

City of Decatur
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes
May 21, 2019

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street. Members present were Craig Coshow, Bill Karbach and Mayor Ken Meyer. Also present were City Attorney, Tim Baker and Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the May 7, 2019 meeting. Karbach made a motion to approve the minutes. Coshow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The first item on the agenda was 2020 salaries for the Police and Firemen. The Board of Works members had agreed to increase the Firemen's base last year to be the same as the Police, but over a two year period (2019 & 2020). By consensus, the Board kept their promise for the Firemen's base pay to be the same as the Policemen in 2020. The Policemen will receive a 3% raise, and then for 2020 the Firemen's base will be calculated to be the same as the Police. Mayor Meyer noted that the Chief of Police, Lennie Corral had talked with Chiefs of eleven (11) area departments regarding other police benefits, such as cell phones, take-home cars, and clothing allowances. Chief Corral was instructed to include these items in the Police budget, and at budget time, they can be addressed. Fire Chief, Les Marckel was directed to contact the Fire Chiefs in the eleven (11) areas that had been identified by Chief Corral, to collect the same information, so the Board of Works members can compare for future reference.

Councilmen Cam Collier, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, and Wylie Sirk joined the Board of Works meeting for information and input only.

Karey Fuelling, Wastewater Superintendent, approached the Board to get permission to purchase two (2) rain gauges and flow meters required for CSO compliance and to update the cell modems at a cost of \$10,436.00 from Gripp, Inc. Karbach made a motion to allow Fuelling to move forward with the purchase of the upgrade package at a cost of \$10,436.00 with Gripp, Inc. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

When questioned if the rains had caused any problems, Karey Fuelling, Wastewater Superintendent, shared that a few of the interceptors needed to be addressed as a result of the heavy rains and river water entering the area.

Police Chief, Lennie Corral appeared before the board regarding 31 non-working bicycles and 29 working bicycles with good bodies but needing repairs such as flat tires. He noted the bicycles had been collected since 2013 and they are running out of room for storage. Chief Corral noted he would prefer to scrap those that are non-working and put any funds received into the Local Law Enforcement Continuing Education Fund. City Attorney, Tim Baker noted the issue had been brought up a couple years ago about possibly donating the working bikes. He recommended a policy be adopted and that abandoned bikes could be held for a year and if unclaimed could be sold via an auction if there is an accumulated value of \$1,000. Coshow made a motion to establish a policy that if any bicycle is not claimed after a year, and if proper public notice is given for any good bicycle, then the Police Department could dispose of the bicycle. Seconded by Karbach, the motion was adopted. City resident, Mary Byer suggested offering any of the bicycles to the artists coming in June as they might be interested in the bike parts for their sculptures. The Mayor directed Chief Corral to contact local artist Greg Mendez before disposing of the bicycles.

The City's interest in the Lytle Hair Shack building was brought up. It was noted that Matt Halterman had appraised the building at \$49,000 and Steve Kriegh had appraised it at \$53,100. Thus, the average of the two (2) appraisals is \$51,050. The City did not need the area right now as they had been given a three (3) year extension from IDEM. The City will need the property in the future for a new storage tank for the Sewage Department. Karbach shared that if the City, under the direction of Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert has time, he would suggest tearing it down so there would be no upkeep or insurance costs. It was noted the funds for purchasing the building would come from the 2015 Sewage Bond proceeds, and closing would likely take place towards the end of June. Coshow made a motion to proceed with the purchase of the Lytle's Hair Shack at the corner of 1st and Jackson Street at a cost of \$51,050 plus closing costs. Seconded by Karbach, the motion was adopted.

At the May 7, 2019 meeting representatives from MKM architecture + design (MKM) were present regarding the first floor of the Second Street Lofts area. A motion was adopted to allow Mayor Meyer to put the project out for bid unless State law changes in July. There had been no law change and MKM had prepared a time line for putting out the bid for the work on the first floor. MKM recommended that on June 3, 2019 the documents should be released to the public, with June 27, 2019 set for the date to receive bids and that the bid be awarded at either the July 2 or July 16, 2019 Board meeting. August 12, 2019 was suggested as the approximate date for construction to start. Since the cost is estimated to be over \$150,000, sealed bids are needed and Mayor Meyer shared he hoped the bids would not exceed the budgeted amount of \$200,000. Coshow made a motion to approve the suggested time line. Seconded by Karbach, the motion was adopted.

