

City of Decatur
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes
January 2, 2018

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street. Members present were Bill Karbach, Councilman Craig Coshow, and Mayor Ken Meyer. Also present were City Attorney, Tim Baker and Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the December 19, 2017 meeting. Coshow made a motion to approve the minutes. Karbach seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Karbach made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Decatur Plan Commission to grant approval of the Final Plat Plan for Phase 2 of the Meadows of Cross Creek Subdivision. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. The Board members signed the Mylar of the plans.

A motion was made by Karbach to make the letter a matter of record that had been sent by Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager to three businesses asking for sealed quotes to update the HVAC system for City Hall's second floor remodeling project. Sealed quotes were due by 4 P.M. on Tuesday, January 2, 2018. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

The sealed quotes were then opened, and read aloud by the City Attorney. It was noted that Arnold & Sons confirmed they had received the letter, but did not provide a quote. Quotes received were from Schust Engineering of Fort Wayne quoted \$92,876.00, and Felger Hart, Inc., of Ossian quoted not-to-exceed \$88,975.00, and noted in their quote that electrical power wiring of the new equipment was not included in their quote. A motion by Coshow was for Jeremy Gilbert and Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent to review the quotes and report back with a recommendation before the end of the meeting. Motion seconded by Karbach, and adopted.

Karbach made a motion to make the Certificates of Appointment a matter of record for Lennie Corral as Chief of Police, Brad Stoltz as Detective/Lieutenant of the Police Department, and Chad Baumann as Captain of Special Operations for the Decatur Fire Department. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager shared utility work is being done in the City's easement by Community Fiber Solutions (CFS) on South 7th and Adams Street, and behind Richard's Restaurant.

City Attorney, Tim Baker asked the Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert if had heard back from NIPSCO in reference to the 2016 Road Rehabilitation project on E. Monroe Street and Piqua Road when the contract had hit the gas line during the project. Gilbert informed Baker he has not received any response. The City Attorney has written letters and still has not received any response back from NIPSCO, but will continue to follow-up.

Concern regarding the lack of residents along W. Monroe Street connecting to the sewer line as required was expressed. It was shared the Board of Health Attorney, Adam Miller had sent letters with deadlines for hooking up and those deadlines had not been met. It was noted that all should have been connected by the end of 2016. The City is concerned that raw sewage is traveling through the ditch to the St. Mary's River and is creating a health issue for the residents of the City. Materials have been purchased by the City at cost, and will be sold to the

residents at cost. The City has thus made the investment of the infrastructure and the materials, and is not being able to make any collections to defray the costs. The City has no authority for enforcement as the residents are in the County. After a lengthy discussion of options, Mayor Meyer and City Attorney, Tim Baker are to talk with the Board of Health Attorney, and the Board of Health officials to inquire about their plans for enforcement. The possible future could be contacting the State Board of Health for assistance in the enforcement.

Jim Hitchcock, Assistant Fire Chief appeared before the Board regarding additional flags for the light poles. He proposed adding eight (8) flags along First Street from Monroe Street to Jackson Street and twenty-four (24) flags along the Monroe Street from the Macklin Bridge to Belmont High School. By consensus it was decided to add the eight (8) flags on First Street and only at the intersection at the entrance to Belmont High School.

Councilmen Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, Scott Murray, and Wylie Sirk joined the remainder of the Board of Works meeting for discussion and information purposes only.

The City Attorney requested for the Utilities Auditor to contact Crowe Horwath to introduce the Water Utility Rate Study at the next meeting on January 16th.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor appeared before the Board and shared he is working with the software company and working on forms to be signed by tenants and owners. He shared that two (2) summer workers had spent their Christmas break going through the County GIS to find owners and names of people on the utility bills at those locations. They will next call to check if the residence is a rental property, or if it is being sold to the person whose name is on the utility bill. They will also seek email addresses. He shared the software program will allow for e-billing. It is hoped a new ordinance for the utilities can be ready for the January 16, 2018 or the February 6, 2018 meeting.

The Board members then discussed the concept of Fringe Zoning. It was shared that if a Fringe Zone is adopted there would most likely be a need for additional staff to do the monitoring work. It was noted that the County Commissioners have to approve the establishment of a Fringe Zone. The Mayor is to start conversation with the County Commissioners.

After the quotes had been studied by Gilbert and Witte for the HVAC for the second floor of City Hall, they recommended accepting the \$88,975.00 quote from Felger Hart, Inc. of Ossian. Coshow made a motion to accept the Felger Hart bid of \$88,975.00. Seconded by Karbach, the motion was adopted.

Councilman Murray noted he had driven through the Cottonwood Estates trailer court on 13th Street and had concerns about the living conditions there. He questioned the possibility of the Board of Health getting involved to find the mobile homes are not livable. The City Attorney remarked that there is a State Statute that regulates mobile home parks.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Coshow made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Karbach, the motion was adopted.

Adjournment was at 7:28 P.M.