicles, employees attendance. Changes to the personnel policy manual are generally done annually along with the salary resolution.

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

Abstain: Commissioner Decker.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried.

Resolution Number 1920-143 by Commissioner Hill; **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS, THAT** the reappointments by Mayor John P. Kahl of the following individuals to various boards and commissions of the City of East Peoria be hereby approved:

Board of Trustees of the East Peoria Firefighters' Pension Fund

Jeffery Becker, Member

Term: May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2023

John Knapp, Member

Term: May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2023

Board of Trustees of the East Peoria Police Pension Fund Board

Terry Schultz, Member Term: May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2023

East Peoria Human Relations Commission

Marjorie Greuter, Member Term: May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2022

Tony Ingold, Member Term: May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2022

Barb McDonald, Member Term: May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2022

East Peoria Planning Commission

Dennis Paluska, Member Term: May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2023

Andrew Paulson, Member Term: May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2023

East Peoria Fire and Police Commission

Charles Morgan, Member Term: May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2023

East Peoria Mass Transit District

Debra Bloomfield, Member Term: May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2024

**AND THAT THIS RESOLUTION NUMBER 1920-143 BE ADOPTED AS PRESENTED.**

Motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Sutherland; Mr. Mayor, I move that Resolution Number 1920-143 be adopted as presented.

Mayor Kahl commented on the terms expiring and thanked those that serve on those boards and commissions.

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

Abstain: Commissioner Decker.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried and Resolution Number 1920-143 be duly adopted as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Decker, seconded by Commissioner Mingus; Mr. Mayor, I move you that Ordinance Number 4496, hereto attached, (AN ORDINANCE APPROVING ACQUISITION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY AND CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT FOR CAMP STREET AND RIVER ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT) having been read once by its title and having been laid on the table for no less than one week for public inspection, be adopted as presented.

Commissioner Decker explained that he has received questions about this item about making expenses on this project while having to make so many budget cuts. This was the roundabout project that the City was able to making changes to the intersection without including a roundabout. There will be a left turn into Embassy Suites. It does solve some problems and allow the City to utilize the Peoria and Pekin Urbanized Areas Transportation Study ("PPUATS") project funding and the money that was going to be used on the project was able to be used elsewhere for other PPUATS projects. The intersection is rated as being dangerous with quite a few accidents. It is good when City can take a dangerous intersection and make it safer and even better when you can save money by utilizing other funding sources. He looks forward to the completion of the project.

Commissioner Sutherland explained that he does not like roundabouts, and he is not happy with the roundabout located in the City. He explained that will be improved and that now is the time to complete the project at the same time as the I-74 closure is happening so that the roads are only shut down or affect one time.

Commissioner Hill believes that the rescoping of the project is good and there will be benefits from the improvements.

Mayor Kahl commented on working with PPUATS and being supportive of moving forward with this project. He was not supportive of the roundabout that was planned at the intersection and he feels that the changes are a good changes including a left turn lane on to Conference Center Drive. No one likes spending money during difficult times; however, this is a good time to do the project with the I-74 closure. The project will forward on July 6 and is set to be done around October 31.

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

Nays: None

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried and Ordinance Number 4496 be adopted as presented.

Resolution Number 1920-131 by Commissioner Mingus; **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF FIREFIGHTERS ON THE EAST PEORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**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**, in December 2018, pursuant to Resolution Number 1819-106, the City temporarily increased the number of firefighters on the Fire Department by three to a total of 33 firefighters in an effort to minimize overtime costs in the Fire Department; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Resolution Number 1819-106, the temporary increase to 33 in the number of firefighters in the Fire Department that was approved in December 2018 is set to decrease back down to 30 through attrition of members leaving the Fire Department after April 30, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, in February 2020, pursuant to Resolution Number 1920-109, the City temporarily increased the number of firefighters on the Fire Department by one to a total of 34 firefighters due to the retirement of a firefighter in June 2020, and thus the City increased the staffing level of firefighters on the Fire Department by an additional one firefighter until the retirement of this firefighter in June 2020, at which time this temporary additional firefighter position will be eliminated; and

**WHEREAS**, a Deputy Chief has announced his retirement effective on May 1, 2020; a Lieutenant has announced his retirement effective on May 4, 2020; and the City seeks to temporarily decrease the number of Deputy Chief positions by two effective May 1, 2020, during this uncertain time due to anticipated revenue decreases at substantial amounts until such time as the City can reevaluate the budget revenues to a point that those positions may be refilled; and

**WHEREAS**, effective on May 1, 2020, as a result of the decrease in the Deputy Chief positions, the number of Lieutenants will temporarily be increased by one due to an Assistant Fire Chief being moved down to a Lieutenant; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interests of the City that after the retirement of a Lieutenant on May 4, 2020, the total number of Lieutenants in the Fire Department be reduced by one to 9; and

