

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Mayor John Schultz. Roll call was taken to show, Councilmen Cam Collier, Bill Crone, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp and Ken Meyer were in attendance. Also present was City Attorney, Tim Baker and Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright.

The Mayor invited everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the September 1st meeting. There were no corrections or amendments. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Crone seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Crone made a motion to suspend the Council meeting to hold a Public Hearing. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Crone made a motion to open the Public Hearing. Dyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meyer made a motion to make the proof of publication for the public hearing regarding tax abatement application submitted by Gilpin, Inc. a matter of record. Crone seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Attorney, Mark Burry presented an Affidavit of Service that the Declaratory Resolution No. 2015-12, for the Designation of an Economic Revitalization Area upon the Application of Gilpin, Inc. has been filed with the Adams County Assessor, Auditor, County Council, Economic Development Corporation, Public Library, Solid Waste Management District, North Adams Community Schools, Decatur City Council and Washington Township. Dyer made a motion to make the Affidavit of Service a matter of record. Fullenkamp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Attorney, Mark Burry also handed out a Confirming Resolution No. 2015-15, Confirming the Designation of an Economic Revitalization Area for Gilpin, Inc, which includes a tax abatement on real estate improvements for ten (10) years, and a five (5) year tax abatement on manufacturing and IT equipment.

Mayor Schultz asked for any comments. Councilman Fullenkamp asked about the abatement schedule. Fullenkamp was informed that the tax abatement is phased over five and ten years.

There were no further comments, so Dyer made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Collier made a motion to reopen the Council meeting. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meyer made a motion to introduce Confirming Resolution No. 2015-15. Dyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meyer made a motion to pass Confirming Resolution No. 2015-15. Dyer seconded the motion. Motion was unanimous.

Next on the agenda was a Public Hearing on the 2016 Budget. Dyer made a motion to suspend the Council meeting. Crone seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Crone made motion to open the Public Hearing. Fullenkamp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright prepared Ordinance No. 2015-12, appropriation and tax rates for the 2016 Budget totaling \$8,349,200, with the tax rate calculated on 85% of the current assessed valuation, with the proposed tax rate at \$1.25, which is an increase of 22 cents. Budgets can be viewed on the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) website or is available in the Clerk-Treasurer's office. The non-binding review with Adams County Council will be on September 17th, with budget adoption to be on October 6th. Mayor Schultz asked for any comments from the public. No comments were received, so Dyer made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meyer made a motion to reopen the Council meeting. Dyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meyer motioned to Place Ordinance No. 2015-12 on First Reading by short title only. Motion was seconded by Dyer and passed by consent. The City Attorney read Ordinance No. 2015-12 by short title.

Meyer motioned to Pass Ordinance 2015-12 on First Reading. Dyer seconded the motion. The roll call was five (5) members voting in favor and none against.

Meyer motioned to Place the Ordinance on Second Reading by short title only. Motion was seconded by Dyer and passed by consent.

Meyer motioned to Pass Ordinance 2015-12 on Second Reading. Dyer seconded the motion. The roll call was five (5) members voting in favor and none against.

Meyer made a motion to Table Ordinance 2015-12 until the October 6th council meeting. Dyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Next on the agenda was the Third and Final Reading for Ordinance No. 2015-11, an ordinance which establishes fees to be charged by the Decatur Street Department for disposal of demolition concrete. Mayor Schultz asked for any comments from the public. No comments were received. Meyer motioned to Place the Ordinance on Third Reading by short title only. Motion was seconded by Dyer and passed by consent.

Meyer motioned to Adopt Ordinance 2015-11, seconded by Dyer. Roll call for Adoption of Ordinance 2015-11 was Collier, Crone, Dyer, Fullenkamp, and Meyer in favor and none opposed.

EDZ HD Motorcycle Service & Repair completed an event form requesting to close a portion of 1st Street for a motorcycle event from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 1st. Dyer made a motion to approve the street closing for the event. Crone seconded the motion. Motion carried.

At the Board of Public Works & Safety meeting, members approved the low quote from Carter Lumber for \$7,000.00 to replace the roof at the train depot on 7th Street. Council previously approved paying half towards this project. By consensus, the City will contribute \$3,500.00; \$1,000 from the Train Depot Project fund, and \$2,500 from the CCD fund.

