

City of Decatur
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes
October 6, 2020

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. Members present were Craig Coshow via phone, Tyler Fullenkamp and Mayor Rickord were present. Also present were City Attorney, Tim Baker and Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes of the September 15, 2020 meeting. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the minutes. Coshow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The first item on the agenda was the notice to abate regarding 734 Spencer Street. Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent, shared that numerous letters had been sent resulting with no response from the owner, Jeffery Chrisman of 734 Spencer Street. Witte had sent at least seven (7) notifications which included the phone number the owner could use to reach his office. The notifications referenced the need to abate rubbish and also noted the number of dogs exceeded the number allowed by ordinance which limits the number to be no more than three (3) except for an approved kennel. Witte and Tony Lothridge, Assistant Superintendent of Building and Zoning, had driven by the location and noted that work still needed to be done. The owner appeared before the Board and shared he had ten (10) dogs, four (4) of which belonged to his daughter and three (3) that were advanced in age with physical problems. He shared that he did not want to put them down. The owner needs to file an application to appear before the BZA to seek a special exception to allow the number of dogs in a residential area, if more than three dogs it is defined by ordinance of operating a kennel. The owner agreed to get the application and file such.

Coshow made a motion to make the resignation letter from Jared Fuelling, a Public Works employee effective Friday, October 9, 2020 a matter of record. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert appeared before the Board and reported that Brooks Construction is finishing up the current round of street paving from the Community Crossings Matching Grant. Gilbert shared that they are ready to make application for the next round of funding through CCMG Program 2020-2, with the applications due on October 23, 2020. Gilbert would like to use Butler, Fairman, and Seufert to assist in writing the application as they were used for previous applications. The engineering services are not to exceed \$28,000.00. Fullenkamp made a motion to proceed with the application using Butler, Fairman & Seufert, and authorize the Board of Works members to sign the agreement. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager then informed the Board that there is a need to amend the contract with American Structurepoint for the 5-Points intersection improvements project, due to some structures considered historic there were additional steps that INDOT had to go through. It was noted that three (3) of the corners affected were considered historic. Gilbert shared that there were no options and with the changes the work would delay construction a year to 2023. Amendment #1 is \$54,200, which the City's portion of the contract is 20%, since this project is being funded by INDOT through an 80/20 grant. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve Amendment #1 and to sign the contract with American Structurepoint. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. Regarding the 5-Points construction work, Gilbert estimated the work would take 4 to 5 months. One area to be reviewed is

determining the traffic pattern during work time. This project started back during Mayor Schultz administration. It is hoped that by spring more may be known regarding the design.

Karey Fuelling, Wastewater Superintendent appeared before the Board with quotes from two (2) companies for roofing on the Activated Sludge building and the Borum Run Lift Station. Landmark Roofing LLC of Fort Wayne quoted \$16,703.00 for the Activated Sludge building, and \$5,665.00 for the Borum Run Lift Station. Fort Wayne Roofing quoted \$31,500.00 and \$8,700.00 for the two (2) projects. Coshow made a motion to proceed with the lowest bidder, Landmark Roofing LLC for each of the two (2) projects. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Police Chief, Lennie Corral shared a letter from Sergeant Corey Hamm resigning as a Second Shift Sergeant effective December 31, 2020. Officer Hamm will remain in the department as a day patrolman. Chief Corral shared that many of the older officers do not want to work the second shift so it is likely, since there are several young officers on the force that perhaps a younger officer would become Sergeant. Fullenkamp made a motion to make Sergeant Hamm's letter of resignation as a Second Shift Sergeant a matter of record. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Police Chief Corral shared that the Department has a unique situation with an officer returning. Police Chief reported that Reserve Officer Blaze Brooks who is returning to the force had passed testing with PERF. As a Reserve Officer, Brooks has been helping out since the sudden resignation of Officer Dan Hunter. Brooks started working the third shift on September 20, 2020. Officer Torson was on third, but is still riding and another officer is attending the academy. Chief Corral was seeking a sign on bonus for Reserve Officer Brooks from the time he started until he is sworn in as a full-time officer. Mayor Rickord appreciated Chief Corral's work by doing preliminary work by talking to City Attorney Tim Baker, Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright, and himself regarding the situation. Fullenkamp made a motion to allow the bonus pay for Reserve Officer Blaze Brooks for time served from September 20, 2020 until he is officially sworn in. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Continuing conversation regarding Reserve Officer Blaze Brooks as he returns to the force, Chief Corral sought permission to waive the one-year of probation. He noted Brooks will sign the conditional employment contract and that he is aware of the fact that he will need to re-pay costs to the City if he leaves the force. Chief Corral shared it would be a minimal cost to re-uniform Brooks as he still has his uniform to use. Coshow made a motion to waive the one-year probation status for Officer Brooks. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright brought up the renewal of the City's three-year farm leases for 450 N and 600 N farms. Discussed was allowing the bidders who submit a bid to raise their bids after all the bids are opened, and also the method of payment was discussed. Coshow made a motion to change the lease agreements to have a one (1) time payment per year by December 1st, and to allow bidders to raise their bids, once all bids are opened. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. Bids will be advertised, and bids will be due and opened at the November 3rd Board of Works meeting.

There being no other business to come before the Board, Fullenkamp made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Adjournment was at 6:47 P.M.