

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 3, 2020

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, March 3, 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 February 18, 2020 meeting. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The first thing on the agenda was Mayor Rickord thanking members of Troop 60 Boy Scouts for their attendance at the meeting in an effort to earn their Community Badge.

Adams County Prosecuting Attorney, Jeremy Brown appeared before the Council. Attorney Brown first introduced his new Deputy Prosecutor Chad Thurston. Prosecutor Brown then introduced Jeb Richey who had pulled Melissa Garman out of a burning car resulting from a four (4) vehicle pileup on August 3, 2020 on US 27 in Adams County. Attorney Brown awarded Jeb Richey, a sixteen-year-old from Syracuse, Indiana, a Certificate of Recognition. The Decatur Fire Department, represented by Captain Jeff Sheets, K9 Officer Bryce Kukelhan of the Sherriff's Department, and Tony Stimpson, a paramedic and Field Training Officer with the Three Rivers Ambulance Authority in Fort Wayne, then presented Jeb Richey with the Decatur Fire Department's Citizen Service Award, the department's highest honor for a non-firefighter. Several friends and family were present for Mr. Richey's recognition. Many thanked Jeb for his heroic act. Mayor Rickord noted he had seen the tape of the accident and recognized Jeb Richey as an amazing kid.

Rick Anderson from Johnson Melloh Solutions (JMS) out of Indianapolis appeared before the Council and shared he had met with Mayor Rickord regarding an energy conservation study. He noted the study would include various aspects in the building. The study would be done at no cost to the City. Mr. Anderson's study would include a walk through of City Hall. Mayor Rickord commented that with everything done today regarding energy, he felt it would be wise to do this. Mr. Anderson informed Council he would return with recommendations which would include cost estimates. Fullenkamp made a motion to proceed with the study. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

Max Miller, member of the Design Committee of Main Street, also introduced the other members of the Design Committee who were present, Pam Bergdall and Rich Weiland. Miller speaking on behalf of the Committee appeared before the Council to seek the release of funds for the Façade Program as this year's applications had been studied and businesses have been selected for funding. Miller also encouraged the continuance of the five (5) year program. He noted six (6) applications had been received and the six (6) were awarded funds. Not all selected locations received the full amount requested. Coshow made a motion to release the funds upon the approval of the Main Street Board. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent, appeared before the Council seeking approval to send contractors a letter giving them the option to quote regarding the various areas of

work such as plumbing, electrical, painting and so forth for the completion of the HIVE. The Board of Public Works and Safety had approved the request and recommended it be taken before the Council for approval. Dyer made a motion to proceed with sending letters to the various local contractors. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

Several Event forms were then presented and acted upon.

The first Event was for the DeKegger on Saturday, June 27, 2020 on Madison Street Plaza. All Department Heads had signed off on the form. The request was for Second Street from Monroe to Court Street to be closed from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m., and Madison St. from 2nd to 3rd Street from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Dyer made a motion to approve the event and the street closings and to keep 2nd Street open as long as possible before the event begins. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed with Coshow and Sirk abstaining.

The second Event was for the Dekatur Germanfest to be held on Madison Street Plaza from 5-11 P.M. on Saturday, August 22, 2020. The street closings requested were to close 2nd Street between Monroe St (224) and Court Street prior to the event. Murray made a motion to approve the event and the street closings. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion passed with Coshow abstaining.

The third Event was for a wedding to be held on Saturday, September 12, 2020 on Madison Street Plaza. The request includes the use of the restrooms, sound system, and electricity. The \$100 deposit has been made. Set up to begin at 9 a.m. and the event to end at 11 p.m. Sirk made a motion to approve the event. Motion seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

The fourth Event was for a 40-year class reunion of 1980 to be held on Madison Street Plaza on Saturday, August 29, 2020. The event form was completed prior to the revised form that includes the sound system, but they will need the use of the sound system. Dyer made a motion to approve the event and waive the charge for the sound system. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

The fifth Event was for the 4th of July activities. Two bands will be performing on Madison Street from 3-6 and 6-9 P.M. The event will then move to Riverside Center for the fireworks. The Chamber parking lot will be blocked off as well as Second Street from Monroe to Court during the concert. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the 4th of July Event and street closings. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted with Coshow abstaining.

The sixth Event was for the Kekionga Festival, which will be August 12-16, 2020 and take place behind the Riverside Center. Street closing requested for this event is Jackson Street from Front Street to Monroe Street. The Motor Sports event will take place on Thursday evening, August 13, 2020 and a concert will be held on Madison Street Plaza on that Thursday evening. Street closings for the Motor Sports will be on 2nd Street from Monroe to Jefferson Street, and Madison Street between 2nd and 3rd Street. Dyer made a motion to accept the Kekionga Festival/Motor Sports Events and the street closings. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted with Coshow abstaining.

The seventh Event was for the Highland Games to be held on October 3, 2020. Street closings will include Jackson Street from Front Street to the compost site. Dyer made a motion to approve the Highland Games Event and the street closing. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted with Coshow abstaining.

Mayor Rickord announced he had met with school officials and is working forward with the creation of a Mayor's Youth Council. Applications for possible members of the Council will be available in early April and will be due the end of April, 2020.

Department Heads Input:

Chris Brite, Assistant Police Chief, announced that applications for an open position for a patrolman are being taken until Friday, March 6, 2020. Twelve (12) applications have been received.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, shared that a lot has been done at Hanna Nuttman this week. He noted some very generous residents have come forward with donations towards sponsoring the last two scoreboards, he thanked local concrete contractors for donating their labor. Mayor Rickord thanked the various contractors and City employees for putting in many hours to get things done. May 9th is opening day at the new REV Sports Complex at Hanna Nuttman Park.

Les Marckel, Decatur Fire Chief, asked for prayers and thoughts on behalf of the first responders for the tornado in Nashville, TN. He also urged people to be aware and act accordingly to various weather events that normally take place during the months of March through September.

Council Input:

Murray inquired if any action is being taken regarding the coronavirus. Mayor Rickord informed him that he and the City Attorney are to meet with the hospital personnel.

Sirk made a motion to make the proof of publication of the City's Cash & Investment Statement for the year 2019 a matter of record, seconded by Dyer. The motion carried.

Murray made a motion to pay the claims against the City. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

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

Adjournment was at 8:36 P.M.