

City of Decatur
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes
September 5, 2017

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street. Members present were Bill Karbach, Councilman Craig Coshow, 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 August 15, 2017 meeting. There were no corrections. Coshow made a motion to approve the minutes. Karbach seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The first item on the agenda was discussion and pending decision on Edward Gage's petition for disannexation of 5.5 acres. Mr. Gage and his attorney, Adam Miller, were in attendance for input. The City Attorney prepared a Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order regarding the Petition for Disannexation filed with the Decatur Board of Public Works & Safety. The Mayor read aloud the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order, and the Board of Works members answered yes or no, results were 3-0 or 0-3 votes for each. The Order for Disannexation was then denied on a 3-0 roll call vote and signed by William Karbach, W. Craig Coshow, and Kenneth L. Meyer, Mayor and Presiding Officer. Following the vote Attorney Adam Miller asked the board members for the record if they knew what was in Case Law, if they had read the questions before the meeting, and if they prepared any of the questions. All three (3) Board members responded no to each question asked by Mr. Gage's attorney. Mr. Gage remarked that his parents were not aware the annexation was approved in 1975. The City Attorney informed him that the platting occurred three (3) months after the annexation meeting in August of 1975 and his parents were represented by Attorney, Fred Schurger.

Councilmen Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, Scott Murray, and Wylie Sirk joined the remainder of the Board of Works meeting for discussion and information purposes only.

Building and Zoning Supt., Curt Witte presented the proposal for the HVAC system. He shared that there were issues since 2014 with the oil used in the heating coils which are causing the system to freeze up. Felger Hart has quoted \$4,570 to repair the system. A 38 day lead time is needed to get the parts. A motion was made by Coshow to go ahead with the \$4,570 quote. Seconded by Karbach, the motion was adopted.

The next item on the agenda was an agreement between the City and the Safety Park of Adams County. Michael Pettibone and Jeff Sheets, members of the Safety Park Board, were in attendance. Beginning in 2018 the Safety Park Board will pay the City \$1,000 yearly to be paid in January of each year in lieu of paying utilities or rent. Coshow made a motion to amend the Agreement for Safety Park to make payments of \$500 biannually due on January 5 and June 5 of each year. Seconded by Karbach, the amendment was adopted. Karbach then made a motion to adopt the Agreement as amended. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. On behalf of himself and Jeff Sheets, Pettibone thanked the City for the partnership and shared that the Safety Park is used by all of Adams County's students and all kindergartners from Wells County.

Utilities Auditor, Kevin Hackman presented a list of utility write-offs, and shared that over 90% of the delinquencies are from rentals. It was noted a collection agency had been used the last four years, which has helped. Coshow tabled writing the delinquent accounts off until the City Attorney can review the City's ordinance and research state statute on collections and

having the landowner be responsible for payment, rather than the renter. Karbach seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mark Sullivan of Midwestern Engineers then presented an update regarding an East Side Well Field and Water Treatment Plant on Monroe St. Extended/CR 600 N (Phases 1 and 2), the Winchester Street Water Treatment Plant Renovation (built in the 1970's), and the Berne Raw Water Transmission Main Rehabilitation with the plan to replace the Monroe Street Plant which was built in 1953. Mr. Sullivan shared that Peerless Midwest had drilled three locations in the East Side location with sufficient water being pumped at 450-460 gallons per minute. He then shared the Engineers Opinion of Probable Project Cost with construction costs of \$14,195,900; non-construction costs of \$165,000 and engineering costs of \$1,540,500 for a total cost of \$15,901,400. Mr. Sullivan recommended for the City to engage a rate consultant. Coshow made a motion to go ahead with a rate study using Crowe Horwath as the consultant for the study. Seconded by Karbach, the motion passed.

Mayor Meyer noted the new Employee Handbook has been emailed to Board of Public Works and Safety members, and the Common Council members to review. It was noted the Department Heads had not received copies, so no action was taken at this time. Department Heads will be given copies to review before adopting.

Mayor Meyer shared that he had received a letter of resignation from Ted Wenning who is retiring. Wenning has worked for the Street Department since 1995. His last work day will be Sept. 29, 2017. Coshow made a motion to make the letter a matter of record. Seconded by Karbach, the motion was passed. Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert was then given permission to begin the hiring process to replace Mr. Wenning.

Mayor Meyer then gave an update regarding the Madison Street Plaza project. He shared that the original bid of \$784,050.68 was much over the engineer's estimated cost of \$550,000. The Mayor, Jeremy Gilbert, Kevin McCrory of JPR, and Rick Baumer of Primco, Inc. had met and were able to come up with following changes, with a savings totaling \$83,926.74: extending the time frame (\$12,000), reducing the requirement for concrete testing from those outside of Primco, Inc. (\$10,000), main paver changes (\$26,392), eliminating an amount of pavers by reducing the quantity to standard concrete (\$5,641.74), drain trench changes (\$21,802), reducing the bollards at the end from 16 to 12, (\$4,640), and changing the accent pavers at the entrance (\$3,451). A motion to recommend to the Common Council the acceptance of the bid with the \$83,926.74 deductions, and to use funds available for other projects to pay the overage was made by Karbach. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert requested funding for the 5-Points Project, either to go with State funding which would be quicker, but would cost approximately \$300,000 more. He shared the City's share, if they went with the Federal program would probably be stricter guidelines, take longer, but cost less. By consensus it was agreed to go with the Federal Aid funding. Gilbert will sign a contract with INDOT for review only, and will meet with INDOT quarterly with the progress of this project.

Code Enforcement Officer, Bill Karbach brought up an issue of a woodworking business on Jackson Street having saw dust going into the storm sewer. Civil Infrastructure Manager, Don Bergdall will meet with the business owner to discuss the issue.

Karbach made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Coshow, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 7:30 p.m.