

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 19, 2016

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 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 Cam Collier, Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp and Wylie Sirk were in attendance. Also present was 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 5th meeting. There were no corrections or amendments. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adams County Clerk, Jim Vogelwede and Adams County Council member, Ed Dyer, speaking on behalf of the Election board, presented the possibility of Adams County becoming a vote center. The first step in the process is to gauge interest from the community leaders. Second step is to form a study committee, and third step is to draft a detailed and thorough plan, which includes resolutions passed by commissioners and council members. Step four is to seek public comment, step five is for the vote center plan to be approved unanimously by the county's election board. Step six is to file the plan with the Indiana Election Division. The final step is to continue to evaluate vote centers in our county with every passing election, and amend the plan where necessary, and file amendments with the Indiana Election Division. Dyer handed out information showing the cost of a vote center versus the current precinct election costs, showing a savings of approximately \$4,700.00 per election. Vogelwede informed council that the current elections have 15 locations, and 83 poll workers, and with the vote center, there would only be 5 locations, and 35 poll workers. There would not be any cost savings at first until the equipment and software are paid. Council members had no objection to the vote center.

Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert handed out the ADA Program Review for 2015. The report showed the City has made many improvements to sidewalks and several areas were improved regarding ADA ramps. Only one request was received for an ADA ramp and sidewalk improvement from a city resident on Dierkes Street. Anyone needing improvements for a handicap ramp may contact Jeremy Gilbert at the Street Department at 724-3356. Dyer made a motion to make the ADA Program Review for 2015 a matter of record. Coshow seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Mayor commented that the City has a 50-50 cost share sidewalk program, if any city resident is interested in this program, they will need to contact the Building Department at 724-3814.

Mayor Meyer received a request from the Decatur Chamber of Commerce for financial support for the Chamber's 85th Annual Dinner meeting to be held on February 4th at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Coshow made a motion to donate \$350.00 from the Common Council budget. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The City Attorney, Tim Baker announced the City is continuing to purchase properties and easements on First Street for the Sewer Interceptor project. Closings on the properties will begin at the end of the month, and should be completed before the next council meeting.

The Mayor announced he has appointed Tim Ehlerding as a non-voting advisor to the Decatur Redevelopment Commission to replace Ben Faurote who resigned from the Commission as of December 31, 2015. Ehlerding will serve until July 1, 2017. Coshow made a motion to make the Certificate of Appointment a matter of record. Fullenkamp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Meyer also announced the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership and Greater Fort Wayne are hosting the Road to One Million Kick-off Celebration on Thursday, January 21st at 6:00 p.m. at the Grand Wayne Center. The event is free of charge, anyone interested will need to RSVP to attend.

Community Coordinator, Melissa Norby reported 17 downtown business owners are interested in the Downtown Façade Program. The Decatur Main Street Design Committee is preparing a frequently asked questions list to help business owners with the application. The applications are due by February 29th. Norby also reported the City was awarded an INDOT railway grant in the amount of \$13,850.00, which will fund stop bars, and signage for railroad crossings, and street markings. The City will pay the cost upfront, and then be reimbursed.

Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert informed the public that Patterson Street, west of US Highway 27/13th Street will be closed this Thursday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. for utility work to be done for the new facility for ARG.

The City Attorney, Tim Baker had prepared a real estate agreement between the City and Corey Affolder to purchase the property at 125 S. First Street for \$35,800.00, which is the average of two (2) appraisals. This purchase is needed for the Sewer Interceptor Project. The Board of Public Works & Safety members approved the purchase, with approval from Council for funding. Dyer made a motion to approve paying from the Common Council's capital improvements account. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Fire Captain, Timothy Bauman who also owns Bauman Upholstery, Inc., occasionally does upholstery work for the City, so he has completed a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement for the year of 2016. Collier made a motion to make the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement a matter of record. Coshow seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Clerk-Treasurer will file the statement with the State Board of Accounts and the Adams County Circuit Court Clerk.

Fullenkamp made a motion to allow the claims as presented. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Dyer made a motion for adjournment. Collier seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.