

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
DECEMBER 3, 2019

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 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 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 19, 2019 meeting. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

It was announced that the Public Hearing scheduled for Hoosier Pattern, Inc. and RH Warehouse, LLC would be postponed until Tuesday, December 17, 2019.

Resolution 2019-10, a resolution authorizing a local match commitment for a FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program Grant to acquire four (4) flood prone properties for 2019, was brought forth. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2019-10 by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Resolution 2019-10 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-10. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor, and Mark Sullivan of Midwestern Engineering appeared before the Council to give an update regarding Phase 1 of the new water plant and briefly review Phase 2. Sullivan shared the project is a little over 50% completed as per dollars spent. Photos of the new water plant and storage building were shown. The project is quickly progressing into Phase 2 once the new plant is up and working in April or May. Phase 2 will include the update on the Winchester plant which will last approximately fifteen (15) months. Phase 2 will also include the replacement of the raw main from Berne to Monroe.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor reported that Phase 2 of the water rate increase will become effective on January 1, 2020. It was noted that in 2017 it was decided to divide the rate increase in half rather than apply it all at once. The 2020 rate will average about 9% for the minimum and average household with the minimum bill increasing \$6.56.

City Attorney Tim Baker shared that the Decatur Board of Zoning Appeals had met earlier today and adopted a Resolution honoring Greg Kitson for his work at various City levels. The Board had passed the resolution and requested it be brought before the Council for action. Greg Kitson is retiring from the Board of Zoning Appeals after several years of service. The Board of Zoning Appeal's Resolution 2019-1 was brought forward to be read in its entirety. A motion to make Resolution 2019-1 from the Board of Zoning Appeals a matter record was made by Coshow, and seconded by Fullenkamp. The motion was adopted. City Attorney Baker read Resolution 2019-1 from the Board of Zoning Appeals in its entirety.

Department Heads Input:

Police Chief, Lennie Corral reported that a new officer would be hired pending PERF testing. He also shared that officers had been invited to lunch for the Law Enforcement luncheon with elementary students in North Adams Community Schools.

Fire Chief, Les Marckel reported that the department had over 600 4<sup>th</sup> graders participate in training at the Survive Alive House. They had two (2) sessions for over 1000 kindergarten through third grade students for the Firefighter Phil program.

Jim Hitchcock, Deputy Fire Chief reported that the hose tower project is near completion.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent announced Tony Lothridge will fill the new Fire Marshal/Inspector position and will start on December 23, 2019.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager reminded everyone that leaf pickup is coming to an end, likely within a week.

Craig Coshow shared that the Decatur Chamber of Commerce luncheon would be held on Monday, December 9, 2019 and the program would focus on fraud prevention. First Merchants Bank will provide the program.

Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright reported that she received the 1782 Notice for the 2020 budget from the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF). All budgets were approved with the tax levy increasing \$151,016, which is the maximum of 3.5%. The assessed valuation increased by \$10,465,925 which reduced the 2020 tax rate from the proposed rate of \$1.45 to \$1.14 per \$100 of assessed valuation. The City's current tax rate is \$1.13.

Dyer made a motion to pay the claims against the City. Seconded by Fullenkamp the motion was adopted.

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, Dyer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Sirk, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 8:03 P.M.