

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 16, 2018

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. 2nd Street. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken Meyer. Roll call was taken to show Councilmen Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, Scott Murray, and Wylie Sirk were in attendance. Also present were City Attorney, Tim Baker and Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright.

The Mayor invited everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the January 2, 2018 meeting. There being no corrections, Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mark Sullivan of Midwestern Engineering appeared before the Council to review the steps that have been completed to-date regarding the building of a new water treatment plant and the repair of the current Winchester Street plant. Following his summarization presentation, Craig Lotz and Jennifer Wilson of Crowe Horwath, an accounting and consulting firm, provided a Water Rate Study and Financial Report. Lotz noted they had looked at the City's financial reports over three years--2015, 2016, and 2017. They studied income and expenditures. It was shared that bonds would be purchased in two phases with the bond of 2018 being used for 2018 and 2019 projects and the 2020 bond used in 2020 and 2021 projects. It was noted some projects would be pay-as-you-go and would use cash on hand. The 2018-19 bond project would be \$8.5 million and the 2020-21 bond would be \$8 million. The total revenue needed for 2018 is \$2.5 million and \$3.1 million for 2020. Lotz shared that for a resident using 600 cubic feet of water the additional cost would be 40% or \$10.08 more after the Phase I increase, and an additional 27% or \$9.51 after Phase II.

Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert commented that there were approximately 64 water main breaks in 2016, other communities may have 20. Repair cost can cost from \$3,000 to \$10,000. The City crews have had to repair many of the same streets due to old and deteriorated water lines, which creates a lot of overtime costs. The City has been making many repairs, but still has a long way to go.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor shared the average residential use in Decatur is billed at 400 cubic feet and the average increase would go from \$70 to \$76 for the entire utility bill. It was shared that a minimum use of 360 cubic feet or less has a current rate of \$63.49. It would go to \$70.43 in 2018 and \$76.99 in 2020. Early March of 2018 the new rates will take effect, and the first week of January 2020 the second rate change will go into effect.

Outlining the process to be followed, it was noted that the City Attorney had prepared an ordinance to establish rate increases and then the bond ordinance will need to be adopted to fit with the construction schedule. A public hearing for the rate increase will need to be held following the first and second reading of the ordinance and before the third reading. Bonds can be in place in April or May and Jennifer Wilson of Crowe Horwath will work with Bond Counsel Tom Pitman of Barnes & Thornburg in preparing the two series of bonds ordinance.

Ordinance 2018-2, an ordinance regarding amending rates and charges for the use of and services rendered by the Waterworks System of the City of Decatur was ready for introduction. Sirk made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2018-2 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by

Dyer, the motion was carried. City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2018-2 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2018-2 on its first reading. Seconded by Dyer, roll call showed passage by a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2018-2 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed. City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2018-2 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2018-2 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer, roll call then showed passage by a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to table Ordinance 2018-2 until February 6, 2018 following a Public Hearing on Ordinance 2018-2. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was carried.

Tabled at the January 2nd meeting was Ordinance No. 2017-15, the ordinance regarding liability for the Utilities Department for invoicing city services. Dyer made a motion to table Ordinance 2017-15 again until further review. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was carried.

Mayor Meyer noted the Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner is February 15, 2018 and has received a letter requesting the City to be a sponsor for the event. He shared that \$350 was contributed from the Common Council budget in 2017. Dyer made a motion to sponsor the Chamber Dinner this year at \$350 from the Common Council budget. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed. Coshow abstained.

Melissa Norby, Community Development Director shared that the Greater Decatur had met on Monday evening, January 15, 2018 and decided there was a need to raise \$1 million for the Hanna Nuttman Park Renovations. The group was asking for \$20,000 of the \$50,000 that was in the budget for marketing Decatur. Coshow made a motion to release not more than \$20,000 of the \$50,000 budgeted for marketing towards the Hanna Nuttman Park Renovations Project. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Phyllis Whitright, Clerk-Treasurer, presented an event form from the Decatur Chamber of Commerce and Decatur Main Street. Coshow mentioned he was looking for sponsors for the eight (8) summer concerts and shared that German Mutual Insurance is observing its 150th anniversary and they wanted to do something for their members. A Decatur German Fest with a Polka band, German food and decorations was suggested to be held on Madison Street Plaza on Friday, August 17, 2018 from 5:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. The event will feature a 13 piece band from Cincinnati, Ohio which has been obtained for the event. Dyer made a motion to approve the Decatur German Fest event. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

It was approved and recommended by the Board of Public Works and Safety for Council to also approve letters of engagement from Bond Counsel Tom Pitman from Barnes & Thornburg, and also City Attorney, Tim Baker, as Local Counsel for the Waterworks Bonds. Pitman's fees for the water bonds are \$32,500 for the first bond and \$25,000 for the second bond. Baker's fees will be \$16,250 and \$12,500 respectively. Dyer made a motion to approve the two letters of engagement. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

City Attorney, Tim Baker noted a legislative update regarding two issues. He shared there is legislation making it more difficult for cities to regulate locations for small cell facilities and also legislation to make annexation more difficult by eliminating the remonstrance periods.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Meyer congratulated Melissa Norby, Community Development Director, and Sandy Collier for writing a successful grant which gained \$50,000 for the Adams County Historical Society from the Indiana Historical Society.

Department Heads:

Chief of Police, Lennie Corral thanked the Board of Public Works and Safety for accepting their recommendation of Seth Colwell as a new Police Officer.

Fullenkamp made a motion to pay the claims against the City. Seconded by Dyer the motion was adopted.

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, Dyer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 9:08 P.M.