

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 18, 2020

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 February 4, 2020 meeting. Sirk made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Coshow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation by Therese and Don Berke and Jim Hitchcock, Assistant Fire Chief, regarding Safe Haven Baby boxes. Ms. Berke gave a history of Safe Haven Baby boxes and noted that there are 26 boxes installed in Indiana and five (5) babies have been saved. Assistant Fire Chief Hitchcock shared that a location has been designated at the fire station for such a box. The make-up of the boxes was explained and it was noted that the longest time a baby had remained in one of the boxes was 4 minutes and 20 seconds and the shortest time was 90 seconds. It was preferred for a mother to hand a baby over to someone in the hospital, but that does not seem to happen. It was noted that before baby boxes, babies were left in boxes at the doors of hospitals, fire stations, and police departments, often in the very cold conditions. City Attorney, Tim Baker had talked with Adam Miller, Attorney for Adams Memorial Hospital, which the hospital is supportive but feels that to keep the drop-off anonymous it would be easier to do it at the fire station. Items to be considered include the lease agreement, cost of installation of the box, and annual fee. Monica Kelsey is the contact for the City. Sirk made a motion to give the City Attorney authority to review the contract to move forward to install the baby box at the Fire Department and give Mayor Rickord the authority to sign the contract. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

The Asst. Fire Chief, Jim Hitchcock mentioned he anticipates a lot of donations towards the Safe Haven baby box, and recommended that a separate fund be established for this project. By consensus, the City Attorney will prepare an ordinance to establish a new fund for this project.

The Clerk-Treasurer announced that American Legal Publishing Corporation has completed the 2019 S-4 Supplement to the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015. Ordinance 2020-1, an ordinance which enacts and adopts S-4 Supplement to the Code of Ordinances of the City. Supplement S-4 contains local legislation current through Ordinance 2019-21 passed November 4, 2019 was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-1 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was carried and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-1 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-1 on its first reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote showed a 5-0 passage. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-1 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Coshow, the motion passed and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-1 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-1 on its second reading. Seconded by Coshow, a roll call vote showed passage with a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to suspend the rule and place Ordinance 2020-1 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Baker read Ordinance

2020-1 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-1 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Coshow, the roll call vote was held and passed with a 5-0 vote.

Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright presented a list of outstanding checks which were more than two (2) years old to be written off and redeposited into the General fund. Three checks totaling \$145.50 from the General Fund and three checks totaling \$240.02 from the Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) account. Fullenkamp made a motion to write off the checks totaling \$385.52. Seconded by Sirk, the motion passed.

From the previous meeting an event form was filed by R. J. Pitman for an event on Madison Street Plaza, action was postponed regarding the fees to rent the plaza until the guidelines could be considered. Coshow shared that the Chamber and Main Street events were held as public events and did not pay fees for the use of the Plaza. By consensus, there will be no charge for the plaza for public events. As for private events on the plaza, the Clerk-Treasurer was directed to change the rules to reflect what was approved in the Sept. 18, 2018 Common Council minutes. Pitman informed the Council members that their program will no longer be an event with an entrance charge and it will be an open event for the community. Pitman has contacted the insurance company to have liability insurance for the event.

The next item on the agenda were ordinances regarding Building Code changes.

Ordinance 2020-2, an ordinance which amends Chapter 150 of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015 for the purpose of establishing when a Certificate of Occupancy is required and when such a Certificate may be issued was brought forth. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-2 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-2 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-2 on its first reading. Seconded by Coshow, a roll call vote was held and passed 5-0. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-2 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2020-2 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-2 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote showed passage by a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 2020-2 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2020-2 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-2 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Coshow, the roll call vote showed passage by a 5-0 vote.

Ordinance 2020-3, an ordinance which amends Chapter 151 of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015 for the purpose of establishing details to be included in plans and specifications submitted for obtaining a building permit was brought forth. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-3 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-3 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-3 on its first reading. Seconded by Murray, a roll call vote showed passage by a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-3 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2020-3 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-3 on its second reading. Seconded by Murray, a roll call vote showed passage by a 5-0 margin. Sirk made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 2020-3 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Coshow, the motion passed and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-3 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-3 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Coshow, a roll call vote was held and the Ordinance passed with a 5-0 vote.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, presented the annual ADA review for 2019. As per a 2012 law made by the State and Federal Government the City had to come up with a plan and Gilbert had been appointed as ADA Coordinator at that time. In 2019 ADA improvements had been made in two (2) locations at Harvester Lane and East Monroe Street, two (2) locations at Ogg Street and East Monroe Street, one (1) location on Walnut Street near 7<sup>th</sup> Street, three (3) locations on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Sidewalk project, and at four (4) locations in the Deer Run Subdivision and Grey Goose Blvd. Thus, twelve (12) ramps were improved in 2019. Sirk made a motion to make a matter of record the report presented by Jeremy Gilbert regarding the twelve (12) ramp improvements for 2019. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. Any citizen who has questions or comments can contact Gilbert at 260-724-3356. Citizens can also use the Decatur website to report any non-emergency call such as ADA needs, potholes, and so forth.

#### Department Heads Input:

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, mentioned that this is pothole season and advised people to let the department know of any repairs.

#### Council Input:

Murray asked about the score boards at the Hanna Nuttman Ball Park and inquired if the City's marketing budget could be used for a City sponsored score board by the City. It was noted four (4) score boards have been sponsored. Gilbert informed Murray that the City is trying to get everything that has been paid for done first, and then he would know better by the next meeting how the funds were going. Gilbert recommended taking 10-15 minutes at the next Board of Works meeting to give an update of the Hanna Nuttman Park renovations. Mayor Rickord noted the goal is to get the fields playable for the start of the season.

City Attorney shared the Plan Commission has met earlier and recommended to the Board of Public Works and Safety the dedication and plat of land between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets and Dayton Avenue and Marshall Street known as Citizens 3<sup>rd</sup> Addition for the New Beginnings Faith Center (NBFC). The Board of Public Works and Safety made a matter of record the Plan Commission's actions and recommend the City Council act on the recommendations. Dyer made a motion to make a matter of record the recommendation of the Plan Commission and the Board of Public Works and Safety. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. Sirk made a motion to approve the plat as submitted. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

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 8:37 P.M.