

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 4, 2017

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 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 Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, and Wylie Sirk were in attendance. Also present were City Attorney Tim Baker and Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright. Absent: Cam Collier

The Mayor invited everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the March 21, 2017 meeting. There being no corrections, Coshow made a motion to approve the minutes. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dyer made a motion to the legal notice for CSO Community Notification a matter of record. Seconded by Sirk, the motion passed.

It was noted that the first meeting in July would be July 4, 2017 and a motion was made by Sirk to change the meeting to Wednesday, July 5, 2017 at the same time and place. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

A motion was made by Dyer and seconded by Sirk to direct City Attorney Tim Baker to draft an ordinance to change the alley next to Barger Realty (formerly the old City Hall) to one-way south rather than one-way north as recommended by the Board of Public Works and Safety. Motion carried. City Attorney Tim Baker will prepare the ordinance for the April 18, 2017 meeting with a possible public hearing, and second and third readings the first meeting in May.

Discussion centered around the demolition of the Schafer Building. City Attorney Baker had been working with Kevan Biggs and his legal people, and Tom Pitman of Barnes & Thornburg to find the simplest, quickest, and least costly way to finance the demolition of the Schafer building. The best way seems to be to setup a State Revolving Fund loan and amend the CEDIT plan, and request an additional appropriation to use CEDIT funds, which could possibly be done in two to three Council meetings. Term of the loan would be 15 years. Baker mentioned there would be \$4,000 - \$5,000 to hire Tom Pitman to help with the financing. Talk will continue with Kevan when he returns to the area next week, Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, shared he felt it was a good plan and noted the building is in terrible condition. The two reasons for rapid demolition are safety and then being able to progress with plans for the Madison Street Project. Baker noted he may have something ready for the April 18, 2017 meeting.

A motion was made by Sirk and seconded by Fullenkamp to accept the event form presented for the Decatur Farmers' Market to be held on Madison Street between First and Second Streets. Motion passed. The market will begin Thursday, May 11, 2017 and the street will be closed from 2 P.M. to 7 P.M. each week. In the event the demolition begins on the Schafer Building, Plan B will be used and the Market will move to the parking lot behind the Chamber Building.

A motion was made by Dyer and seconded by Coshow to approve the event form for the Dekegger Homebrew and BBQ Fest to be held on Saturday, July 22, 2017 on Madison Street. The street closing would be to close Madison St. between 2nd and 3rd Street, and 2nd St. between Madison & Court at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 21st and from 5 P.M. to 11 P.M. on July 22nd. The intersection at 2nd and Madison St. will be open till noon on Saturday, July 22nd. The motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, shared the contract for vegetation management with Heartland Restoration Services, Inc. which is necessary for the Nature Preserve property. The contract includes a vegetation management plan, and training City employees how to maintain the nature preserve. Cost for the services is a lump sum of \$2,700.00. Gilbert noted that this will be paid from the grant with DNR. A motion was made by Coshow and seconded by Sirk to approve the contract. Motion carried.

Mayor Meyer read a letter from Roger Gage, Building/Zoning Supt., noting his plans to retire as of May 31, 2017 after 22+ years. A motion was made by Sirk to make the resignation letter a matter of record, seconded by Dyer, and passed.

Sirk made a motion that any current employee in the Nationwide Plan can remain in that plan or may go to the Hoosier S.T.A.R.T. plan and all new employees are eligible only for the Hoosier S.T.A.R.T. plan. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Dan Rickord, Utilities Director, shared that the utilities office has been taking credit card payments for the last few years and they can now make on-line payments from the Decatur website. There is a 3% charge when paying by credit card. He also noted that checking accounts can be used for automatic deduction.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, shared that the Master Drive project was progressing well. He also noted a pre-bid meeting is scheduled for the St. Mary's Nature Preserve project. Street lights will soon be installed on Monroe Street. Heavy trash pickup is this week, and yard waste pickup will begin next week.

Bill Karbach, Code Enforcement Officer stated that since he is back in town the code enforcement will begin again.

Coshow made a motion to pay the claims against the city. Seconded by Fullenkamp the motion passed.

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 8:10 P.M.