

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
OCTOBER 20, 2020

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 6:20 p.m. by virtual meeting. 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 October 6, 2020 meeting. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was final reading of Ordinance 2020-15, an ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates for the 2021 Budget. There were no comments received so, Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-15 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted and City Attorney Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-15 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-15 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Murray, a roll call vote was held and passed 5-0.

Next item on the agenda was a discussion regarding Callithumpian events. Sirk reported that the Decatur Chamber of Commerce would have a schedule of all of the events on their website. He noted the house decorating contest had six (6) entries and the judging took place last evening. Winners will be announced in the near future. Sirk also announced that the Callithumpian Parade had been cancelled as per direction from the Adams County Board of Health. Trick or Treat night will be held from 5-7 P.M. on Saturday, October 31, 2020 and residents wishing to receive Trick or Treaters need to have their porch light on.

The Callithumpian Committee had sent a letter requesting \$1,000 donation towards the fireworks, which will be held on Saturday evening, October 24, 2020. However, the request noted that if \$1,000 was not available, they would appreciate \$500.00. Sirk made a motion to give \$1,000.00 for the Callithumpian Committee towards fireworks to be paid from the Common Council's promotional account. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted with Coshow abstaining.

As discussed at the Board of Public Works & Safety meeting, Ordinance 2020-16, an ordinance which amends Ordinance 2019-14 to permit a hiring bonus to be offered to Blaze Brooks to rejoin the Decatur Police Department in 2020 was brought forth. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-16 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-16 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-16 on its first reading. Seconded by Coshow, a roll call vote showed passage by a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2020-16 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-16 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2020-16 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote was held and passed with a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 2020-16 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Tim Baker read Ordinance 2020-16 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-16 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote was held and Ordinance 2020-16 was adopted by a 5-0 vote.

Department Heads Input:

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager reported that the playground equipment in Hanna Nuttman is nearly completed. Gilbert also reported that shortly before the meeting, he had received a progress report from Advanced Demolition Services, who has the contract to demolish the previous Evergreen Assisted Living facility. It was noted the demolition is going well as planned or even better and it is hoped that it will be completed by November 20, 2020 or so which is ahead of schedule set by FEMA. Sirk noted he was impressed with the fence placed around the property.

Fire Chief, Les Marckel noted that the permit and insurance certificate is on file for the October 24, 2020 Callithumpian Fireworks event. The Fire Department will be present at the event. The new fire truck is progressing and is getting pictures each Friday regarding the progress which is now three (3) weeks into the process.

Police Chief, Lennie Corral thanked the Council and Board of Works members for approving the process to get Officer Blaze Brooks back on the force and for allowing him to begin the process for hiring the 20th officer. Chief Corral shared the local Police Department would be hosting the Drug Medication Take Back event on Saturday, October 24, 2020 and noted they already have 80 boxes to take back.

Council Input:

Sirk inquired about water issues from neighbors with the new water plant. Mayor Rickord informed him that the Utilities Auditor, Kevin Hackman has been working with the residents to get the issues resolved.

Sirk also mentioned the need to repair the asphalt on East Lake Court in Lake Shores Addition. Sirk noted that in some areas the asphalt is in such bad condition that mail cannot be delivered to a resident. Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert informed him that they are aware of this and that when the street was put in by the developer, it was done without City's approval. Thus, the responsibility is really upon the developer rather than the City. Councilman Dyer had talked with the developer's son who is coming to town and is willing to meet with Gilbert and Mayor Rickord about the issue. For now, the City's Public Works Department will make a temporary fix to the street this week to get through the winter months.

Sirk 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, Coshow made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 6:50 P.M.