

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken Meyer. Roll call was taken to show Councilmen Cam Collier, Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, and Wylie Sirk were in attendance. Also present was 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 3, 2019 meeting. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The first item on the agenda was Circuit Court Judge, Chad Kukelhan regarding an event to be held from 9 to 11 A.M. on November 12, 2019 in the Belmont High School Auditorium. The project known as “Appeal on Wheels” is presented throughout the state to help individuals learn about judiciary’s role. The County and City officials, Criminal Justice students, high school students, members of the Bar Association and others are invited to attend the event. Sprunger and Sprunger Law Firm from Berne will sponsor a lunch at Adams Memorial Hospital at 11:30 A.M. and reservations are to be made at his office who want to attend the luncheon.

Adams County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC) Director, Colton Bickel appeared before the Council in order to introduce himself to the Council members. Mr. Bickel had previously assisted the City in developing their Stellar Grant proposals when working for Sturtz Public Management Group. Mr. Bickel was previously the Blackford County Director of their Economic Development Corporation. Collier complimented Bickel regarding his reports presented at his first board meeting and Bickel noted Interim Director, Larry Macklin had done a great job in making a positive transfer. The City Attorney recommended that Council also approve the Temporary Memorandum of Agreement between the City and ACEDC. The Memorandum allows Mr. Bickel a key to access the Northwest School building for future workforce development and training. Sirk made a motion to approve the Temporary Memorandum of Agreement with the ACEDC as approved earlier by the Board of Works members. Seconded by Collier, the motion was adopted. Mr. Bickel shared that ACEDC employee James Teeple has done a lot of work in getting things moving for the use of the Northwest School building. Mayor reminded Mr. Bickel that this is a partnership between the City and ACEDC, to please keep the City administration posted on any updates.

Ordinance 2019-11, an ordinance fixing the salaries and wages for City employees for the year 2020 was brought forward for its third reading. The Clerk-Treasurer noted that per the discussion at the previous meeting, she was directed to amend the salary ordinance to change the future new employee who is to help maintain the Hanna Nuttman ball park to be considered a Public Works employee rather than a Parks & Recreation employee. The new employee’s title will be a maintenance operator and funding will be paid 25% from Street Department, 25% from each Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Utilities. Sirk made a motion that Ordinance 2019-11 as amended be placed on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2019-11 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-11 as amended on its third and final reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote was

held and resulted with a 5-0 passage. Mayor Meyer announced that Ordinance 2019-11 has been adopted.

Ordinance 2019-12, an ordinance establishing the salaries to be paid to the elected officials for the year 2020, was brought forward for its third reading. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2019-12 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2019-12 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-12 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Collier, a roll call vote was held and the ordinance passed with a 5-0 vote. Mayor Meyer announced that Ordinance 2019-12 has been adopted.

Ordinance 2019-13, an ordinance for the refunding of the Sewage Works Revenue Bonds of 2008 was brought forward, which has been reviewed by the City Attorney. City Attorney, Tim Baker announced that the closing date has been moved up to likely be October 31, 2019 with sixteen (16) days of interest being saved. The Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer will sign the necessary documents. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2019-13 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was passed and City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2019-13 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2019-13 on its first reading. Seconded by Collier, the roll call vote showed passage by a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2019-13 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Collier, the motion passed and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2019-13 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2019-13 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote was held and passage was by a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to table Ordinance 2019-13 for its third reading until the October 1, 2019 meeting. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed.

Mayor Meyer had received a request from the Decatur Chamber of Commerce for a sponsorship of the Highland Games event. There are three (3) levels of sponsorship--gold, bronze, and silver. Last year's sponsorship was at the gold level of \$1,000. Dyer made a motion to sponsor the Highland Games at a gold level of \$1,000. The motion was seconded by Fullenkamp and the motion was passed with Coshow abstaining. Funds will be taken from the same line item as last year.

Resolution 2019-7, a resolution expressing interest in purchasing property along the St. Mary's River on Monmouth Road near the location of the Wastewater Lift Station, was brought forward. The Resolution authorizes the Mayor to serve as the purchasing agent to obtain two (2) written appraisals for the real estate. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2019-7 by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Baker read Resolution 2019-7 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-7. Seconded by Collier, the motion was passed, and Mayor Meyer announced that Resolution 2019-7 has been adopted.

Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright announced that the Notice to Taxpayers has been uploaded on Gateway regarding the proposed City's 2020 Budget, and the Public Hearing date to be held on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 with the adoption of the budget to be held on October 15, 2019 at the City Council meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Department Heads Input:

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor, reported that the water plant is coming along great with the concrete base to be poured next week for the maintenance building.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, shared that many projects are finishing up and he plans to give a report of these projects at the next meeting. Next Friday will be his 15<sup>th</sup> year anniversary with the City.

Don Bergdall, Civil Infrastructure Manager, and Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent, had been in training the last few days to receive their certification for MS4. Witte reminded citizens that the City has a sign ordinance regarding such things as garage sale signs.

Deputy Police Chief, Chris Brite shared that two (2) officers had applied for the Sergeant position so interviews would be held on Monday, September 23, 2019.

#### Mayor's Report:

Mayor Meyer received an email from Kevan Biggs who noted that the work on the parking lot has been completed behind the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Loft building, and is open to the public to park until the lofts are rented when the western half of the lot would be reserved for loft residents.

#### Council Input:

Coshow attended training with the Police Department regarding various explosives and found the two (2) hour training session very enjoyable and educational.

Dyer made a motion to pay the claims against the City. Seconded by Fullenkamp the motion was adopted.

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, Dyer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Collier, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 8:07 P.M.