

City of Decatur  
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes  
March 20, 2018

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on Tuesday, March 20, 2018, at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street. Members present were Councilman Craig Coshow, and Mayor Ken Meyer. Bill Karbach was absent. Also present were City Attorney, Tim Baker and Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the March 6, 2018 meeting. Coshow made a motion to approve the minutes. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Fire Chief, Les Marckel and Assistant Chief, Jim Hitchcock appeared before the board to seek funding for the additional costs not included in the LOIT Public Safety budget for a security cabinet, internet, phones and fiber to comply with the County's system. Coshow made a motion to use up to \$10,000 budgeted in the LOIT Public Safety training account towards the upgrade of the system. Seconded by Meyer, the motion passed. Once the Fire Chief receives the actual cost of the IT upgrade, the Clerk-Treasurer will prepare a resolution for Council's approval to transfer the funds within the LOIT Public Safety Fund for the software and hardware upgrade.

Fire Chief, Les Marckel then presented a letter stating that three (3) of the paid on-call volunteers had retired/resigned due to a lack of time to serve. Coshow made a motion to make the letter a matter of record for the resignations of Ed Spangler, Nate Heyerly, and A.J. Bertsch as paid on-call volunteers with the Decatur Fire Department. Seconded by Meyer, the motion was adopted. The Fire Chief will be taking applications soon to fill these positions.

Chief of Police, Lennie Corral appeared before the Board to share that Blaze Brooks had served his year of probation and should be considered a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Officer (an officer with one year of experience) effective March 20, 2018. Coshow made a motion to approve and make the letter a matter of record that Blaze Brooks has served a year of probation and is now a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Officer and his pay should be adjusted as of March 20, 2018. Seconded by Meyer, the motion was adopted.

Anne Butcher, Wastewater Superintendent, Don Bergdall, Civil Infrastructure Engineer, and Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager shared that two (2) bids had been received and opened on March 13<sup>th</sup> for the Countrybrook East Lift Station. However, on a technicality, not all department heads had reviewed the specs before the bids were sought. Coshow made a motion to reject the bids and move forward by rebidding the project with the updated specs. Seconded by Meyer, the motion was adopted.

Butcher, Bergdall, and Gilbert then brought forth estimates to redo the roof on the maintenance building at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Estimates to replace the roof as a flat roof were \$36,782 and \$27,785. Butcher shared that she had contacted three contractors for quotes to replace the roof as a slanted roof, Darling Construction, Arnold Construction, and Extreme Builders, but only Extreme Builders responded with an estimate of \$12,800. Coshow made a motion to accept the Extreme Builders estimate for the slanted roof at \$12,800. Seconded by Meyer, the motion was adopted.

Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert shared he recently did a street light assessment, and there's a great need for poles and lights to be replaced. Gilbert received an estimate from Rorick Electric to replace six (6) poles and replace with LED fixtures on 5<sup>th</sup> Street from Park Street to Jackson Street for \$10,000.00, and seven (7) poles on 5<sup>th</sup> Street from Jackson Street to Monroe

Street for \$12,400.00, and four (4) poles on 5<sup>th</sup> Street from Monroe Street to Madison Street for \$6,800.00. The estimate includes a deduction if the existing wire are reused. Gilbert shared that these are in dire need of replacement. Various lines of the budget were considered for the funding. The Common Council budget has \$15,000 for street lights, and \$50,000 for repairs and maintenance, and there was some funding available in the Riverboat Fund. It was noted that something had to be done as it is a public safety issue. Coshow made a motion to declare an emergency to approve the estimate from Rorick Electric to replace the street poles and lights from Park Street to Madison Street along Fifth Street. Seconded by Meyer, the motion was adopted.

Councilmen Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, Scott Murray, and Wylie Sirk joined the remainder of the Board of Works meeting for discussion and information purposes only.

Coshow made a motion to make the Oath of Office for John Summers as Captain of the Police Reserves, the Certificate of Appointments, and the Conditional Employment Contracts for the three new police officers; Daniel Hunter, Lucas Rumschlag, and Seth Colwell who were all sworn in on Monday, March 19, 2018 a matter of record. Seconded by Meyer, the motion was adopted.

Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert shared that several railroad crossings are in need of repair and he had been in contact with Bunge regarding their assistance in the cost of repairing the tracks used by them. He noted Bunge is looking for possible funds to help the City with the track improvements. This effort will be a mill and fill project. Gilbert noted he will be preparing a list of streets to get asphalt this summer.

City Attorney, Tim Baker shared that Brian Chronister had noted he was uncomfortable signing the contract that was approved by the Board of Works members at the last meeting regarding the building on the northwest corner of Monroe and First Streets (108 W. Monroe Street) with the changes that had been made held him responsible for any costs over \$25,000 for the demolition of the building. Baker noted he explained the situation and noted an alternative would be for Chronister to sell the building to the City at a rate of \$1.00 and the City would assume the liability. Baker shared the closing date had been moved to April 20, 2018. Coshow made a motion to sign the new contract and proceed with the closing with Chronister selling the building to the City at a cost of \$1.00, and that the City would take the risk with everything being done as soon as possible. Meyer seconded the motion. The motion was adopted. The costs associated with this project will be paid from the Unsafe Building account budgeted in the Plan/Building & Zoning budget.

City Attorney, Tim Baker shared information that Adams County wants a Memorandum of Agreement with each municipality in the County regarding the Adams County Mobile Emergency System. Mr. Baker noted he would email copies of the proposed Memorandum of Agreement to the Council members to study. No specifics regarding to the costs are given. And, many feel the Cities are already paying as their residents are paying County taxes. However, the Sheriff feels the response calls are overwhelming and there may be a need to hire additional dispatchers as they are too tied up with non-emergency calls to take care of emergency calls. Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager shared that when the new phone system was installed there was the option to use 311 for non-emergency issues such as reporting potholes. However, it had never been placed into operation.

Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert appeared before the Board to get approval to purchase various vehicles. He had received two (2) quotes for a ¾ ton pickup truck with 4-wheel drive from Shifferly Dodge (\$31,272) and Kelley Ford (\$39,233.32). He had budgeted \$30,000.

He sought permission to purchase three (3) ¾ ton pickup trucks with 4-wheel drive, one for each of the following departments: MVH-Street, Storm Water, and Wastewater--with funds coming out of each department. Coshow made a motion to approve purchasing three (3) ¾ ton Dodge pickup trucks with 4-wheel drive at a cost not to exceed \$31,272 each. Seconded by Meyer, the motion passed. Gilbert then noted the dump truck to be purchased from Adams County, for which he had budgeted \$7,000 came back at \$10,500 after they made the trade. He shared a new truck would cost about \$225,000. Coshow made a motion to purchase the dump truck from the County. Seconded by Meyer, the motion was adopted.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Coshow made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Meyer, the motion was adopted.

Adjournment was at 7:27 P.M.