

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 21, 2020

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. 2nd Street. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dan Rickord. Roll call was taken to show Councilmen Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, Scott Murray, and Wylie Sirk were in attendance. Also present was Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright and City Attorney, Tim Baker.

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

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the January 7, 2020 meeting. Sirk made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Dyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dyer made a motion to make the publication of notice to taxpayer of an additional appropriations from the LOIT-Public Safety Fund a matter of record. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

Resolution 2020-1, a resolution for additional appropriations from LOIT-Public Safety fund for \$565,000 was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2020-1 by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Resolution 2020-1 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-1. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

The Decatur Chamber of Commerce had completed an event form to have the summer concert series on Thursdays from June 4 to September 24, 2020 on Madison Street Plaza from 6 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Sirk made a motion to approve the event for the 18 Thursday evening concerts on the Madison Street Plaza. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted with Coshow abstaining.

Attorney, Audra Snyder representing ABCinema, and Barb Affolder, owner of ABCinema, appeared before the Council seeking a five (5) year abatement on personal property and ten (10) year abatement on real property for ABCinema formerly located at 140 W. Monroe Street, which is now part of 130 W. Monroe Street for the acquisition of an additional theater. The personal property includes projection booth, audio system, and seating. Declaratory Resolution 2020-2, for the Designation of an Economic Revitalization Area for ABCinema at 140 W. Monroe Street requesting a five (5) year abatement for personal property and ten (10) year abatement for real property was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2020-2 by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Baker read Resolution 2020-2 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-2. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted. As a result, there is a need for a Public Hearing regarding the abatement. Dyer made a motion to have the Public Hearing at the first meeting in February, which will be February 4, 2020. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

It was announced a swearing-in will be held for new officer Dennis Bosler and reserves officers Colyn Torson and Gabe Schwaller on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at 3 P.M. in City Hall.

Colton Bickel, Adams County Economic Development Director appeared before the Council regarding a mural project sponsored by the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership (NIRP). The Partnership program is for 11 murals in 11 counties in 11 days. Possible sites suggested for Decatur

includes the east wall behind City Hall, the west side of the previous Northwest Elementary School on Dayton St., and the north side of the former Mark's Heating building on 1st Street. The local cost would be \$2,500 which Bickel hopes would come from local funding sources. Sites have also been selected for Berne and Geneva and the local committee will select three (3) proposals for the NIRP, which will select one site for each of the 11 counties. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the possible use of City Hall and the Northwest School but not to include the Mark's Heating building on 1st Street since the future to that building is not definite. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

Council members were reminded of the Annual Chamber Dinner meeting to be held on Thursday, February 13, 2020 with social time at 5:45 P.M. and dinner at 6:30 P.M.

Mayor Rickord announced that a public meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 5, 2020 at 6:30 P.M. at Riverside Center to provide an update on the progress of Hanna Nuttman Park project.

The Mayor reported that work is being done to update the Decatur website to include a schedule for rentals for the Madison Street Plaza and the Depot. Thus, people can check the website to check availability if they wish to use either facility. Operation Manager, Jeremy Gilbert added that County employee, Ryan Green has this available for the Parks & Recreation Department and is working very well.

Sirk made a motion to make the Mayor's Appointment of John Summers to the Decatur Board of Zoning Appeals, and Kimberly McCord to the Decatur Parks Board for four year terms a matter of record. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright announced that the Street Department has 13 used vehicles for sale. Deadline to receive sealed bids is February 4, 2020 at 4 P.M. at City Hall, and bids will be opened at 6 P.M. at the Board of Public Works meeting.

Clerk-Treasurer Whitright had attended the Public Arts Commission meeting, and the members inquired if the cost of the insurance for the sculptures should be paid from the seed money Council had approved to establish the Arts Commission Fund. Last year, the total cost of insurance for the sculptures was approximately \$2,500.00, with the North Adams Arts Council (NAAC) reimbursing the City \$1,400 for their portion. Sirk made a motion the City and the NAAC to continue paying their cost for this year. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

City Attorney, Tim Baker shared that earlier this evening the Decatur Plan Commission had approved the dedication and plat of the Jackson Street Right of Way and the dedication and plat of Hanna Nuttman Park. It was noted the Board of Public Works and Safety had earlier approved both dedications and plattings. Coshow made a motion to approve the dedication and plat of the Jackson Street Right of Way from Jackson Street bridge to US 224. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted. Coshow made a motion to approve the dedication and plat of Hanna Nuttman Park on the south side of Washington Street. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

City Attorney, Tim Baker shared he would gladly prepare a resolution to honor William "Bill" Karbach who has served the City in many capacities throughout the years. By consensus, City Attorney Baker was given permission to compose a resolution recognizing Mr. William "Bill" Karbach for his service to the City of Decatur.

Department Head Input:

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor, shared that 750 meters have been replaced. If residents receive notifications for a meter change, they are to call City Hall to schedule an appointment.

Don Bergdall, Civil Infrastructure Manager reported that sewer work is being done on CSO 11, and on February 10th, weather permitting, work will begin in the alley behind Yvonne Marie's Antique Mall.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager announced the recycling schedule cards were mailed out this week

Council Input:

City Attorney, Tim Baker noted he had sent copies of legislation pending before the Indiana General Assembly that would have negative effects on the City. The annexation legislation would basically do away with any involuntary annexation with no remonstrance allowed. He shared that HB 1155, HB 1085, and SB 23 would completely destroy the City's work over the past 2-3 years regarding the assurance the City would not be left with unpaid utility bills when renters leave and have unpaid bills. All were encouraged to contact Representative Matt Lehman and Senator Travis Holdman regarding the local concerns.

Coshow thanked the City employees for all their work in putting up and taking down the Christmas decorations and removing the Santa House from the Madison St. plaza.

The results of the study for East Monroe Street would be reviewed and shared in the near future.

Dyer made a motion to pay the claims against the City. Seconded by Murray, 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 8:21 P.M.