

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
OCTOBER 17, 2017

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 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 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 October 3, 2017 meeting. There being no corrections, Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

John August, Adams County Emergency Management Director, shared the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan has to be reviewed and updated every five (5) years so grants can be submitted. The updated plan will be forwarded to Rod Renkenberger, Director of the Maumee River Basin Commission. A motion to introduce Resolution 2017-14, the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, by short title only was made by Sirk. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed. City Attorney, Tim Baker read Resolution 2017-14 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-14. Seconded by Dyer, the resolution was adopted.

Ordinance 2017-12, the 2018 Budget, was next to be considered. There were no comments from the public, so Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2017-12, an Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rate for 2018 budget, at \$9,239,835 and tax rate of \$1.38, on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted. City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2017-12 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-12 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Murray. Roll call showed a 5-0 vote for passage. Mayor Meyer announced Ordinance 2017-12 has been adopted.

Discussion next centered on the delinquent utility bills. Mayor Meyer noted he had contacted Mayors of area cities and learned that only one other municipality, Auburn, allowed utility bills to be put in the renter's name. It was shared that Pine Crossing and Waterbury were all in the owner's name. City Attorney Tim Baker will be working on ordinances. He had contacted Jody Woods, Attorney for AIM, and she suggested he contact Attorney, Steve Unger of Bose McKinney & Evans. Due process and contract rights are two areas of concern and Attorney Baker is trying to find out how to word the ordinance to protect the City. There is a need to concur with state law when adopting any ordinance. It was also noted enforcement shall be henceforth and not include outstanding past bills. Steve Kreigh, local realtor and property owner, was present and noted it would be important to keep the property owner in the loop. No ordinance will be introduced this evening and the issue will be re-visited at the November 7, 2017 meeting.

Event Forms were received for the Callithumpian Parade and also the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting. A motion to approve the Christmas Tree Lighting form which is sponsored by Cathee Graves of Classic Crimper Salon has collected the needed signatures. Sirk made a motion to approve the event, seconded by Dyer, and adopted. Sirk made a motion to accept the

Chamber of Commerce Event form for the Callithumpian Parade pending the proper signatures being collected. Seconded by Dyer the motion passed with Coshow abstaining.

Mayor Meyer shared that earlier this evening Council members had toured the old jail and the Work Release building. It was shared the County Officials estimated the cost of the demolition would be \$100,000, and is proposing the City to pay half of the cost, and then the property would be deeded to the City. The County felt the Work Release building was still in good condition. The Mayor asked for Council's input.

Sirk--commented that money hasn't been budgeted, and questioned what the property would be used for, and felt there were some structural problems.

Murray--shared he had talked with Councilman Cam Collier before he left on military leave, and Cam was concerned with the cost and how the building could be used.

Fullenkamp—had concerns with the cost for needed renovation and shared he was not interested in the property at this time. If the County would consider demolishing the buildings and then deed the property to the City, then the City may be interested.

Coshow—had concerns with the structure of the Work Release building.

By consensus, council members want to work with the County for a solution. However, there is no money in the budget, and they are not interested in the property at this time. The Mayor will report back to the County what was discussed.

#### Mayor' Report:

Mayor Meyer reported that with the reading of the retirement letter from Police Chief, Greg Cook two weeks ago that would have a domino effect in the Police Department. Thus, he has decided to name a new Chief of Police in order to get things started. Announced to replace Chief Cook was Detective Lenny Corral who has 23 years of experience having been appointed Sergeant in 2008 and Detective in 2011. Mayor Meyer read a resume of Corral. Chief Cook shared he had all the confidence in the world in Lenny. Mike Mahan, Assistant Chief, noted Lenny did well in every area and may be the first Chief to have gone through all the ranks. Lenny shared he had talked to the Mayor and since he had announce his intentions to be a candidate for Adams County Sheriff, he would no longer be a candidate for Sheriff.

#### Department Heads;

Les Marckel, Fire Chief noted they had a good open house on October 11, 2017 and fourth graders would be trained in Safety Park the first week of November.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent, noted he plans to present specific topics. This meeting the topic is privacy fences. He noted many people are not aware of the ordinance and that they need to get a permit.

Don Bergdall, Civil Infrastructure Manager shared the Madison Street Plaza project is underway.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager noted many projects are finishing up and that much progress has taken place this year. He stated he was very proud of the city employees and contractors with all the work done this year.

#### Council Input:

Coshow thanked all for getting him through the Decatur Highland Games. He thanked the City, Park Department, and their employees.

Dyer asked regarding the lighting along US 224, he was told the state had been contacted today for a guideline of when the lights would be functioning.

Fullenkamp made a motion to pay the claims against the city. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

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

Adjournment was at 8:19 P.M.