**WHEREAS**, the City now seeks to retain the number of firefighters at a level of 33 upon the retirement of the firefighter in June 2020 until April 30, 2021, as a continued effort to minimize overtime costs in the Fire Department; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interests of the City that after the retirement of the firefighter in June 2020, the total number of firefighters in the Fire Department be reduced by one to 33 until April 30, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interests of the City that after April 30, 2021, the total number of firefighters in the Fire Department be reduced by three to 30 through attrition thereafter;

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

**Section 1.** Effective May 1, 2020, the Fire Department of the City of East Peoria shall consist of the following personnel:

- A. One Fire Chief
- B. Three Assistant Fire Chiefs
- C. Ten Lieutenants
- D. Thirty-Four Firefighters
- E. One Paid on Call Firefighter

**Section 2.** Effective after the retirement of a firefighters on May 4, 2020, the Fire Department of the City of East Peoria shall consist of the following personnel:

- A. One Fire Chief
- B. Three Assistant Fire Chiefs
- C. Nine Lieutenants
- D. Thirty-Four Firefighters
- E. One Paid on Call Firefighter

**Section 3.** Effective after the retirement of the firefighter on June 17, 2020, the Fire Department of the City of East Peoria shall consist of the following personnel:

- A. One Fire Chief
- B. Three Assistant Fire Chiefs
- C. Nine Lieutenants
- D. Thirty-Three Firefighters
- E. One Paid on Call Firefighter

**Section 4.** Subject to further action by the City Council, effective on April 30, 2021, the Fire Department of the City of East Peoria shall consist of the following personnel upon attrition to the staffing levels established in this Resolution:

- A. One Fire Chief
- B. Three Assistant Fire Chiefs
- C. Nine Lieutenants
- D. Thirty Firefighters
- E. One Paid on Call Firefighter

Motion by Commissioner Mingus, seconded by Commissioner Hill; Mr. Mayor, I move that Resolution Number 1920-131 be adopted as presented.

Commissioner Mingus explained that there is an ordinance that lays out the positions and this resolution sets out the current members on the fire department. Three additional firefighters helps to reduce the costs of overtime. He explained that there are several retirements, and this reduces the Deputy Chief positions down. The additional three firefighters has saved the city of around \$750,000 in overtime costs.

Mayor Kahl explained that there were concessions by the fire union that allowed the Fire Department to remain at this strength level.

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

Abstain: Commissioner Decker.

Nays: None.

Mayor Kahl declared the motion carried and Resolution Number 1920-131 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. There was no response.

Mayor Kahl then asked for comments from Council.

Commissioner Decker explained that there is a change coming to ensure that damage to the street done by a contractor will be fixed by the contractor. He explained that it may bring in cost savings to the city.

Commissioner Sutherland commended Cord Crisler and Brad Boulton on their job with the Sanitary Sewer project. There is a pipe lining project that is an issue that will be dealt with. He explained that he received a phone call from a woman that was concerned with him not opening the City for business. He feels that there are some things done well by the governor; however, there have been mistakes done that affect downstate when it is an issue in Chicago. He commented on issues with things being shut down. Commissioner Sutherland commented on a woman requesting to have chickens. He explained that if things go on in this situation, he does not feel like they cannot have chickens.

Mayor Kahl explained that the past council addressed the request to have the chickens. He explained that this a divisive pandemic and that he feels now is not the right time to bring up a controversial topic such as the chicken matter.

Commissioner Decker explained that 90% of the public response were in opposition of allowing chickens when it was previously addressed.

Commissioner Mingus commented on the chickens and would like to see the divisiveness on things during this time stop. The important things are remaining healthy, keeping social distances. Another important thing is getting business open while at the same time being safe. He congratulated Ross Ahrens on his temporary promotion as a temporary Lieutenant.

Commissioner Decker commented on restrictions resulting from the coronavirus pandemic. The federal government is working to assist small businesses and larger cities in excess of 500,000 population. He explained that we should look for other opportunities for cities. He explained that he sent an email to the Governor. He asked that we look at innovative ways to work on the City's finances.

Mayor Kahl requested that everyone be respectful. He does not want to be critical of any one point of view and to not be blinded by fear. He explained that he reached out to the governor's office on Friday and received a call from the staff member on Saturday. It was to seek reopening East Peoria on May 1, 2020. He has not received a call from the governor yet. The virus is real and does not have an end date. He does not believe that it is appropriate to have winners and losers through essential and nonessential businesses. He believes that it can be reopened with safe measures in place. He commended the Councilmembers on their work on the budget over the last few weeks.

Motion by Commissioner Sutherland, seconded by Commissioner Decker; Mr. Mayor, I move you that we adjourn until Tuesday evening, May 5, 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 7:29 P.M.

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