

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 7, 2019

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, May 7, 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 April 16, 2019 meeting. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

First on the agenda was Coni Mayer regarding the 8th year for the Decatur Sculpture Tour. Mayer shared that there would be 27 art pieces for the 2019 gallery with 19 being outdoors and 8 indoors. Mayer shared the artists like to come to Decatur and allow their art work to be displayed from June to April. Mayer noted she hoped the City could provide greater funds for sponsorship this year to assist with the honorariums provided to the artists. Mayer shared the sponsorship is for a ten (10) month period and not just for a day or weekend. Dyer made a motion to sponsor the Sculpture Tour at the rate of \$2,500 taken from the Common Council's Promotional account. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

An Event Form for the 2019 Sculpture Tour for Friday, June 14, 2019 was presented, which included a list of street closings. Dyer made a motion to approve the June 14, 2019 Sculpture Tour events. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Meyer shared he had received a letter from Attorney Scott Ainsworth, Attorney for the North Adams Community Schools, regarding the donation of the Northwest Elementary School to the City of Decatur. Mayor Meyer noted he and others had toured the building on numerous occasions and found it to be in excellent condition. It was shared that a group had been doing leg work to find various education facilities to locate in the building which could serve as a good location for a training center. It was also noted that if it doesn't become a learning center, the Parks and Recreation Department would likely have a use for the building. Coshow made a motion to accept the Northwest Elementary Building. Seconded by Collier. Prior to a vote, James Teeple of the Adams County Economic Development Corporation shared there is a need for development of skills for the work force. Conversations had been held with Vincennes University, Ivy Tech, Indiana Tech. and Work One, and many people go to Fort Wayne for training which could be held in Adams County. Teeple noted they need to capture the graduates and give them a pipeline to get education here, especially in the area of Workforce Development. Brent Lehman, Superintendent of North Adams Community Schools, shared he appreciated all the cooperation and felt the opportunities are wide open for the use of the facility. City Attorney Tim Baker shared that such a facility was one of the things lacking in order for the City to receive the Stellar Grant. Following the input from Teeple, Lehman, and Baker, the vote was taken and passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the discussion of the streetscape for Second Street between Monroe Street and Madison Street. The Decatur Main Street, Design Committee members: Tony Murray, Sandy Collier, Max Miller, and Community Development Director, Melissa Norby were on hand to discuss the proposed design. It was noted the Design Committee had done a great amount of

work. Murray shared the plan included six (6) light poles, green areas for trees with grates, and a bump out proposed at the alley way if the alley becomes a walk way. There were no benches or trash cans in the plan as of yet, depending on available funds. The use of trees became the major topic of discussion. Sandy Collier shared she had talked with the Public Works Director from Roanoke who was against trees until they were put in and now he supports their use. Murray noted the trees need to be maintained and replaced on a regular schedule. The proposal includes 4 to 8 trees. Sirk asked who would be responsible for maintenance. Mayor Meyer noted discussion centered around the trees and he asked about the rest of the proposal. Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, noted the light poles would be delivered on Wednesday, May 8, 2019. Some questioned the brightness of the lights. It was shared the lights would be closer together than those on Monroe Street and thus would create more light. The conversation returned to the trees as Sandy Collier noted Roanoke shared they did not use the grates the last time they changed trees and they would make a good deal if the City wanted those grates. Utilities Auditor, Kevin Hackman reminded everyone that the water main runs down the middle of the sidewalk. Don Bergdall, Civil Infrastructure Manager, commented that tree roots and storm drains are not a good idea. Fullenkamp inquired about the alley bumps and it was noted the alley was currently used as a pedestrian walkway. Dyer inquired regarding the time needed to complete the work and Gilbert suggested approximately five (5) weeks to complete both sides. Fullenkamp was concerned with the size of the sidewalk by putting in trees. The trees being suggested were European Hornbeam trees which were salt tolerant trees. The alley bumps give the pedestrian a more open view of traffic instead of looking past parked vehicles. Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert had not seen the final plans prior to the meeting and could not say if they were within budget. Dyer made a motion to accept the Design Committee Plan, with four trees in each block and to put in place a maintenance plan. Further discussion included Fullenkamp's idea to do the east side and then review the results before doing the west side, and he wants to be sure all Department Heads approve the Plan. Mayor Meyer suggested dropping the motion by Dyer and give Jeremy Gilbert time to look at and study the plans. Dyer then retracted his motion and made a motion to table any action until the next meeting on May 21, 2019. Seconded by Collier, the motion was adopted.

