

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 7, 2017

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, November 7, 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 17, 2017 meeting. There being no corrections, Coshow made a motion to approve the minutes. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Trevor Hobbs of the Adams County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC) was present. He introduced James Teeple as the new full-time employee Workforce Development Director. Mr. Teeple told about himself and his experiences that qualify him for the position. It was shared that Mr. Teeple would be in charge of a \$250,000 grant that has been received for workforce training. Mr. Hobbs shared various results of a housing survey partnered with Wells County that was recently completed. It was shared that because of the Amish population in Adams County many of the figures were somewhat skewed as compared to Wells County. For example, the county lost about 1000 non-Amish residents and gained over 1000 Amish residents. He shared the study showed 30% of the County's residents are 55 and older, there are more renters with declining home ownership, and that 40% of the people earned between \$35,000 and \$75,000 annually. When asked about Champion Homes, Mr. Hobbs noted they had held a job fair and were happy with that, but that was all he was able to share at this time.

An ordinance regarding the utilities was taken up next. It was shared that the Board of Pubic Works and Safety had written off the amount of \$25,334.90 for 2011-12. City Attorney, Tim Baker shared he had talked with Steve Unger of McKinney-Bose and noted the City has the option under Home Rule to do things they could not do if they were under the direction of the Indiana Regulatory Commission. It was noted that with the passage of the Ordinance the effective date would be January 1, 2018 and all bills from that point would be sent to the owner who could then decide who would be responsible to pay the bill knowing the owner would be responsible for any unpaid bills. The City Attorney prepared Ordinance No. 2017-15, which amends Chapters 50 through 54 of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 215 regarding liability for invoiced City services. Sirk made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2017-15 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Coshow, the motion passed. City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2017-15 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2017-15 on its first reading. Seconded by Coshow, a roll call vote showed 5-0 passage. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2017-15 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed. City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2017-15 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2017-15 on its second reading. Seconded by Coshow. Roll call vote showed 5-0 passage. Sirk made a motion to table Ordinance 2017-15 for its third reading until the next meeting on November 21, 2017. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda was Ordinance 2017-16, an ordinance to close the east/west alley to vehicle traffic between Woodwings and The Home Place for ½ block to the alley running north/south to make the alley for pedestrians only, was considered. The ordinance also addresses Madison Street making it one way east for vehicular traffic when not being used for an event which would then be pedestrian traffic only. Sirk made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2017-16 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted. City Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2017-16 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2017-16 on its first reading. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the roll call vote showed passage by a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2017-16 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed. Attorney Baker read Ordinance 2017-16 by short title only. Sirk made a motion which was seconded by Coshow to pass Ordinance 2017-16 on its second reading. Roll call showed passage by a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to table Ordinance 2017-16 for its third reading until the next meeting on November 21, 2017. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted. Melissa Norby, Community Development Director, shared that an interactive piece of art by a local artist would be placed along the alleyway. This project was funded by grants from Adams County Community Foundation and OCRA.

Sirk made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$2,980 for Decatur Dollars for full-time employees, part-time employees, and volunteer firemen. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion passed with Coshow abstaining. This will be paid from the Council's and Mayor's promotional account.

It was shared that the Bank of Geneva had purchased land along US 27 (13<sup>th</sup> Street), and a public meeting needed to be scheduled regarding the annexation of the land as Bank of Geneva has filed a petition for the annexation. The hearing was suggested for December 5, 2017 to allow for the appropriate publication for said meeting. It was shared the hearing had to be held within 30 days of the petition being filed. Then there needs to be a fiscal plan in order so the first reading of the ordinance for the annexation can be on December 5, 2017 with the third reading on December 19, 2017. Following that there is a 30 day waiting period then it becomes official. Coshow made a motion to schedule a public hearing on December 5, 2017, and make the Petition for Annexation a matter of record. Seconded by Sirk, the motion passed.

City Attorney, Tim Baker shared that Tim Graf was no longer providing stormwater services for the City, which will terminate the contract between the City and the Adams County Water and Soil Conservation District. Baker will present documentation of terminating the contract at the next meeting. Baker is also working on information for handicap parking, and a new agreement for the school resource officer.

#### Department Heads Comments:

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent shared there has been some revisions of the city sidewalk ordinance, individuals wanting to put in sidewalks need to contact the Building and Zoning Department.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager shared that Master Drive is nearing completion with a few sidewalks added, TG Concrete's work will be completed on Wednesday, November 8, 2017. Mayor Meyer thanked the residents of Master Drive for their patience during this lengthy project. Gilbert noted the falling of the leaves, they are behind three (3) weeks and encouraged people to get them to the street as soon as possible. Gilbert also shared work is being done on

the parking area at the former Schafer building. The electrical crew will likely be working on Madison Street Plaza on Friday and pouring concrete if the weather permits. Mayor Meyer thanked Gilbert and his crew of workers for all they have done this year.

Council Input:

Murray shared his concern for pedestrian safety as people leave ABCinema and crossing the street. It was noted the situation needs to be taken under advisement.

Coshow thanked the police and the street department and others who helped during the Callithumpian Parade. He also thanked the Adams County Sheriff's Department and the emergency providers.

Sirk shared he wanted to recognize the Lytle Hair Shack which has been in business 45 years today.

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

Adjournment was at 8:36 P.M.