

City of Decatur
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes
February 2, 2021

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. Members present were Craig Coshow, Tyler Fullenkamp, and Mayor Dan Rickord. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright and City Attorney Timothy Baker.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes of the January 19, 2021 meeting. Coshow made a motion to approve the minutes. Fullenkamp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Police Chief Lennie Corral appeared before the Board regarding various issues. Chief Corral presented a letter of resignation from Police Reserve Officer Jared Fawcett who had resigned from the Decatur Police Department on October 29, 2020, due to conflicting schedules. Fullenkamp made a motion to make the letter of resignation a matter of record. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Police Chief Corral noted an interview had been held last week with Mayor Rickord and himself with candidate Alexander Smith who is currently employed as a security guard. Mr. Smith has passed all the required testing and Chief Corral recommended hiring Alexander Smith as the 19th officer. Coshow made a motion to accept Chief Corral's recommendation and hire Alexander Smith as the 19th officer. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Next, Chief Corral addressed the hiring of the 20th police officer. Jagg Nunez, currently an officer with the Portland Police Department sought a lateral move to Decatur. Chief Corral had talked with various law enforcement personnel and fellow workers with Officer Nunez and found only positives. Following an interview and the results of the polygraph test, Chief Corral recommended the hiring of Officer Jagg Nunez. Coshow made a motion to accept the recommendation of Chief Corral and laterally hire Jagg Nunez as the 20th officer for the Decatur Police Department. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. It was shared that having a lateral hire, the City is saving over \$3,000 from testing costs, clothing, academy expenses.

Police Chief Lennie Corral open a discussion regarding having a policy/ordinance to include a hiring bonus for lateral hires. Chief Corral shared an ordinance used in the Elkhart/Goshen area. Chief Corral proposed a \$2,000 signing bonus with 1/3 paid when hired, 1/3 paid after three (3) months, and 1/3 paid as the one (1) year probation period ended. It was shared having a signing bonus for lateral hires may attract laterals to apply for future openings. Fullenkamp made a motion pay the \$2,000 signing bonus for the new lateral hire, Jagg Nunez, using the three (3) installments payment option as described above. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Further discussion was held and Fullenkamp inquired if \$2,000 was a sufficient incentive. Chief Corral noted there are various offers such as vacation time, sick leave, and so forth offered by various cities. Board Members were asked to take the concept under advisement for future action.

City Attorney Tim Baker will draw up the needed paperwork for the \$2,000 bonus for Officer Nunez to authorize the Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright to pay the bonus pay.

Mayor Rickord and Chief of Police Lennie Corral had met with the North Adams Community Schools Superintendent Kim Hiatt regarding the contract for the School Resource Officer (SRO) for 2021.

The only change in the contract was to include for the SRO Officer, Trent Busse to use vacation days while school is in session upon request. The school will reimburse the City 70% of Busse's salary and benefits. Coshow made a motion to approve the SRO contract between North Adams and the City and authorize Mayor Rickord to sign the contract. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

City Attorney Tim Baker brought up the need to extend the contract for the water wells located in Berne. Discussion centered on negotiations with the property owner to include such things as possibly purchasing the land needed for the wells, seeking a right-of-first-refusal in case the owner ever went to sell the land, or simply extending the lease. It was noted the City was not looking at purchasing the entire property. Coshow made a motion to exhaust all options in renegotiating the land, including first seeing if the owner is willing to sell. If the land owner is not willing to sell, then pursue if the owner would agree to provide the City with the first-right-to-refusal if he decided to sell the land, or add 30 years to the lease. If a renegotiated contract is finalized, Mayor Rickord is authorized to sign the contract. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor, will set up an appointment with the land owner.

