

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
DECEMBER 15, 2020

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street. The meeting was called to order by Dan Rickord. Roll call was taken to show Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, Scott Murray, and Wylie Sirk in attendance. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright and City Attorney Timothy Baker.

The Mayor invited everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the December 1, 2020 meeting. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was the Annual Certifications of Elected Officials regarding compliance with the nepotism policy. Sirk made a motion to make the signed Certifications of Elected Officials regarding the nepotism policy a matter of record. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

The next item of business concerned the signed Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements for numerous City employees, Asst. Fire Chief, James Hitchcock, Volunteer Firefighters, Timothy Ulman, Andrew Stimpson, Anthony Stimpson, and Leo Feasel. Full-time Firefighters, Taylor Gage, and Jeff Sheets, Police K-9 Officer, James Corey Hamm, City Attorney, Timothy Baker, Council member, Tyler Fullenkamp, Civil Infrastructure Manager, Don Bergdall, and Public Works Crew Leader, Marty Martin. Coshow made a motion to make the signed Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements for the various City employees a matter of record. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted. The Clerk-Treasurer will file the forms with the County Clerk, and uploaded them on Gateway for the State Board of Accounts.

Sirk made a motion to make the proof of filing and the publication of Ordinance 2020-14 for the annexation of 15.018 acres of the Meadows of Cross Creek Section 3 a matter of record. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted. It was noted the paperwork has been recorded and delivered to the appropriate Adams County Officials.

Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright read the various annual transfers within various department budgets including the Fire, Police, Plan-Building & Zoning, Common Council, Sanitation departments, MVH-Street, and Parks & Recreation. Resolution 2020-11, a resolution to authorize the transfer of funds within various department budgets, was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2020-11 by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted and City Attorney Tim Baker read Resolution 2020-11 by short title only. Sirk then made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-11. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent appeared before the Council to share quotes for sidewalk work on the north side of E. Monroe Street. A quote of \$22,375.00 had been received from Hitchcock Concrete, a quote of \$22,350.00 from Liter Concrete, and a quote of \$19,650.00 from TG Concrete. Coshow made a motion to accept the lowest quote of \$19,650.00 from TG Concrete. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted. A total of \$22,458.90 is to be encumbered as there are also two (2) sidewalk projects already under contract but not yet completed.

Clerk-Treasurer Whitright read a list of various encumbrances of funds to the 2021 budget year for the General Fund: Mayor, Common Council, and Police budgets totaling \$18,967.84. LOIT-Public Safety Fund \$32,758.63, MVH-Street Fund \$235,339.00, Parks & Recreation Fund \$14,632.10, Rainy Day Fund \$128,643.05, CCI Fund \$22,398.75, CCD Fund \$60,000.00, Redevelopment Commission Fund \$56,260.00, and CEDIT Fund \$42,458.90. The total of all encumbrances is \$611,458.27. Coshow made a motion to approve the various encumbrances. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Police Chief Lennie Corral announced that the Board of Public Works and Safety had approved earlier this evening the appointment of Lucas Rumschlag as the second shift Sergeant.

Fire Chief Les Marckel had asked the Board of Public Works and Safety to seek sealed bids for surplus equipment, namely the Engine 104 Fire Truck. It was noted a resolution was needed in order to seek the bids. County Departments had been offered the equipment but no interest was shown. Following the receiving of bids, County Departments could then still offer a bid. Resolution 2020-12, a resolution providing to accept bids for the “as is” Engine 104 Fire truck, which is surplus equipment, was brought forth. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2020-12 by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion was passed and City Attorney Tim Baker read Resolution 2020-12 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-12. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Dyer made a motion to appoint Larry Isch and Craig Russett to serve another one (1) year term on the Decatur Redevelopment Commission. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. Council members then signed the Certificate of Appointments.

Dyer made a motion to make Mayor Rickord’s appointments of Jeremy Friedt, Max Miller, and Ron Storey to serve another one (1) year term on the Decatur Redevelopment Commission a matter of record. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

City Attorney Tim Baker shared that at a meeting this morning of the Adams County Solid Waste Management District the Contract with the City to use the Transfer Station had an increase of \$.55. It was noted the contract has been the same for the last 18 years. Sirk made a motion to approve the contract increase and have Council members sign the contract. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

City Attorney Tim Baker noted he needed to have a Certificate of Compliance and a Consent to Representation approved and signed to allow him to have dual representation for both, the Attorney for the Solid Waste District and also the City Attorney for the City of Decatur. Coshow made a motion to allow the dual representation for Attorney Tim Baker. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

#### Department Heads Input:

Police Chief Lennie Corral announced that the police department had cancelled its Christmas Party and four (4) businesses had given money to the department to use as a morale booster. Chief Corral thanked the City for the Decatur Dollars. Corral reported that they are going through background checks for filling the two (2) open positions and are awaiting to see if Allen County will handle the polygraph detector work.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor shared that the new water plant on Winchester Street is getting closer to being under roof.

Fire Chief Les Marckel thanked the City for the Decatur Dollars and for all the guidance and assistance in working through this special year.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent mentioned that COVID-19 has not slowed down construction this year. His department has received 18 new house permits.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager reported that 3000 of the 3500 recycling cards had gone out in this morning's mail with about 200 more to go out. Several projects have been completed the last couple of weeks, some of the road markings still are needed as a result of the Community Crossings Matching Grant will be done in the spring. Gilbert mentioned that there are a lot of good things planned for 2021. Gilbert then congratulated Mayor Rickord and Councilman Murray for their first year of service.

#### Council Input:

Murray noted the year had started like normal but many changes have taken place, especially with the arrival of COVID-19.

Mayor Rickord gave his appreciation and thanks to all the Department Heads and City employees as they worked through all the issues of 2020. They kept all things working smoothly. Mayor Rickord noted the increase in the numbers of COVID cases the last couple of weeks and shared that he had been at the testing site last evening. He asked that any complaints not be taken out on those doing the tests as many of them are working extra shifts.

Coshow reported that the committee made up of various individuals throughout the County is working on radio commercials, newspaper items, a \$500 drawing and other items to try and stem the surge of COVID-19 cases.

City Attorney Tim Baker wished to echo what had been said earlier regarding the Department Heads and employees. He especially complimented the Department Heads noting they are the leaders and the City is blessed to have such great Department Heads.

Mayor Rickord noted that while citizens are still encouraged to social distance and stay home, there are still great opportunities to get out with the parks, trails, pickle ball courts, and basketball courts being available for the citizens to make use of.

Murray 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 Fullenkamp, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 8:13 P.M.