

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2017

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 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 Cameron Collier, Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, 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 3, 2017 meeting. There were no corrections. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes. Coshow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

As per the January 3, 2017 minutes, the Mayor had appointed 5 members to the Decatur Plan Commission, but due to the resignation of the City Engineer, the Plan Commission will now be a seven member board instead of a nine member board. After further look into the law for a seven member board, the Mayor is to name 4 members and Common Council is to name 3 members. A motion was made by Collier and seconded by Sirk to appoint Barb Engle and Bill Karbach as Common Council's appointees. Motion passed. At the previous meeting, Common Council appointed Tyler Fullenkamp to the Plan Commission.

A motion was made by Sirk to make the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement for Tim Ulman, who is a volunteer firefighter, a matter of record. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed.

A motion was made by Dyer to reappoint Nate Rumschlag to the Adams County Regional Sewer District Board for a three year term January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019. Seconded by Sirk, the motion passed.

Coshow, as Chamber of Commerce Director, noted there were 27 downtown planters for which they were seeking sponsors. A motion was made by Dyer to sponsor a planter at the cost of \$110 to be paid from Common Council's budget. Seconded by Collier. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote with Coshow abstaining.

Mayor Meyer announced a public hearing with DNR will be held at Riverside Center at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 8, 2017 regarding the St. Mary's Nature Preserve. Only issues that are directly related to this application for construction in a floodway will be addressed.

It was noted 460 surveys had been completed for the Hometown Collaboration Initiative (HCI) to date. The goal is 1000 responses. Those present were encouraged to complete the survey if they have not already done so, and they were urged to encourage family and friends to complete the survey. A meeting will be held at 5:30 P.M. at Riverside Center on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 to share the data from the survey.

A contract from Jones Petrie Rafinski (JPR) for the Madison Street Project was discussed and there were some questions. A motion was made by Fullenkamp and seconded by Coshow to table action until the next meeting. Motion passed.

Melissa Norby, Community Coordinator, shared the Creating Places concept for possible funding through the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) to match online fund raising which would cover a period of 30-45 days. A motion was made by Sirk and seconded by Dyer to have Norby proceed to pursue raising a total of \$100,000. Motion passed.

Collier made a motion to put together a proposal to present before the Northeast Indiana Regional Cities for possible funding from the \$42 million received for the region. Seconded by Sirk. The motion passed. (Items to be included in the proposal could be the Madison Street project, funds dedicated for razing the Schafer building, the capital campaign funds already raised, and the online fund raiser.) The proposal could include approximately \$935,000 in funds available.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Meyer reported the first progress meeting for the 224 project was held yesterday and they plan to start putting in the storm sewer tomorrow morning. It was noted some 35 citations to semi drivers had been made as of Monday. Residents were urged to use Ogg Street rather than entering Stratton at Harvester Lane.

Department Heads:

Police Chief Greg Cook noted he felt most drivers were not speeding through Harvester Lane as some residents felt.

Chief Cook also noted they are in the interview process for the next hire and hope to have a recommendation by the next Council meeting.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, shared that the state would be working on the timing of the signals at the intersections of Monroe and 1st and 2nd Streets.

Gilbert also shared that the Park Board had identified 6 locations and the owners have been contacted for tree carvings which will be funded by the Parks Department.

Council Member Input:

City Attorney Tim Baker reported SB465 has been filed by Senator Liz Brown regarding funding for Solid Waste Districts. The bill would have a negative effect on funding for the local waste district. He urged people to contact Senator Brown and share that the bill would be detrimental to the best interests of our community.

Dyer made a motion to pay the claims. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion passed.

There being no other business to come before the Council, Dyer made a motion to adjourn. Coshow seconded the motion which passed.

Adjournment was at 8:31 p.m.