

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
DECEMBER 1, 2015

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Mayor John Schultz. Roll call was taken to show, Councilmen Cam Collier, Bill Crone, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp and Ken Meyer were in attendance. Also present was 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 November 17th meeting. There were no corrections or amendments. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Fullenkamp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Schultz solicited quotes for property and casualty insurance for 2016. There were two (2) quotes received. The City Attorney opened and read the quotes aloud. Graber Insurance quoted with Employers Mutual Casualty Insurance Company for \$106,176.00, plus \$61,254.00 for workers compensation from IPEP, through Downey Public Risk Underwriters as a total package of \$167,430.00. STAR Insurance quoted \$86,233.00 with Selective Insurance. Scott Smith from STAR Insurance commented that he was not able to secure a proposal for the City's Workers Compensation needs. The Mayor requested for the City Attorney to check with if Downey Insurance if they can block out other insurance companies to quote on workers compensation, and also to see if Bixler Insurance can still submit a quote before the next meeting. Councilman Crone made a motion to table a decision until the next meeting on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Dyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Next on the agenda was the Final Reading for Ordinance No. 2015-17, an Ordinance of the Common Council which establishes bond amounts, and a blanket surety bond, and establishes the aggregate coverage sufficient to provide coverage for certain officers, employees and contractors. The City Attorney commented that the cost for the additional bond coverage will cost approximately \$1,500.00. The Ordinance establishes a separate bond amounts for the Clerk-Treasurer for \$300,000.00, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Utilities Director, and Utilities Clerks for \$30,000.00 each, and \$15,000.00 each for the Redevelopment Commission members, and \$10,000.00 each for the Police Pension and Fire Pension Secretaries. Other employees and contractors are required to be bonded \$5,000.00 under a Blanket Surety Bond for each individual who handles or has access to city funds. All bonds are for one year terms, commencing January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Councilman Dyer motioned to Place the Ordinance on Third Reading by short title only. Motion was seconded by Collier and passed by consent. The City Attorney read the Ordinance by short title.

Crone motioned to Adopt Ordinance 2015-17, seconded by Collier. Roll call for Adoption of Ordinance 2015-17 was Collier, Crone, Dyer, Fullenkamp, and Meyer in favor and none opposed.

Community Coordinator, Melissa Norby handed out information pertaining to the Downtown Façade Program. Main Street has drafted the documents and is requesting for Common Council to review and to take action at the next meeting on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Melissa Norby informed Council she is applying for an OCRA – Collaborative Investment in Place Based Tourism, Community, and Economic Development Grant for the Pennsy Depot. The grant is

\$20,000 to \$50,000, and the City's portion is one and half times the amount applied for. \$80,000.00 is needed to complete the Pennsy Depot Rehabilitation Project. \$40,000 will come from the State, and \$20,000 from the Pennsy Depot fund raisers, and \$20,000 from the City. Dyer made a motion to use Capital Campaign funds for the City's portion of the grant, if the grant is awarded to the City. Crone seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mary Byer, representing the North Adams Arts Council completed an event form requesting to hold a Pine, Wine & Dine event on December 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at their new location, the former police station at 521 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Carol Macklin will be teaching a flower and wreath arrangement class. Dyer made a motion to approve the request. Crone seconded the motion. Motion carried.

On December 7, 2015, the Mayor, Melissa Norby and Larry Isch will be attending an awards ceremony in Indianapolis for Indiana Main Street.

Police Chief, Greg Cook announced Teddy Bessessen has completed his physical with PERF and should be hired as a police patrolman by the end of the year, once PERF notifies him of his hire date.

City Engineer, Nate Rumschlag received quotes from surveyors for annexations. Miller Land Surveying quoted \$250.00 for the new jail site, and Wernhoff Land Surveying quoted \$800.00 for the Winchester Street properties. Dyer made a motion to approve the quotes and pay for the surveys from the Cumulative Capital Development (CCD) fund. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Wastewater Supt., Anne Butcher reported the Decatur Wastewater Treatment Plant recently was presented an award by the National Weather Service in recognition of providing 50 years of weather observations for Adams County.

Councilman Ken Meyer announced the swearing in ceremony for the newly elected officials, and appointed Department Heads, Assistants, and Board of Public Works & Safety members will take place at Riverside Center on Monday, December 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Councilman Meyer requested to change the location of the final December 15<sup>th</sup> Board of Works and Council meeting at Riverside Center to honor Mayor John Schultz and Councilman Bill Crone for their many years of service to the community. Collier made a motion to approve the request. Dyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mary Byer of the North Adams Art Council thanked the City for leasing the former police station building to them, and gave an update of the NAAC recent activities an upcoming classes. With the lease coming due at the end of the year, the Clerk-Treasurer will get an estimated cost for utilities before renewing the lease with NAAC.

By consensus, Council will re-appoint Tyler Fullenkamp to serve on the Decatur Advisory Plan Commission. The Clerk-Treasurer will prepare the Certificate of Appointment for the next council meeting.

Crone made a motion to allow the claims as presented. Collier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Dyer made a motion for adjournment. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.