

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 5, 2019

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

The first item of business was the CF-1 personal property form for Tekni-Plex, Inc. (Dolco Packaging) for the abatement originally filed in 2016. It was noted that they were in substantial compliance, so Dyer made a motion to continue the abatement. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. The abatement that was filed in 2018 has been placed on hold for now.

Brian Clemons, president of Decatur Main Street, presented an update regarding where Main Street has been and where it is going. He distributed a written update summarizing the projects in Decatur from 2014 to 2019. He included a listing of new downtown businesses from 2014 through 2018. He shared the recommendations of the Decatur Main Street Design Committee for streetscapes for Second Street. Tony Murray, a member of Decatur Main Street, was also in attendance. Following Clemons' presentation a lengthy discussion was held regarding the streetscape for Second Street. It was shared that \$100,000 has been set aside in the budget for the streetscape work and Collier shared that approximately \$150,000 remained in the Capital Campaign donations held at the Adams County Community Foundation, and that money should be used for the streetscape project. Coshow shared that the City of Berne was removing the trees from their Main Street area. Tony Murray shared that the trees to be used would be those without a large root system and that the trees do not necessarily cause bird problems. Clemons shared he would like to approach the downtown business owners for input. Collier noted if they are going to make the downtown attractive, which would have an impact on the downtown, it needs to be done. Via telephone, Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, shared something needs to be done in front of the Second Street Lofts and other areas as the sidewalk has been broken up for water main installation and he is asking what he should do. He also suggested doing the work to get within ½ block of 5-Points before the work is done there in 2021-22. Collier suggested the Design Committee to work with the Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert in getting the costs for ½ block and then they could decide how much they could complete with the funds available and return with plans for ½ block for desired and required work.

An Event Form for Kekionga Festival to be held during August 14-18 including the Kekionga camp, the Motor Sports Event, and the Taste of Decatur. Dyer made a motion to accept the Event Form for Kekionga Festival events. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted with Coshow abstaining.

The next item was the Hanna Nuttman Project. It was noted by Mayor Meyer that if they want to have the ability to use the fields in the summer of 2020, work must begin. Earthwork, storm sewers, sanitary sewers, and water would be the first phase of Phase One of the project. It was noted

that Miller Land Surveying could have bid documents prepared by next week. League play this summer will be mainly at the Monmouth site, and the girls Soft Ball League could shorten their season or find another location. The Men's Slo Pitch president Trenton Schinnerer was in attendance as they are still working on a site for their games possibly at Kekionga Park or McMillen Field. It was noted there was \$250,000 budgeted in 2018 and 2019 and there has been about \$530,000 contributed locally so far, with hopefully more to come. There is still the need to emphasize the need of funding from local residents. Also, some grants may be available. Dyer made a motion to proceed with the first phase of Phase One to advertise for bids for earthwork and utility work. Seconded by Collier, the motion was adopted.

Department Head Reports:

Fire Chief Les Marckel shared that Assistant Chief, Jim Hitchcock is still in therapy as a result of his injury and is looking to mid-April to return to the job.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent, shared that Erin Heyerly had been selected to replace Sharon Braun who plans to retire at the end of the year. He also shared that Nic Kos, owner of a small portion of what was Cottonwood Estates has been notified that he has until March 10, 2019 to remove the stack of tires located on his property.

Melissa Norby, Community Development Director, shared that tickets are still available for the Paul McCartney raffle, and that tickets for the Mersey Beatles' event will be held on May 8, 2019 at 7 P.M. in the Belmont Auditorium. Tickets are on sale online. She shared that the Design Committee of Decatur Main Street had met today to review the applications for the Façade Program.

Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright had published the City's 2018 Cash & Investment Statement as required by State Board of Accounts. Coshow made a motion to make the legal notice a matter of record. Dyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Council Input:

Collier shared a group had met regarding an Arts Commission and that the next step is to draft an ordinance. He noted he would try to put something together to share with City Attorney, Tim Baker.

Collier also shared a need for training to help Council members better understand how the budget works. Perhaps a work session could be used.

Sirk 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, Dyer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 8:46 P.M.