

City of Decatur
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes
November 1, 2016

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on Tuesday, November 1, 2016, at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street. Members present were Cam Collier, Bill Karbach, and Mayor Ken Meyer. Also present were City Attorney. Tim Baker and Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright.

The Clerk-Treasurer emailed the minutes from the October 18, 2016 meeting. There were no corrections. Collier made a motion to approve the minutes. Karbach seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bill Slike, Engineer for the Sewer project gave an update on the project. Starting Wednesday and through next week streets will be closed such as Jackson Street and portions of Monroe and 1st Street. Schools will be notified of any closing that will involve the bus routes. He noted the project would be substantially completed in 2-3 weeks with some clean-up winter surfaces and striping on main roads. The final work would be completed in the spring. Slike noted he will not be at the November 15, 2016 meeting but would be back in Decatur on November 22, 2016 with some change orders documented by that time. When asked about the use of contingency funds, it was noted the funds are very sufficient. The budget for the project is in great shape.

Police Chief Greg Cook came before the Board members seeking support to consider Austin Gross for a position on the Police Force without being interviewed by the entire Board of Public Works and Safety as Austin is currently serving as an Adams County Deputy Sheriff. Cook and Mayor Meyer had both met with Mr. Gross and felt he was a great candidate for the Police Department and hopefully could be available within the month after the physical and PERF processing. Collier noted the Board is actually affirming the Chief's recommendation and if the Chief and Mayor are comfortable with the candidate, the board should accept that recommendation. Karbach made a motion to accept Cook's and Meyer's recommendation. Collier seconded the motion. Motion passed. Karbach noted that, only as a suggestion, he would like to use the lateral process in filling future vacancies.

Councilmen Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp and Wylie Sirk joined the remainder of the Board of Public Works and Safety meeting.

The issue of the Pennsy Depot was addressed and after discussion it was decided by consensus to stay with the decisions made at the October 18, 2016 meeting. The fee will be \$25.00 per hour and said fee will be paid at the Clerk-Treasurer's office in City Hall. Keys will be available at City Hall. Thus, this takes Parks and Recreation out of the fee collection process and it is hoped they direct any inquiries they might receive about the facility to City Hall. Suzy Fuelling is willing to clean up after each usage at a cost of \$15.00. It was decided to give this a trial and if there are negative comments then there would be a need to reconsider. It was suggested this be a 6 month trial period. Karbach shared he was concerned with the parking and it was announced that Operations Manager Jeremy Gilbert was getting signs.

The Holiday Schedule for 2017 was presented noting Christmas and New Years Day fall on Monday so Friday and Monday would be holidays for each. A motion to adopt the Holiday Schedule as presented was made by Karbach. Seconded by Collier, the motion passed.

Karbach gave an update regarding various properties whose owners had been presented citations and additional letters. Of the 4 properties the owners of 2 had complied right away. The property owner on Selkirk has removed his trailer and recyclables, but still had some issues. The 7th Street property owner still has several items that need to be removed. Karbach noted he would rather work with the owner than have litigation, and will meet with him on Friday of what else needs to be cleaned up. Karbach also shared he has pictures of about 9 homes with a great need of work, and 7 dilapidated garages/storage units. These are included in future plans.

Operations Manager Jeremy Gilbert appeared before the Board to discuss the potential project on Master Drive, and Washington Street to 10th Street. Original plans had included tearing up sidewalks and cutting down nearly all the trees. Reviewing the project it is felt at least \$75,000 can be saved from the original proposal and all the work could be done in the street. A proposal from MLS Engineering was received for the design phase in the amount of \$15,000.00. This would include topographic survey, site development for storm sewer, water lines, and bidding. Gilbert suggested bidding this project in December to be more competitive. Asst. Wastewater Supt., Verlin Butcher, Utilities Director, Dan Rickord, and Asst. Water Supt., Bill Carpenter and Gilbert have met and all were comfortable with the proposal. Funds are available for the storm water sewer, but the water line replacement funding is more questionable. The curbing and lighting would be outside the project cost. Gilbert thought the project could be accomplished over the winter months then have the street repaved after the ground has settled. Collier made a motion to accept the proposal from MLS Engineering, and for Gilbert to proceed with bidding the project with a bid alternate for the water lines. Seconded by Karbach, the motion passed.

Gilbert reported that the re-paving project through the city should be completed on or before November 16, 2016. Bollman Street, Faurote Avenue, and the approaches at Washington Street still need to be completed.

Fire Chief Les Marckel appeared before the Board and suggested a proposal be made before the City Council to include the volunteer firemen who are not already full-time city employees to be included as a part-time city employee to receive Decatur Dollars for Christmas.

Mayor Meyer reported he had attended the County Commissioner's meeting earlier today in support of the Serenity House using the work-release center of the current jail after the jail relocates to the new facility. He shared there was overwhelming support for the project, but the Commissioners tabled a decision until County Council can weigh in before making a final decision.

There being no other business to come before the Board, Karbach made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Collier, the motion passed. Adjournment was at 7:12 P.M.