

City of Decatur
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes
January 2, 2019

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street. Members present were Craig Coshow, Bill Karbach 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 18, 2018 meeting. Karbach made a motion to approve the minutes. Coshow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Karbach made a motion to make a matter of record the posting of the change of meeting date to January 2, 2019. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Jared Fawcett was sworn in as the new Police Reserve for the Decatur Police Department on December 28, 2018. Coshow made a motion to make the Oath of Office a matter of record. Seconded by Karbach, the motion was adopted.

Nathan Hunter was sworn in as the new Patrolman for the Decatur Police Department effective January 1, 2019. Coshow made a motion to make the Certificate of Appointment a matter of record. Karbach seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Karbach made a motion to make the Conditional Employment Contract for Officer Nathan Hunter a matter of record. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

The Local Road and Bridge Matching Grant Agreements with INDOT was brought forward. City Attorney, Tim Baker had looked over the agreements and found them to be typical as per the filing of reports and audits and so forth. There are two agreements with INDOT for resurfacing the streets. Agreement number EDS#A249-19-LG180540, Community Crossing Match Grant #2294 maximum amount of state funds allocated to resurfacing ten (10) streets is \$394,952.23. Agreement number EDS#A249-19-LG180541 agreement, Community Crossing Match Grant #2301 maximum amount of state funds allocated to resurfacing eight (8) streets is \$256,888.09. City's match will be 20% of the cost. Karbach made a motion to approve the two (2) grant agreements with INDOT, and for the Mayor to sign on behalf of the City. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert reported that bids for these projects will be opened on Tuesday, February 5, 2019.

Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright presented quotes for the carpet for the second floor of City Hall. The quotes were from Myers Floor Covering & Furniture was \$15,857.30 and the quote from Miller's Floors & More, Inc. was \$17,987.50. Karbach made a motion to accept the quote from Myers. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Code Enforcement update was next on the agenda. Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent, and Don Bergdall, Civil Infrastructure Manager presented a verbal and video update. The first area of concern was 213 Rugg Street. It was shared some of the clean up had been done but there were still tires and trash bags throughout the property. By consensus, Mayor Meyer is to call both the owner and the tenant Lisa Klinetob and Tia Piotrowski on Thursday morning to tell them the City staff will be coming to clean up the property, and the items that will be removed will be stored for a short time if they deem as valuable and are needed items.

The next Code Enforcement update was for the Mark Gambill residence on N. Tenth Street, which is still not in compliance with the City's agreed order. Mr. Gambill talked with Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent today and shared he would like to build a building to use for storage. He would need to appear before the BZA for permission to build. It was noted the biggest problem is in the back lot where he cannot get to at this time for removal of items. It was shared Mr. Gambill has cleaned up some, but not as much as the City desires. Curt Witte agreed to speak with Mr. Gambill Thursday and inform him that things must be removed by Monday or his business will be shut down. City Attorney Baker suggested Witte inform Gambill that the City has tried to work with him, yet the property has not been cleared and suggested Mr. Gambill might contact his attorney.

The third area of concern was Cottonwood Estates Mobile Home Park located at 521 S. 13th Street. Mayor Meyer gave an update regarding that area. He shared all the mobile homes had been taken down, but some debris still needs to be hauled away. Mr. Kos, the owner, emailed Mayor Meyer and shared he is looking to have closing in the next couple of weeks. He shared he needs a bill for the utilities owed to the City prior to closing. It was suggested Attorney Adam Miller may be contacted in regards to making sure bills are paid, if there are any, to I&M and NIPSCO. City Attorney Baker shared there are still some funds in the escrow account and they need to make certain bills are paid with the City before releasing any of those funds.

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

The next item on the agenda was the 2019 Contract between the City and North Adams Community Schools for the School Resource Officer (SRO) Trent Busse. Police Chief, Lennie Corral noted North Adams will be paying approximately \$51,000 which is about 70% of Officer Busse's salary and benefits. Payment will be made in two (2) payments, June and December. Coshow made a motion to approve the 2019 SRO Contract between the City and North Adams Community Schools, and authorized Mayor Meyer to sign the contract. Seconded by Karbach, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, appeared before the Board to consider changes in the City's purchasing requirements as per the current ordinance. He pointed out the State has changed the requirements regarding the amounts and the need for sealed bids, sealed quotes, and quotes. It was noted that many local contractors currently do not want to provide bids for projects costing more than \$50,000 but less than \$100,000 as they do not want the expense of getting bid bonds or certificates of insurance. It was noted the state guidelines make the bidding/quoting process easier and gives the City more flexibility. It was shared many smaller projects such as the wall at the corner of 1st and Monroe streets and sidewalks and so forth are making it harder to get local contractors to bid. Also, with the sealed bidding, it is estimated the cost is increased by 15-20%. Gilbert suggested the City needs to look at the new state guidelines for two (2) reasons: to protect themselves and to be good stewards of the tax dollars and user fees. After the discussion, Gilbert shared he would like to work with City Attorney Tim Baker, Mayor Meyer, and Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright to come up with a plan to present at the next Board of Works meeting on January 15, 2019. Questions were then posed regarding the wall left from the demolition of the building on the northwest corner of First and Monroe Streets. The first question was in regards as to "who owns the wall?" especially if the owner of the remaining building would sell and/or he or the new owner would decide to demolish the remaining building. It was noted the City owns the wall. If anyone buys the building next to the wall and wants to tear down the wall, permission must be granted by the City. It was questioned about possibly putting a metal covering over the wall, and if that would be an option, would the wall be sturdy enough for such work? In answer to that question, it was noted the decision had been made to use brick to cover the wall. Councilman

Dyer suggested he was interested in the aesthetic look of the wall to be similar to the wall at Founders Park. Mayor Meyer suggested covering the wall with an attached mural and Councilman Sirk suggested the wall would be a good location for an electronic sign sharing what is going on in Decatur. Coshow made a motion to approve Gilbert's recommendation that the City's purchasing Ordinance 2013-14, be changed with the assistance of Mayor Meyer, Clerk-Treasurer Whitright, and City Attorney Baker for the proper verbiage to get the City in line with the 2019 State Guidelines. Seconded by Karbach, the motion was adopted.

By consensus, the Clerk-Treasurer was instructed to hold off in advertising for bids for the 1st and Monroe Street wall renovations until the purchasing ordinance can be amended as discussed.

City Attorney, Tim Baker shared that Utility Auditor, Kevin Hackman had sent him the Asset Management Agreement for his consideration, but he did not have access to various documents. Thus, he will be working with Hackman to get those needed documents to discuss at a future meeting.

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

Adjournment was at 7:18 P.M.