

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
OCTOBER 3, 2017

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. 2nd Street. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken Meyer. Roll call was taken to show Councilmen Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, Scott Murray, and Wylie Sirk were in attendance. Also present were 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 19, 2017 meeting. There being no corrections, Coshow made a motion to approve the minutes. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion to make a matter of record the legal notice regarding the Public Hearing for the water rate increase was made by Fullenkamp. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

A motion to suspend the Common Council meeting for the purpose of a Public Hearing was made by Sirk, seconded by Coshow and adopted.

A motion to open the Public Hearing for the purpose of discussing a water rate increase for fire protection, fire hydrants and municipal drinking fountains that had been omitted from the 2009 Ordinance was made by Fullenkamp, seconded by Sirk, and adopted.

It was explained that these increases were needed for any future water bonds. The increase is 15% for the items that were omitted from the ordinance in 2009 and should have been implemented across-the-board, all rates and charges should have the same percentage rate increases, which was recommended by the City's Financial Consultant, Crowe Horwath. No public comments were made.

A motion to close the Public Hearing was made by Coshow, seconded by Sirk, and adopted.

A motion to reconvene the Common Council meeting was made by Sirk. Seconded by Coshow, the motion passed.

Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2017-10, an Ordinance to increase water rates 15% in Section 53.002 of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was carried. City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2017-10 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-10 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Coshow, roll call showed a 5-0 vote. Mayor Meyer announced that Ordinance 2017-10 had been adopted.

Sirk made a motion to suspend the Council meeting for the purpose of holding a Public Hearing regarding the 2018 Budget. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Sirk made a motion to open the Public Hearing regarding the 2018 Budget. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

There were no public comments.

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

Sirk made a motion to reconvene the Common Council meeting. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed.

Sirk made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2017-12, an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for the 2018 Budget, at \$9,239,835 and tax rate of \$1.38 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was carried. City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2017-12 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2017-12 on its first reading. Seconded by Dyer. Roll call showed 5-0 passage. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2017-12 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Coshow, the motion passed. City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2017-12 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2017-12 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote showed passage by a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to table Ordinance 2017-12 until the next meeting on October 17, 2017. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was carried.

Ordinance 2017-13, Supplement #2 of the City Code of Ordinances of 2015, was next to be considered. This is an annual update and includes all Ordinances passed in 2016 up to Ordinance No. 2017-5 passed on June 6, 2017. Any Ordinance changes to the code after June 6, 2017 will be included in Supplement #3, which will be updated in 2018. Sirk made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2017-13 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed. City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2017-13 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2017-13 on its first reading. Seconded by Dyer, roll call vote showed 5-0 passage. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2017-13 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was carried. City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2017-13 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2017-13 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer. Roll call vote showed passage by a 5-0 vote. Coshow made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 2017-13 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was carried. The City Attorney read Ordinance 2017-13 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-13 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Dyer, roll call showed passage with a 5-0 vote. Mayor Meyer then announced that Ordinance 2017-13 had been adopted.

Ordinance 2017-14, an Ordinance to rezone an area located at the corner of Adams and Seventh Street from I1-Industrial to R2 Multi-Family owned by Jackie and Abbey Jauregui was next to be considered. The rezoning was previously approved by the Decatur Plan Commission at their Sept. 19th meeting. Sirk made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2017-14 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed. City Attorney Tim Baker read Ordinance 2017-14 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2017-14 on its first reading. Seconded by Dyer, the roll call vote of 5-0 showed passage. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2017-14 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was carried. City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2017-14 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2017-14 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer, roll call showed

5-0 passage. Sirk made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 2017-14 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was carried. City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2017-14 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-14 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Dyer, roll call showed passage by a 5-0 vote. Mayor Meyer announced Ordinance 2017-14 has been adopted.