City Attorney, Tim Baker reported that HB 1347 had passed the Indiana Legislature and becomes effective on July 1, 2019. It was shared the utility most effected was water as far as Decatur is concerned. It was shared that if more than one (1) person is liable for a utility bill, the law does not apply. With the work the City has done by having the signatures of the tenants and the landowners both on file, the City is ahead of many other cities. Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor, has forms on file for both the tenants and the landlords and he has sent 80 letters today for some needed signatures. Attorney Baker prepared an ordinance to amend Chapter 50 of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015 to be acted upon by City Council. Coshow made a motion to recommend to City Council the ordinance to amend Chapter 50 of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015. Seconded by Karbach, the motion was adopted. Mayor Meyer shared that because of the work over the past year, Decatur is ahead of the game and is being used as a model by AIM.

Mayor Meyer read a letter he had received from Deputy Chief, Mike Mahan regarding his intention to retire after 30 ½ years with the Decatur Police Department. Mahan's last work day to be June 14, 2019. Karbach made a motion to make the letter a matter of record. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. A reception would be held in Mahan's honor at the police station on June 14, 2019 from noon to 2 P.M. during which time Mahan will be presented his retirement badge.

Mayor Meyer reported that the sale of the former Decatur Casting property to Keith Gerber had not been finalized. A Comfort Letter from IDEM is required by the Purchase Agreement, and has not been received yet. A survey of the property has been done. The City Attorney is anticipating July or August to have the deed and title completed.

Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright shared the bids with Arnold Company, Inc. for the Legion Park restrooms for \$71,780.00 and for the work on the wall on the northwest corner of First and Monroe Streets for \$65,440.00 had been awarded at the April 3rd Board of Works meeting. The contracts have been prepared by Brent Arnold of Arnold Company, Inc. and will need to be

approved. Karbach made a motion to approve the contracts with Arnold Company, Inc. for the Legion Park restrooms and the wall at the northwest corner of 1st and Monroe Street and give Mayor Meyer permission to sign each contract. Seconded by Meyer, the motion was adopted.

Board member, Craig Coshow, who is also the Director of the Chamber of Commerce, shared that the vendors for the Thursday night concerts would prefer locating on Madison Street between 2nd and 3rd Streets. There are 13-15 vendors, including food trucks and barbecues which could cause grease on the Plaza. There is also sufficient electricity available at that location. It was noted there would be a need for police officers to assist with the crossing of 2nd Street. Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, mentioned he likes the idea of spreading things out more, and encouraged giving the suggested location change a try. By consensus, it was decided to use Madison Street between 2nd and 3rd Streets for the vendors and Coshow would inform the vendors of the change.

Scott Marbach of the Union Township Lions Club was present and announced that he would be selling ice cream products during the concerts. The products would be made locally at Dean Foods and each night would highlight one of the Club's projects. The first concert's profits would go to the Adams-Wells Crisis Center. One special evening would be June 20, 2019 when all sales would go to the Hanna Nuttman Park Project.

Coshow inquired about the use of the property north of the Mark's Heating building on the corner of 1st and Monroe Street. Collier then inquired of the area south of the Macklin building on 1st Street. Mayor Meyer informed them that long term they could be used for downtown events and for possible riverfront development. Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, shared it would not be real expensive to turn the areas into a parking area as the City has plenty of crushed stone from the crushing of concrete taken up from various locations throughout the City. Coshow noted he did not think it would cost much and would get a lot of extra parking spaces for the downtown events. Dyer felt that was making for better use of the area now, and Coshow felt it was at a low cost for the long term and would save on mowing costs. Mayor Meyer felt it was a temporary use as the future may include riverfront development. Coshow made a motion to proceed with putting stone for a parking lot at the lot north of Mark's Heating Building. Seconded by Karbach, the motion was adopted.

Karbach inquired about getting the price of a walkway traffic light at Madison Street and Gilbert informed him that he could get an estimated cost from working with the schools.

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

Adjournment was at 7:26 P.M.