Next on the agenda was the opening of bids for street material, equipment, and labor for 2021. Coshow made a motion to make the legal notice advertising for bids for street material, equipment, and labor a matter of record. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Bids for street material, equipment and labor were opened by the Mayor and the bids were read aloud by the City Attorney. The bids received were from Wayne Asphalt of Fort Wayne, Fleming Excavating, Inc. of Decatur, Stone Street Quarries from Hoagland, Luginbill Excavating from Berne, Brooks Construction from Fort Wayne, KBL Transport from Portland, and US Aggregates from Richmond. Most included Bid Form 96 signed and notarized and the proper bid bond. City Attorney Tim Baker noted no bid bond had been included with Stone Street Quarries and KBL Transport. US Aggregates did not include the bid bond and the signatures were not original signatures. Coshow made a motion for Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager to take the bids under advisement until the next meeting. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert had requested sealed quotes for concrete sidewalk replacement for Phase 3 of the 2nd Street Streetscapes Project from Jefferson Street to the alley at State Farm Insurance on both sides of the street. Quotes were opened by the Mayor and the City Attorney read the quotes aloud. The quotes received were \$66,540.00 from TG Concrete from Decatur and \$67,440.00 from Liter Concrete of Decatur. Coshow made a motion to table action regarding the concrete quotes until electrical quotes can also be obtained in order to see what the total cost of the project is and what funds are available to move forward with this phase of the project. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert sought permission from the Board to dispose of some old equipment which has no value. Gilbert noted over the years they have updated some equipment and now have pieces with no value. He shared that currently scrap prices are up and he would like permission to continue cleaning house and get rid of the old property having no value. Fullenkamp made a motion to allow Gilbert to scrap the old equipment having no value. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Operations Manager Jeremy Gilbert sought permission to close out the 2020 Community Crossing Matching Grant (CCMG) by making payment to Brooks Construction. Total cost is \$687,126.13 and with the 10% retainage and pavement markings to be done yet, the payment is \$618,413.52. The \$463,810.14 would be paid with INDOT's CCMG grant funds and \$154,603.38 from the City's match, which is in the budget. Gilbert shared that the project has come in under budget, which INDOT will invoice the City to pay back the additional grant funds that were received. Coshow made a motion to approve the payment of \$618,413.52 to Brooks Construction. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion passed.

Fire Chief Les Marckel appeared before the Board regarding the bids received for the surplus fire truck at the January 19, 2021 meeting. Fullenkamp made a motion to make a matter of record that Chief Marckel had emailed the other fire departments in Adams County to allow for them to purchase the surplus fire truck at the highest bid offered. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. Chief Marckel recommended accepting the highest bid of \$4,514.00 offered by Blake Baughman of Auburn, Indiana. Fullenkamp made a motion to accept the Baughman bid of \$4,514.00. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor, and Don Bergdall, Civil Infrastructure Manager appeared before the Board requesting permission to purchase a new Vac Truck. The current truck has been costing a lot to operate the last 12-18 months for needed repairs. The quote to service the current truck was over \$30,000.00. Brown Equipment Company had originally offered \$60,000 as a trade-in, but lowered the offer to \$50,000 upon inspection of the current truck. Funding for a new Vac Truck would be split among three (3) utility departments. The new truck has more features than the current truck, and the City would save \$5,000 a week since they do not have to rent a truck. Total cost of a new Vac Truck less the trade-in of the 2003 Vactor truck of \$50,000 is \$383,277.53 (Sourcewell pricing). Coshow made a motion to proceed with the purchase of a new Vac truck from Brown Equipment Company at a cost of \$383,277.53 to be paid between Water, Sewage and Stormwater Utilities. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

The Board of Works had previously approved the quote at the January 5, 2021 meeting for the East Monroe Street sidewalk project. The contract with TG Concrete for the East Monroe Street sidewalk project was presented in the amount of \$129,920.00, which is for sidewalks, curbs and concrete repair on East Monroe Street from Ogg Street to the Bellmont Access Building entrance. Fullenkamp made a motion to accept the contract with TG Concrete and authorize Mayor Rickord to sign the contract. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. This project will be paid from the CEDIT fund.

City Attorney Tim Baker brought forth the master agreement with CBTS for WebEx meeting software to be installed at the Riverside Center. Baker commented that he has had discussions with the Adams County IT Director, Mike Brown who referred that this company selected is one that will be around to service the equipment. Coshow made a motion to approve the contract with CBTS and authorized Mayor Rickord and the Clerk-Treasurer to sign on behalf of the City. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

The Clerk-Treasurer received the required paperwork from an employee who is wanting to donate five (5) eight hour days of sick leave to another employee who has filed FMLA. Coshow made a motion to approve the request. Seconded by Fullenkamp. Motion was carried.

There being no other business to come before the Board, Coshow made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Adjournment was at 7:30 P.M.