

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
AUGUST 4, 2020

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at 6:45 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street. The meeting was called to order by 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 July 21, 2020 meeting. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was a discussion regarding the security for the doors and security cameras for the Northwest School building (The M.E.R.I.T Center) as presented by Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent, and Colton Bickel, Director of the Adams County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC) seeking a letter of recommendation as they seek a \$100,000 grant from a Lilly Endowment Grant through the Adams County Community Foundation to fund the security systems. Earlier at the Board of Public Works and Safety, the Board had voted to use Koorsen Fire and Safety as the vendor to provide key fobs for seven (7) doors at a cost of \$15,655 and the camera system at a cost of \$17,425 pending the receiving of the needed funds. Sirk noted that Council had included money in the CREDIT fund for economic development in the budget, which could be used as backup funding for the M.E.R.I.T. Center. Bickel shared that Ivy Tech plans to have office hours in the facility in September to offer on-line courses in October. By consensus, Bickel was given permission to proceed with securing the funding from the Lilly Endowment Grant.

Bickel gave an update on happenings at the M.E.R.I.T. Center with nine (9) people participating in an on-line program a couple weeks ago. He noted there are funds for a computer lab and an assessment has been made recently for setting up a computer lab. Sirk asked Bickel to share a little about the 180 Skills Program and it was noted that 700 on-line courses are available through the program. Bickel also reported that the Adams County Economic Development Corporation is putting more effort in marketing Industrial Park III to get this property out to site selectors. Bickel was questioned about plans for the Champion Homes facility, he informed Council that Champion Homes is wanting to hold on to the buildings for now, but there are no plans for this property as of yet. Bickel is also looking into a Strategic Plan process which will be shared with the City when completed. Mayor Rickord thanked Bickel for all his efforts.

Mayor Rickord had been contacted by a firm wishing to bring broadband service to the area and the representative would like to make a presentation before the Council. By consensus, Mayor Rickord was given permission to invite the representatives to attend a future Council meeting to make a presentation.

Trent Schinnerer, president of the Men's Slow Pitch League and the Adult Coed League returned before the Council as a result of his appearance before the Council on July 21, 2020. Schinnerer had looked into using netting which could be raised in the event of a flood. The Kekionga field is in the flood plain and the DNR would not allow a permanent fence. It was noted that Rod Renkenberger, Director of the Maumee River Basis Commission (MRBC) is to be in Decatur on Wednesday, August 5, 2020 and a meeting was set up for Schinnerer to meet with Renkenberger, and

the Mayor to look at the location. It was noted that Renkenberger could not grant permission, but he would know who needed to be contacted with a proposal. Schinnerer estimated a cost of approximately \$46,000 for the outfield netting (fencing) and \$10,000 for the sidelines. It was noted that six (6) poles and thirty (30) lights had been taken down from Hanna Nuttman and stored. These poles and lights could be used for lighting the Kekionga diamond. Fullenkamp remarked that if the men's softball had originally paid for the lighting, and the City took them down, then the City should pay to relocate them to use at another field. By consensus, the Mayor and Schinnerer will meet with Rod Renkenberger of MRBC to see if fencing can be approved by DNR before moving forward.

Department Heads Input:

Police Chief, Lennie Corral reported that Officer Bolser is attending the Academy this week. He also noted that Reserve Officer, Diego Hutker will be sworn in on Thursday, August 6, 2020.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager reported that the new sidewalk along E. Monroe Street near the school for pedestrian safety should be completed in the next couple of days.

Council Input:

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 Fullenkamp, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 7:15 P.M.