

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
JUNE 2, 2020

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at 6:45 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dan Rickord. Roll call was taken to show Councilmen Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, and Scott Murray were in attendance and Wylie Sirk was absent. Also present were 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 May 19, 2020 meeting. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Coshow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The first item on the agenda was an event form for the Flat 50 Plus Bicycle Tour to take place on Saturday, June 27, 2020 from 7 A.M. to 5 P.M. The group is seeking permission to use Madison Street Plaza and plans to set up at 6 A.M. They are seeking use of the restrooms and electricity for the event. No street closures were sought. Coshow made a motion to approve the event and to waive the fees since this is a community event. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

CF-1 forms were next considered. Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright presented four (4) CF-1 forms from the following: Knous Enterprise, LLC with an estimate of 1 ½ employees and now having 31 and \$1.4 million in salaries. The second CF-1 form was from REV Recreation Group for tax abatements filed in 2009 and 2019 for personal property and real estate. They have 885 current employees and \$41 million in salaries. The third CF-1 form was from JK Morris and Gilpin, Inc. They have 26 current employees with total salaries of \$813,342. The fourth CF-1 form was from Hoosier Pattern for abatements filed originally in 2013, 2018, and 2019 for personal property and real estate. It was noted they have 72 current employees and salaries of \$2.4 million. Dyer made a motion that the businesses were in substantial compliance and to authorize the Mayor to sign the CF-1 forms. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Police Chief, Lennie Corral appeared before the Council requesting an amendment to the Golf Cart Ordinance. The original ordinance had a limit of four (4) passengers and now many of the golf carts are larger and seat up to six (6) people. Fullenkamp made a motion for City Attorney, Tim Baker to draft the ordinance to read the seating to be the manufacturer's capacity for seating for each golf cart. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. Chief Corral shared that over 150 golf carts have been registered this year as the number increases each year. Chief Corral was questioned about other vehicles similar to golf carts. It was noted there needs to be research of the State law as it originally addressed golf carts to be driven on City streets.

Department Heads Input:

Police Chief, Lennie Corral shared that four (4) high school students had sought permission to hold a peaceful demonstration beginning at 1:30 P.M. on Thursday, June 4, 2020. Corral is working with the Sheriff's Department, the Fire Department, and Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager to assure the safety of all involved. The young people are planning for a few hours of peaceful demonstration.

Fire Chief, Les Marckel reported that pre-engineering online meeting for the new fire truck went well. A lot of questions had been answered and several change orders were being worked on. They are still looking at late November delivery of the truck. Marckel noted the Decatur Fire

Department is still following the Governor's Executive Order guidelines. He noted no tours would be scheduled at this time. The biggest concern is regarding the school year and the fourth graders' participation in the Survive Alive House. All would depend on the guidelines set for that time. Marckel also received the Certificate of Insurance from Tim Bombka for the 4th of July fireworks event. However, Bombka is still working on getting the proper permit from the State.

Jim Hitchcock, Assistant Fire Chief noted they are looking forward to getting the Baby Box in the near future. Currently hooking up the electrical work and the alarm system.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent shared that there were 52 citations for tall grass in 2019 and last week 65 citations were presented. People were given five (5) days to mow and if not mowed, the City would do the mowing at a cost of \$160. There will not be a third citation as the City will automatically mow and charge \$160. The owner of rentals will be given ten (10) days as many of them live outside the City. Witte noted he hears from both sides as to the reasons people can not mow their yards and several are not mowing within the time frame, especially when they have the weekend. Witte noted he receives complaints that the City is not doing enough and he responds that a certain amount of time must be given as per ordinance. Councilman Dyer mentioned that the home on Rugg St. who was cited last year for trash and debris has started accumulating rubbish in their yard again.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor reported that Phase I of the Waterworks Improvement Projects is coming along and that the Plan Commission gave approval earlier this evening for Phase II for the new water plant at 1815 Winchester Street, Decatur.

Karey Fuelling, Wastewater Superintendent noted the stainless steel pump arrived this week.

Don Bergdall, Civil Infrastructure Manager reported that the sewage vac truck is being repaired, and will have to rent one until the truck is fixed.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager shared that heavy trash is being collected this week and that there has been so many items that the department couldn't collect all the trash in an eight-hour day. With COVID-19 many people are home and finding time to clear things out. If trash is not picked up by 4 P.M. on the normal trash pick-up day, it will be collected the following morning. Gilbert also noted that the recycling trucks were completely filled over the Memorial Day weekend.

Audience/Media Input:

Bob Shraluka of the Decatur Daily Democrat inquired about the owner of the lot along 13th Street which is filled with old vehicles, most just rusting away. In response Mayor Rickord noted the City may need to look at the property lines along Hanna Nuttman Park, especially with the work being done there.

Anne Razo noted she wanted to compliment the Street Department for their work in collecting the heavy trash and recycling along with the regular trash pick-up. Mayor Rickord shared he had received calls complimenting the Street Department.

Council Input:

Coshow announced that the Summer Concert to be held Thursday, June 4, 2020 would be changed to the Riverside Center parking lot rather than the field behind Riverside Center as heavy rains are being predicted.

Dyer inquired about the islands in the parking lot behind the Second Street Lofts are full of weeds. Gilbert informed him that some electrical work still needs to be done in those areas. Dyer suggested possibly Main Street can be involved in planting something in those areas.

Coshow noted he had previously reviewed the claims and found no problems. Dyer made a motion to pay the claims against the City. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, Dyer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 7:35 P.M.