

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 20, 2018

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, November 20, 2018 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 Cam Collier, Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, and Wylie Sirk, were in attendance. Also present was 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 November 6, 2018 meeting. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Meyer shared that Justin Wall, Attorney for Nick Kos, owner of NK Decatur Holdings 1 LLC, known as Cottonwood Estates Mobile Home Park, and Josh Heck of JS Heck Proerties LLC, owner of Indiana Trailer Sales, had appeared before the Plan Commission earlier this evening to petition rezoning of the third of the three (3) parcels from RS Residential Suburban to C3 Roadside Business. The Plan Commission had voted 6-0 to recommend the rezoning to the Council for their approval. The Cottonwood Estates Mobile Home Park located at 521 S. 13th Street is made up of three (3) parcels, two (2) small parcels and one (1) large one, totaling 10.59 acres. The two smaller parcels have four plotted lots, will not be rezoned. It was shared that according to Mr. Heck's purchase agreement with Mr. Kos, Mr. Kos must get rid of all trailers. Coshow made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Plan Commission regarding the rezoning of the large parcel of Cottonwood Estates Mobile Home Park. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Ordinance 2018-22, an ordinance amending Chapter 150 of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015, as amended, for the purpose of rezoning real property at 521 S. 13th Street known as Cottonwood Estates Mobile Home Park from RS Residential Suburban to C3 Roadside Business was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2018-22 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion carried and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2018-22 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2018-22 on its first reading. Seconded by Collier, a roll call vote was taken and passed with a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2018-22 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion carried. City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2018-22 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2018-22 on its second reading. Seconded by Coshow, a roll call vote showed 5-0 passage. Sirk made a motion to table Ordinance 2018-22 until the next regular meeting on December 4, 2018. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was carried.

Mayor Meyer announced he is re-appointing Ron Storey, Rex Hinsky, and Max Miller to the Decatur Redevelopment Commission for another one (1) year term for 2019. Dyer made a motion to make a matter of record the Mayor's appointments of Ron Storey, Rex Hinsky, and Max Miller to the Decatur Redevelopment Commission. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Meyer noted that Lawrence Isch and J. Craig Russett informed him that they were willing to serve again as the Council appointees to the Decatur Redevelopment Commission. Dyer made a motion to make a matter of record the certificate of appointments of Lawrence Isch and J. Craig Russett as Council appointees to the Decatur Redevelopment Commission. Seconded by Collier, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Meyer informed the Council members that the regular first meeting in 2019 falls on January 1, 2019, which is a holiday. Coshow made a motion to reschedule the meeting to Wednesday, January 2, 2019. Seconded by Collier, the motion was adopted.

Department Head Reports:

Jeff Sheets, Decatur Fire Department shared that usually the month of November is used to work with fourth graders at the Survive Alive House and Safety Village. The first week features fourth graders from South Adams and Adams Central and the next two weeks are for North Adams and area Parochial schools. The program started in 2000 and students are taught an escape plan and given a homework assignment to make an escape plan for their home.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, reported an email from the Mayor had been received last week urging his attendance at a meeting in Monroe. Jeremy and Toby Steffen of BF&S had earlier spent time preparing an application for Community Crossing Grant funds. Eighteen (18) streets were included in the proposal and INDOT came through for the funding of all 18. Total funds approved for the 18 streets is \$875,651.75 with \$651,840.32 from INDOT funds and \$223,811.43 from City Funds. Gilbert noted an additional 10-12 streets are included in the budget so total work on streets in 2019 would total \$1.2-1.3 million.

Gilbert shared he had taken classes to learn how to rate streets noting with this INDOT training he is easily able to tell where the needs are. The rating of 1 to 10 helps recognize areas of need. He shared most are rated 6, 7, or 8. Gilbert noted the same plan works nicely for sidewalks, street lights, and so forth. There is a need to work up a plan for sidewalks. Coshow thanked Gilbert for all his time and effort to prepare the grant proposal. Gilbert noted other opportunities are coming as there will be January and July draws so if the City can come up with the 25% match, application can be made for the available state funds. Gilbert explained how the funds can be used and shared there will be a big difference as a result of the Community Crossing Grant. Gilbert informed Council that ADA ramps are not included in these projects.

Mayor Meyer shared he had received a call from the Governor's office noting the Governor would like to come to Decatur to present the grant award for the Community Crossing Grant. However, Mayor Meyer would be on vacation and the Governor's representative shared he would not come if the Mayor was not available. Thus, the Governor ended up making the presentation in Berne, who also received funding. Matt Schultz, Asst. Operation Manger accepted the award on behalf of the City of Decatur. Mayor Meyer thanked Gilbert for all his work on the proposal.

Melissa Norby, Community Development Director, shared that Mind's Eye Graphics would be helping with the funding for the Hanna Nuttman Project by selling shirts, sweatshirts, and so forth and \$10 from each item sold would go towards the Hanna Nuttman Project. Items can be purchased online. Appreciation for Greg Kitson, owner of Mind's Eye Graphics was expressed.

Council Input:

Collier shared he had spent some time in Jasper, Indiana some time ago and learned they had a Public Arts Commission. He contacted the commission personnel and learned about their process of coming into fruition. He shares that with the ongoing arts programs in the City it might be wise to look into such a group. He also shared that recent State legislation regarding a 1% Ordinance is being used in several communities to help fund the arts. Collier shared he would be willing to look further into the Jasper program and bring back the information for further input. He pointed out that

the establishment of a Public Arts Council would be similar to the process used when the City established the Decatur Redevelopment Commission.

Melissa Norby, Community Development Director, shared she is receiving more and more items dealing with the Arts for the City. She noted she continues to get calls from individuals who want to donate things to the City and she sees a need to put together a plan.

Fullenkamp shared that several art groups seem to be separated now and there is a need to pull all of them together.

Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright noted she received the 1782 notice from the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) regarding the 2019 budget, stating that the assessed valuation went up by \$12,267,116, keeping the tax rate at \$1.13 per \$100 of assessed valuation, which is the same rate as 2018.

Coshow 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 Collier, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 8:18 P.M.