

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 7:30 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 September 1, 2020 meeting. Sirk made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager appeared before the Council regarding the bridges on the River Greenway. Gilbert shared there have been maintenance issues the last couple of years as they replaced some of the boards. Working with Tim Barkey of the County it is estimated the cost for repairs would be around \$100,000. \$50,000 was set aside in the 2020 budget for park capital improvements. The cost of lumber is up currently and Gilbert feels the current status of the bridge is safe and hopefully lumber costs will come down. Thus, he suggested postponing work until 2021. Therefore, the \$50,000 is still available to use towards finishing things at Hanna Nuttman to prepare for opening in the spring of 2021. 200 railroad ties would be needed for the bridge and they have looked at several options and the cost is still more than the funds that are available. Dyer made a motion to use the \$50,000 in the CEDIT fund towards park improvements to complete work at Hanna Nuttman. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted. Mayor Rickord mentioned that two (2) batting cages are needed at Hanna Nuttman at both ends. Gilbert also mentioned getting some more concrete poured before the end of the year.

Two ordinances setting the salaries and wages for the year 2021, which included a \$1,000 raise were next considered. Ordinance 2020-12, an ordinance to set the 2021 salaries and wages for City Employees was first considered. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-12 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed and City Attorney Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-12 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-12 on its first reading. Seconded by Murray, a roll call vote showed a 5-0 passage. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-12 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion carried and City Attorney Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-12 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-12 on its second reading. Seconded by Murray, a roll call vote was held and passed by a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to table Ordinance 2020-12 until October 6, 2020 for its third reading. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed.

Ordinance 2020-13, an ordinance to set the 2021 salaries for elected officials was next considered. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-13 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion carried and City Attorney Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-13 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-13 on its first reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote showed a 5-0 passage. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-13 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion carried and City Attorney Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-13 by short title. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-13 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote was held and passed by a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to

table Ordinance 2020-13 until October 6, 2020 for its third reading. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Rickord brought up a conversation he had with Mr. Becker, a citizen often in attendance of the meetings, regarding what could be done to make the intersection of 28<sup>th</sup> Street and W. Monroe Street safer. It was noted several accidents take place at the intersection especially when employees are leaving Industrial Park for lunch or at the end of the work shift. It was shared that visibility is limited by a row of bushes which are about six (6) feet high. Mayor Rickord asked Council Members, Operations Manager Jeremy Gilbert, and Police Chief Lennie Corral to look at the area to see if anything can be done. Gilbert mentioned that several studies had already been done at that intersection and the improvements were made as a result of the studies. Engineers have suggested a permanent solution might be a small roundabout at the intersection. Gilbert will talk with the property owner to see if they can trim back the bushes to help with visibility.

Coshow made a motion to suspend the Council meeting and open a Public Hearing regarding the super voluntary annexation of Section 3 of Meadows at Cross Creek. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

Coshow made a motion to make the legal notice for the Public Hearing a matter of record. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to provide interested parties an opportunity to express their views on the proposed annexation ordinance which annexes 15.018 acres, located southwest of Winchester Road and south of County Road 750 north, with approximately 35 lots to be developed in Section 3 of the Meadows of Cross Creek for condos or family residences. Attorney Baker presented and explained each portion of the Fiscal Plan, which had to be adopted by the City to establish the cost of the annexation to the City and any gained/lost revenue. Items included in the Fiscal Plan included a projected Assessed Valuation of \$7 Million and a tax rate increase for the area taken from Root Township which would become part of City Council District 3. Being somewhat different, a super voluntary annexation would require passing a resolution following the Public Hearing. The Fiscal Plan included cost regarding police and fire department responses, increased revenue to the City, costs for disposal, street, water, sanitary sewer, storm water, administration services, liability of debt, and so forth. It was noted there was no anticipated increase of employees needed. The property tax revenues would likely generate up to \$44,352.35 by the end of five (5) years. It was noted the revenues more than offset the costs. With development it also provides for more revenues and more residents. There were no questions from the public.

Coshow made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Sirk the motion was adopted.

Coshow then made a motion to reconvene the Council meeting. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Resolution 2020-8, a resolution to approve the Fiscal Plan was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2020-8 by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Resolution 2020-8 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-8. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted, with Coshow abstaining due to being part owner of Fairway Lakes.

Ordinance 2020-14, an ordinance to proceed with the annexation of Section 3 of the Meadows of Cross Creek was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-14 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-14 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-14 on its first reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote was held and passed 4-0, with Coshow abstaining. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-14 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was carried and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-14 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-14 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote showed 4-0 passage, with Coshow abstaining. Sirk made a motion to table Ordinance 2020-14 until October 6, 2020 meeting for its third reading. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was carried.

Request for funds towards the Highland Games was requested by Craig Coshow for the Chamber of Commerce. Dyer made a motion to sponsor the event at the same rate as last year of \$1,000.00 from the Common Council promotional account. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted with Coshow abstaining.

#### Department Heads Input:

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager announced that heavy trash pick-up is this week and he urged people to get items out in a timely manner. He also reported that the playground equipment for Hanna Nuttman Park had arrived today.

#### Council Input:

Coshow noted there are two (2) more Thursday Night Concerts, both to be held on Madison Street Plaza.

Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright reported that a Public Hearing for the 2021 Budget will be on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> will be the adoption.

The October 20, 2020 meeting of the Council was briefly discussed as some members will be out of town. A later discussion will be held regarding the possibility of having the meeting with a small quorum or possibly going virtual.

Sirk made a motion to pay the claims against the City. Seconded by Murray, 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 8:03 P.M.