Ordinance 2017-11, the 2018 Salary Ordinance was next to be considered. The Clerk-Treasurer shared there was a need for two amendments. 1) dealing with payment to police officers as a result of Operation Pullover Grants, and 2) when payment is made to employees with longevity. Page 5, Section B. shall be amended to read: That in the event the City should receive an appropriate State or Federal grant, an off-duty officer will be paid a rate of time and one-half based on the officer's individual overtime rate of pay. Such time served cannot be added toward compensation time. Page 7. Section 8. Shall be amended to read: Employees entitled to longevity pay will be payable after the employee's anniversary date of employment on the following scheduled payroll date. Sirk made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2017-11 as amended on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed. City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2017-11 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-11 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Fullenkamp, a roll call vote of 5-0 showed passage. Mayor Meyer announced that Ordinance 2017-11 had been adopted.

Fire Chief, Les Marckel shared the fire department has an Open House scheduled for October 11, 2017 from 4:30-7:30 P.M. He invited the public to attend to see their equipment and share various demonstrations. An event form for the closing of part of 7th Street and Jefferson Street was presented. A motion to approve the street closings was made by Sirk, seconded by Coshow, and adopted.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Meyer had met with INDOT officials and noted he is hoping to announce the project is completed at the October 17, 2017 meeting. In the meantime he pleaded with residents to heed the barricades and stay out of the project area.

Mayor Meyer noted that along Master Drive all the driveway approaches and sidewalks on the west side had been completed. On the east side several driveway approaches had been completed and sidewalks are to be done. Jeremy Gilbert, Operation Manager added that the sidewalk project has been slow as residents have changed plans and accepted the 50/50 cost sharing program for new sidewalks. Mayor Meyer offered his apology for the project taking longer than planned.

Mayor Meyer read a letter dated September 27, 2017 and noting the last day on duty for Police Chief, Greg Cook would be January 1, 2018 as his retirement would begin on January 2, 2018. Chief Cook has served the City for 35 years as his hiring date was on January 1, 1982. Mayor Meyer thanked Chief Cook for his 35 years of service and noted he would be recognized for that service during the final Council meeting in December 2017.

City Attorney, Tim Baker then shared he had drafted an ordinance dealing with the payment of unpaid utility bills. He shared the copy with Council Members and asked for input and any changes for finalizing an ordinance to be presented at the October 17, 2017 meeting. The ordinance deals with the property owner being ultimately responsible for any unpaid bills by occupants of rental properties. Mayor Meyer shared write-offs have been made after (5) five years. He noted over 100 accounts and that write-offs will continue until a new ordinance takes effect. The total amount left un-paid is \$126,464 with \$45,658 written off and \$80,996

remaining. Input is to be sought from Council members, Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor, and the Utility Clerks before introducing the ordinance.

Department Heads Input:

Police Chief, Greg Cook noted (2) two officers have resigned and are now accepting applications for a patrol officers. The latest hire, Blaze Brooks will graduate from the Academy this Friday.

Fire Chief, Les Marckel announced the October Open House and that the 4th graders in the county would receive training at the Survive Alive House in November. He also shared that Decatur would be assisting New Haven firemen on Wednesday so those firemen could attend the funeral of Allen County fireman Eric Balliet. He asked that people keep the Fort Wayne Fire Department and the Balliet family in their prayers.

Infrastructure Manager, Don Bergdall reported sewer lines were replaced at Cross Creek and also on Madison Street.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager noted lots of projects are starting to wrap up. He shared that leaf season is to begin on Thursday. Gilbert thanked Todd Wenning for his 23 years of service to the City as he wished Wenning well in his retirement. Wenning's last work day was Friday, Sept. 29th.

Council Members Input:

Coshow encouraged attendance at the first Decatur Highland Games event to be held on Saturday, October 7, 2017 beginning at 11:30 A.M. The event will take place on the north side of Jackson Street Bridge behind Riverside Center. Mayor Meyer shared he was presented the trophy for the event from 7th grader Henry Kukelhan. He noted it was made of walnut and weighed about 40 pounds.

Fullenkamp 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 Murray, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 8:30 P.M.