

City of Decatur  
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes  
June 16, 2020

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. Members present were Craig Coshow, Tyler Fullenkamp, and Mayor Rickord. Also present were City Attorney, Tim Baker and Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes of the June 2, 2020 meeting. Coshow made a motion to approve the minutes. Fullenkamp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The first item on the agenda was the opening of quotes for concrete work for the sidewalks from Madison St. to Jefferson St. for the continuation of streetscapes for the Second Street Project. Mayor Rickord opened the sealed quotes, and the City Attorney, Tim Baker read the quotes aloud. Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager noted he had asked for a quote from three (3) contractors but Liter Concrete declined to bid. Thus the quotes were from TG Concrete (\$155,408.50) and Hitchcock Concrete (\$157,261.50). Gilbert mentioned that the quotes also included alternates. Coshow made a motion for Gilbert to take the bids under advisement. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Next, the bids for the 2020 Road Resurfacing as part of the 2020 Community Crossings Matching Grant were opened by the Mayor and the City Attorney read the bid amounts aloud. Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, and Toby Steffen of Butler, Fairman & Seufert (BF&S) were present for the bid opening. Coshow made a motion to make a matter of record the publication of the bid notification for road resurfacing. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. Bids were received from Wayne Asphalt of Fort Wayne (\$845,871.00), E&B Paving of Huntington (\$821,697.65), and Brooks Construction of Fort Wayne (\$807,749.68). All bids included the necessary bid bond, properly signed Form 96, and signed affidavit. It was shared the engineer's estimate for the paving was \$1,122,602.78. Coshow made a motion for Gilbert and Steffen to take the bids under advisement. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. Steffen noted that with the lowest bid opened, the City's 25% portion would be \$201,937.42.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor presented a list of delinquent utility accounts that are 5-years old totaling \$20,976.85 requesting to write-off these accounts per requirement by the State Board of Accounts. It was noted the write-off last year was over \$25,000. Fullenkamp made a motion to give Hackman permission to write-off the 5-year accounts totaling \$20,976.85. Seconded by Coshow, the motion passed.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor received a proposal to add four (4) cameras to the new water plant east of the City. This will be a closed-circuit system from Innovative Concepts Audio & Video, Inc. at an estimated cost of \$10,938.96. Although it is hoped to just have a single payment, Innovative Concepts has inquired about having half down payment, but Hackman is going to try negotiating to make the single payment following the installation. Staff of the Water Department will monitor the system. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the quote and proceed with the cameras with Hackman working out the details regarding the payment to be made after completion totaling \$10,938.96. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, and resident Rick Reinhart appeared before the Board regarding the demolition of the home at 951 Dierkes Street. The home has been empty for many years,

and is a hazard having five (5) feet of water in the basement. Reinhart wishes to purchase the property from owner Greg Brite and Reinhart inquired if the City would assist in the demolition of the home and he would pay the cost. Reinhart would be responsible for the disposal of materials, fill in the basement, and seed the area. Coshow made a motion to proceed with assisting Reinhart if he can purchase the property and have it transferred to his name. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, and Toby Steffen (BF&S) appeared before the board and noted they had studied the bids for the resurfacing of roads involved with the 2020 Community Crossings Matching Grant. Brooks Construction having the lowest bid, was recommended. Coshow made a motion to accept the Brooks Construction bid of \$807,749.68 and give Mayor Rickord and Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright the authority to sign the contract outside the Board of Works meeting, then send to INDOT. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. Steffen urged the signing of the contract and getting everything in soon before the census is complete as if the City's population goes over 10,000 the new match would be 50-50% instead of 25-75%.

City Attorney Tim Baker brought up the renting of the former Northwest School building that the Otis R. Bowen Center for Human Services, Inc., an Indiana Not for Profit Corporation is interested in leasing one of the classrooms for office space. The City Attorney prepared the lease agreement and is waiting for Bowen's comments before presenting for final approval from the board members.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent appeared before the Board seeking a demolition order for the home at 928 Schirmeyer Street. Witte shared they have been dealing with the home since July, 2019 when the police were called to the home regarding a drug issue. At that time, it was learned there was no electricity in the home and the police ordered the tenants to vacate the residence. It was shared that the owner, Kenneth Fryback was imprisoned at the Westville Corrections Facility and tenant Paul Kentron was in the local jail. Kentron was later released from prison and wanted to work with the City to clean up the property. That worked for a short time but by heavy trash time everything was out and Kentron was back in jail. It was mentioned that all sewage was draining into the crawl space of the home. Witte noted homes at 710 and 904 Schirmeyer Street are to be demolished and with action tonight all three homes--710, 904, and 928--could be demolished at the same time. Witte noted Kentron had asked permission to enter the home to get his personal belongs and then brought out everything onto the yard. It was noted the City has a \$3,366 lien against the property, and has followed all the steps required before requesting the demolition. Fullenkamp made a motion to allow Witte permission to proceed with the demolition order for 928 Schirmeyer Street. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Karey Fuelling, Wastewater Superintendent appeared before the Board seeking permission to provide for safety improvements on the east stairs at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Fuelling solicited two (2) quotes, but recommended a quote of \$12,858.00 to purchase aluminum steps and a platform for the east aeration basin from Universal Metalcraft, Inc. Coshow made a motion to approve the quote from Universal Metalcraft and to allow Fuelling to proceed with the safety improvements using aluminum steps and platform at a cost of \$12,858.00. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

City Attorney, Tim Baker shared that Chief of Police, Lennie Corral had dropped off information regarding an incident with a dog. It was noted that there had been earlier incidents with the dog and something may have to be done. Attorney Baker suggested Chief Corral contact the owner of the dog and have them contact the group known as PAWS which might find someone outside the City to adopt the dog. Since the dog had already bit two (2) people, it was noted the City would need to take action if further incidents occur.

There being no other business to come before the Board, Coshow made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Adjournment was at 6:50 P.M.