

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 19, 2019

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 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 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 5, 2019 meeting. Sirk made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Dyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The first item on the agenda was the review of the abatements for ABCinema. The CF-1 form for the real estate was first considered and found to be in compliance. Sirk made a motion to continue the abatement for the real estate for ABCinema. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted. The CF-1 form for the personal property was then considered, and found to be in compliance. Sirk made a motion to continue the abatement for the personal property for ABCinema. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Meyer presented the Annual Fee for Service Agreement with the Adams County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC) for the annual fee of \$43,866.42, which is 13% of the City's share of CEDIT distribution. The ACEDC requests two payments of \$21,933.21 to be invoiced in June and December of 2019. Sirk made a motion to approve the amount and have the Mayor sign the agreement on behalf of the City. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Meyer shared he had received a letter from Scott Ainsworth, Attorney for the North Adams Community Schools offering the Northwest School as a gift to the City. This is necessary as the school was once a part of the City until the 1960's. The Mayor had received letters of support from Keith Gerber of Hoosier Pattern, Inc., Brent Lehman, Supt. of North Adams Community Schools, Trevor Hobbs of the Adams County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC), and Joe Elkins from Adams Wells Manufacturing Alliance. Superintendent Brent Lehman, Keith Gerber of Hoosier Patterns Inc., and Jovan Mrvos a teacher and resident of Decatur, Trevor Hobbs of ACEDC, were in attendance to explain the plans of Vincennes University leasing a portion of the building. Most council members verbally gave their support of using the facility and felt it would be a great opportunity for post-graduate college credit courses as well as Work Force Development. Keith Gerber commented that it would be positive to have a facility like this in Adams County, as he currently has to send funds to Allen County for training, and would like to keep them in Adams County. A steering committee is working on presenting a business proposal and plans for the use of the building, which could also include a service incubator program. It was discussed that the schools in Adams and Wells Counties and also the hospital need to be involved in the planning. Mayor Meyer noted that City staff need to tour the building and learn of its condition since it is being gifted in "as is" condition. Superintendent Lehman informed the City to contact Larry Carty to set up a time to inspect the building. Mayor Meyer informed Mr. Lehman the City would try to complete its study and make a decision in the next 30 to 60 days. Mayor Meyer thanked the group attending this evening's meeting to show their support of the City taking ownership of the building.

Melissa Norby, Community Development Director presented a preliminary event form for the Dekegger Craft Beer and BBQ Fest to be held on the Madison Street Plaza from 4-9 P.M. on Saturday, June 22, 2019. It was noted approval was not requested at this time but they wanted to get the event on the schedule. Norby will present the event form again once she has more details.

Melissa Norby spoke on behalf of the Adams County EMA to educate the public on the new Mass Emergency Notification System. She explained all land line phones were automatically enrolled in the system. Residents with cell phones will need to enroll, and all residents may be notified by text, email and/or phone call. Norby shared this is a new system from EMA and they are working to educate County residents and assist them if they need help. Enrollment is available through the City and County websites under the topic of Adams County Mass Notification System.

Department Head Reports:

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager noted bids for water main extensions and replacements will be taken for four (4) areas; High Street, Homestead, County Road 500 N, and County Road 600 N. Also, bids will be opened on March 5, 2019 for the Community Crossings Grant project for resurfacing local streets. He shared that with the weather conditions, potholes are becoming an issue. Gilbert encouraged people to call his office to report areas of needed work. Gilbert shared he will be attend Road School in March.

Public Input:

Larry Isch, President of the Park Board, was in attendance and thanked the City for approving the request to proceed with hiring another full-time maintenance staff for the Parks Department.

Sirk made a motion to pay the claims against the City. Seconded by Collier, the motion was adopted.

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, Dyer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Coshow, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 8:08 P.M.