Mayor Schultz received a request from Decatur of Chamber of Commerce for a contribution of \$1,500.00 for Spotlight in 2016. Dyer made a motion to support Spotlight in the amount of \$1,500.00 from common council's budget. Collier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The City Attorney announced the Decatur Plan Commission held a public hearing on Petition No. 2015-1, filed by Roger W. Gage, Zoning Administrator for the City of Decatur on behalf of the Decatur City Plan Commission. The Petition request the Zoning Map of the City of Decatur be amended by deleting B zoned classifications and replacing with C zoned classification to allow the Zoning Map to be consistent with an amendment to the text of Chapter 150 included in the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015. The Decatur City Plan Commission voted 8 to 0 to recommend to Common Council that such Petition be approved and granted and the proposed amendment be adopted. Mayor Schultz asked for any comments, no comments were received, so Meyer motioned to Place Ordinance No. 2015-13 on First Reading by short title only. Motion was seconded by Dyer and passed by consent. The City Attorney read Ordinance No. 2015-13 by short title.

Meyer motioned to Pass Ordinance 2015-13 on First Reading. Dyer seconded the motion. The roll call was five (5) members voting in favor and none against.

Meyer motioned to Place the Ordinance on Second Reading by short title only. Motion was seconded by Dyer and passed by consent.

Meyer motioned to Pass Ordinance 2015-13 on Second Reading. Dyer seconded the motion. The roll call was five (5) members voting in favor and none against.

Meyer made a motion to Table Ordinance 2015-13 until the October 6th council meeting. Fullenkamp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert reported heavy trash collection is this week, and to please be patient for pick up. He also reported his department will be flushing hydrants over the next two weeks. Gilbert requested cooperation from the public to help clean up weeds that have been grown in the alleyways. The City Code Enforcer will be notifying the property owners if not removed. The 7th Street improvements are now completed with new sidewalks and handicap ramps, and decorative street lights. The City will be continuing improvements on Winchester Street next year. Gilbert reported the asphalt on East Monroe Street project had to be removed and replaced, which will be completed by Thursday, Sept. 17th. The project will be completed on time, with substantial completion to be Friday, Sept. 18th.

Community Coordinator, Melissa Norby announced a Historic 27 Byway Informational meeting will be held at City Hall on Monday, Sept. 21st at 2:00 p.m. Twenty-five (25) representatives from nine (9) counties have responded. A video will be made during the presentation and placed on the Decatur website for individuals who are not able to attend. Norby also announced a meeting has been scheduled to discuss the parking downtown with business owners on Wednesday, Sept. 23rd at 4:00 p.m. at Niblick's Bistro.

City Engineer, Nate Rumschlag reported he has notified residents on Master Drive that a meeting has been scheduled for October 5th at Riverside Center to answer questions on the proposed stormwater project. The meeting will be for discussion only, no action will be taken. The City Engineer will then present residents feedback to the Board of Public Works & Safety members at the October 6th meeting.

Councilman Collier announced Greater Decatur Committee will meet with State officials for Stellar debriefing on Thursday, Sept. 17th.

Larry Isch reported the Greater Decatur Capital Campaign has reached \$643,000.00.

City Engineer, Nate Rumschlag has submitted a design project to Trine University, who has selected the City of Decatur as a senior project, which will include data collection and field work at no cost to the City.

Mayor Schultz asked for any comments from the public.

Dennis Huffman asked council if they have considered renting the former City Hall building. Mayor Schultz informed Mr. Huffman that a developer has looked at renting the building for artist, but the building wasn't big enough. Downtown lofts are still a future project, but not for this building.

Wylie Sirk encouraged everyone to watch the video from the Regional Cities Initiative sponsored by the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership that featured Councilman Cam Collier. Sirk also encouraged attending the Big Goal Collaborative Education Summit on Wednesday, Sept. 30th at Sweetwater Sound in Fort Wayne to share what has been done in the region.

Councilman Collier thanked the North Adams Arts Council for the invitation to their Open House. Mary Byer reported the Open House went very well with approximately 70 people in attendance.

At the previous meeting, the City Attorney was directed to prepare a resolution expressing interest in purchasing properties on 1st Street and Monroe Street. (107 S. 1st St., 116 N 1st St., 120 N. 1st St., 128 N. 1st St., 134 N. 1st St., 124 E. Monroe St., 126 E. Monroe St.) Dyer made a motion to introduce Resolution No. 2015-16, a resolution of the Common Council expressing an interest in purchasing real estate and authorizing appraisals. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried. The City Attorney read the Resolution by short title only. Meyer made a motion to approve and pass Resolution No. 2015-16. Collier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Crone made a motion to allow the claims as presented. Collier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Dyer made a motion for adjournment. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.