Ron Storey, President of the Decatur Redevelopment Commission, and Tim Ehlerding, member of the commission, gave the Mission Statement that was recently adopted by the Decatur Redevelopment Commission. Storey gave the names of those serving on the Commission and noted they meet the first Wednesday of each month. Ehlerding noted and defined the four (4) areas included in the Mission Statement: catalyst for progress, collaborative leadership, quality of place, and sustainable economic development. Storey then summarized the History of the Decatur Redevelopment Commission and Ehlerding described how the funds have been received from the TIF funds and described the 2020 proposed budget of the anticipated \$170,000 of TIF Revenues. Council Members were invited to attend the Annual Meeting of the Decatur Redevelopment Commission to be held at 5 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers on June 5, 2019. Mayor Meyer commented that he has the pleasure of attending the Commission meetings and noted discussions are always open and share diverse ideas. Coshow noted he was impressed with the Butler, Fairman, and Seufert group that the Commission had hired to do the 13th Street Feasibility Study as he had attended a recent meeting at Riverside Center. Storey noted the 13th Street Feasibility Study was being done especially for safety of pedestrians crossing 13th Street and especially with the Hanna Nuttman Project. Sirk was impressed with the work done by the Commission. Bill Karbach, shared that he remembered the start of the Commission, and to hear what they have done now is outstanding.

Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright brought forth CF-1 abatement forms for continuation for three (3) businesses. The first CF-1 abatement forms for real and personal property were from JK

Morris Holdings (formerly Gilpin) which was originally filed in 2015 for construction of a new building and equipment. She shared they were in substantial compliance. The second business was Hoosier Pattern which had three (3) forms; one for personal property filed in 2013, one for personal property filed in 2018, and one for real estate filed in 2018, She noted they were in substantial compliance. The third business was Knous Enterprises for real estate. Whitright noted they also were in substantial compliance. Collier made a motion to continue the abatements for all three businesses: JK Morris Holdings (Gilpins), Hoosier Pattern, and Knous Enterprises, and allow Mayor Meyer to sign each. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Coshow noted the Chamber of Commerce would like to install a monitor on Madison Street Plaza, and he had received quotes from the company that installed the Kiosk and from Innovative Concepts. Thus, he is seeking permission from Council to post a monitor on the outside of the restroom building on the Plaza. Coshow shared the cost of the monitor is \$10,000 and he plans to focus on those providing funds to use the monitor to share updates. Coshow has applied for a collaborative grant, and will be receiving \$4,000 from the Adams County Community Foundation. Dyer made a motion to allow the placement of the monitor on the building and to contribute up to \$2,000 from Council's promotional account, with the City's contribution to be the last in after other donations are received. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted with Coshow abstaining.

The Event Form for the DeKegger Homebrew and BBQ Fest Event on the Madison Street Plaza and on Madison Street from Second to Third Streets on Saturday, June 22, 2019 was presented. Dyer made a motion to accept the Event Form for the DeKegger Homebrew and BBQ Fest event and the street closings. Seconded by Collier, the motion passed.

The Event Form for the American Legion Memorial Day Parade and Peace Monument event on Monday, May 27, 2019 was presented and Sirk made a motion to approve the Event Form. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

An Event Form was presented by Max Miller, owner of Monster Pizza for a Wiffle Ball Tournament as a fund raiser for the Hanna Nuttman Ball Park Project. The event will be held on N. Second Street between Monroe and Jackson Streets on Saturday, May 18, 2019. Sirk made a motion to accept the Event Form for the Wiffle Ball Tournament on Saturday, May 18, 2019, seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Meyer announced that the Board of Public Works and Safety members had discussed and voted the demolition of homes at 710 and 904 Schirmeyer Street. He noted he is simply reporting to make that action a matter of record as all the requirements needed have been done. The cost to demolish the homes will be paid from the Plan/Building & Zoning's Unsafe Building account.

Mayor Meyer noted the Board of Public Works and Safety members had held a discussion regarding the hiring of an individual to work in the first floor area of the Second Street Lofts. It was noted someone is needed to coordinate all the efforts. A meeting had been held with the Arts Council and all feel there is a need for someone. Second-year art student Brielle Adams has been selected for the position to work five (5) hours per week with no more than 50 hours per month. The pay would be \$12.00 an hour. If she is a City employee there would be a need to pay taxes for a total amount of \$4,500 for now through the end of the year. Fullenkamp noted there needs to be someone to take care of the facility and it would be nice if the facility would support itself. Sirk pointed out that would become the responsibility of the Arts Commission if one is established. Collier shared they are looking at just getting started. Coshow made a motion to proceed with hiring

a person as a contract employee using the suggested rates for this year, and to add a landline phone in the building. Seconded by Dyer. Motion was adopted. The City Attorney will develop the contract for this position.

Discussion was held regarding the pay raises for the 2020 budget. It was shared the members of the Board of Public Works and Safety had recommended using a percentage raise and possibly looking at the County increase. Coshow made a motion to use 3% for budgeting purposes only. Seconded by Collier, the motion was adopted.

Department Head Input:

Melissa Norby, Community Development Director, announced that the Mersey Beatles Concert would be held in the Belmont High School Auditorium on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 with a reception being held from 4-6 on Madison Street Plaza.

Mayor Meyer announced that the drawing for the Paul McCartney tickets had been held and the winner was Rick Freed of Indianapolis. The proceeds from the tickets sales went towards the Hanna Nuttman project.

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

Adjournment was at 9:51 P.M.