

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 7, 2020

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at 7:20 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, Scott Murray, and Wylie Sirk were in attendance. 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 June 16, 2020 meeting. Sirk made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Rickord welcomed Officers Eric Mitchel and Andrew Elwell, noting Elwell had completed his probationary status on June 17th, and Mitchel will complete his probationary status on July 15th. Officer Mitchel had recently completed training at the Academy. Mayor Rickord shared his appreciation of the Officers and noted Decatur has a great group of Officers.

Next on the agenda was the lease agreement between the City and The Otis R. Bowen Center for Human Services. Councilman Sirk noted that The Bowen Center was looking at leasing one (1) classroom for office space only. They will not be meeting with clients at this location. The lease is to begin on July 8, 2020. The Bowen Center will be the first tenant for the MERIT Center (Momentum through Education, Resources, Innovation and Technology). It was shared that a Workforce Development Committee meets monthly as part of the Adams County Economic Development Corporation with Director Colton Bickel. The lease had been brought before the Board of Public Works and Safety members who approved the lease agreement.

Max Miller and Pam Bergdall, representing the Design Committee of Decatur Main Street, appeared before the Council seeking continuance of the Façade Program which had been budgeted at \$50,000 for each of the last five (5) years for a total of \$250,000. It was noted applicants could apply for up to \$15,000 per parcel and they had to provide matching funds. A list of Façade Recipients for 2016-2020 were distributed showing 18 various businesses had received funding. Looking to future funding, Mayor Rickord noted that it is being suggested that 2021-22 will likely be affected more than 2020-21 as a result of COVID-19. Thus, Coshow made a motion to approve \$50,000 for one (1) year for year 2021 for the Façade Program, and to have the Design Committee bring back to the Board the contract to include a drawback provision and their request to amend the scoring process for Council to review. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

An event form was presented for the Blessing of the Safe Haven Baby Box at the Decatur Fire Station. The event will take place at 8 P.M. on Thursday, July 9, 2020 on 7th Street for approximately a half an hour. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the street closing on 7th Street from Jefferson to Adams Street. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Due to a 6% increase in insurance premium, next on the agenda were ordinances to amend the percentages deducted from salaries and/or wages regarding the insurance for City Employees and Elected Officials. The employees or elected officials will pay \$3 to \$7 more per pay depending on which tier they pay. City will budget the additional cost. Renewal will begin August 1, 2020.

Ordinance 2020-9, an ordinance to amend the salary Ordinance 2019-11 for City Employees regarding the amount deducted to cover a portion of the health, dental and prescription drug insurance was brought forth. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-9 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was passed and City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2020-9 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-9 on its first reading. Seconded by Fullenkamp, a roll call vote passed 5-0. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-9 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2020-9 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-9 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote was held and passed 5-0. Sirk made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 2020-9 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was passed, and City Attorney Baker read ordinance 2020-9 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-9 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Murray, a roll call vote showed passage by a 5-0 vote.

Ordinance 2020-10, an ordinance to amend the salary Ordinance 2019-12 for Elected Officials regarding the amount deducted to cover a portion of the health, dental and prescription drug insurance was brought forth. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-10 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was passed and City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2020-10 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-10 on its first reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote showed passage 5-0. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-10 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed and City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2020-10 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-10 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer, the roll call vote showed passage by a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 2020-10 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was passed and City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2020-10 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-10 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote was held and passed with a 5-0 vote.

The City's health insurance plan will remain the same and Mayor Rickord thanked Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright and Wendi Gephart for their work, and insurance agent John Kintz for a lot of negotiating.

City Attorney Tim Baker brought forth Resolution 2020-2 passed by the Decatur Redevelopment Commission (DRC) to recognize Rex R. Hinsky for his years of service as a member of the Commission since its inception. Hinsky passed away on June 26, 2020 and City Attorney Baker noted that Hinsky had been active in various capacities around the City. It was shared that the DRC had requested that the Council make the Commission's resolution a matter of its record. Sirk made a motion to make the DRC Resolution 2020-2 a matter of record. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Department Heads Input:

Fire Chief Les Marckel thanked everyone for the condolences received for the loss of his stepson a couple of weeks ago.

Council Input:

Coshow thanked the Three Rivers Credit Union for sponsoring the fireworks and the Masonic Lodge and Soul Pig for sponsoring the bands for the Fourth of July events.

Sirk shared information regarding the "Shop Downtown Decatur" event to be held on Saturday, July 11, 2020 from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. Organized by Decatur Main Street, numerous retailers

are participating and people who make purchases in those stores will be able to register for a contest in which there will be prizes of Decatur Dollars.

Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright noted she is working on the budget and asked Council Members for any input regarding salaries and projects. By Consensus, a 1% raise for full-time employees was to be included in the 2021 budget. Salary ordinance for employees needs to be adopted prior to November 1st and elected officials prior to December 31, 2020. The budgets (form 1) will be reviewed by Council in August. Whitright is working on revenues estimates and will provide the estimates to Council when completed. A Public Hearing for the 2021 budget will be October 6th with adoption to be October 20th.

Audience Input:

Dan Krick, a resident along Second Street, appeared before the Council to make a complaint regarding all the semi and heavy vehicle traffic which is taking an illegal short-cut in order to get to Highway 27. He shared these vehicles should be taking the State Route. Mr. Krick felt better signage was needed. Assistant Police Chief Brite shared that the State law allows them to go one way, but they cannot return on that route. It was noted that the City will look into better signage and the Officers will continue to enforce the law.

Dave Rumschlag, a resident on Dierkes Street, noted he was asking to be educated. He shared that he liked seeing all the pavement work going on, but was concerned that the street level was already up to the top of the curb. Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, informed Mr. Rumschlag that Dierkes Street will be getting new water lines put in and that two (2) inches of pavement would be milled off and then replaced with two (2) inches of new pavement. Sidewalks are not included with the Community Crossings Matching Grant, but the City does have a 50/50 program he could participate in.

Sirk made a motion to pay the claims against the City. Seconded by Dyer, 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 8:08 P.M.