

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
DECEMBER 17, 2019

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 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 December 3, 2019 meeting. Sirk made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Dyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dyer made a motion to suspend the City Council meeting for the purpose of holding a Public Hearing for the abatement for Hoosier Pattern, Inc. and RH Warehouse, LLC. Seconded by Collier, the motion passed.

Dyer made a motion to open the Public Hearing. Seconded by Collier, the motion was adopted.

Keith Gerber, owner of Hoosier Pattern and RH Warehouse was in attendance and shared that he had decided to add another machine since appearing before the Council on November 19th meeting. City Attorney, Tim Baker noted the purpose of the Public Hearing is to hear any comments.

Since there were no comments from the public, Dyer made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Collier, the motion was adopted.

Coshow made a motion to re-convene the Council meeting. Seconded by Collier, the motion was adopted.

Dyer made a motion to make the legal notice for the Public Hearing a matter of record. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Coshow then made a motion to make the verified statement of proof of filing notice to the taxing units a matter of record. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

Confirming Resolution, 2019-11, a confirming resolution for the designation of an economic revitalization area at 906 N 10th Street for the abatement for ten (10) years on real estate and personal property for Hoosier Pattern, Inc. and RH Warehouse, LLC, was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to introduce Confirming Resolution 2019-11 by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Confirming Resolution 2019-11 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Confirming Resolution 2019-11. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. This will add six additional full-time employees, and retain 50. The total value of personal property is estimated at \$2,599,523.00 and real estate at \$250,710.00.

Rod Renkenberger, Director of the Maumee River Basin Commission handed out an updated map regarding the flood mitigation in Decatur. Renkenberger reported 74 homes have been taken

out of the path of the river during flooding. Update on the current buyout of 18 homes, 16 have accepted the offer, 1 has denied, 1 is in a Sheriff's sale, and 1 is in a federal program. Total homes that have been or will be purchased is 115 since 1996. Mayor Meyer thanked Renkenberger for all the effort he has put forth for the City of Decatur bringing \$7 million or so to the City to take homes out of the flood plain. City Attorney, Tim Baker then read a Proclamation honoring Rod Renkenberger as requested by Mayor Meyer. The Proclamation recognized Rod Renkenberger for his work with the Maumee River Basin Commission for over 20 years and his work with three (3) City administrations. Mayor Meyer then presented a Key to the City to Mr. Renkenberger. Sirk made a motion to make the Proclamation a matter of record. Seconded by Dyer. Motion carried.

Colton Bickel, Director of the Adams County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC) requested an extension to the Temporary Memorandum of Agreement between the City and ACEDC on the Northwest School building to be used for workforce development and training facility. He noted there are no tenants to-date, but work is progressing and they are trying to figure what training, education, and so forth is needed. He shared he has been talking with a couple of higher education institutions trying to get things going for 2020. He has talked with Vincennes University, Indiana Tech, an on-line academy, and latest to Trine University. By consensus, the Temporary Memorandum of Agreement will be extended.

Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright presented Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements for City employees who also have contracts with the City for the year 2020. The employees are Taylor Gage, Anthony Stimpson, Andrew Stimpson, Leo Feasel, Tim Ulman, Corey Hamm, Tyler Fullenkamp, Jeff Sheets, Greg Kitson, Don Bergdall, Tim Baker and Jim Hitchcock. Coshow made a motion to make the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statements a matter of record. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted. These statements will also be filed with the Adams County Clerk's office and uploaded on Gateway for the State Board of Accounts.

The Annual Certification of Elected Officials regarding that they are not violating the City's nepotism policy in hiring and supervision of relatives were distributed, and also the Certification that the Elected Officials are not violating the contracting policy with relatives were signed by the Mayor, Council members, and Clerk-Treasurer. Collier made motion to make the Certifications a matter of record. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Resolution 2019-12, a resolution for the transfer of funds within various City budgets at year's end, was brought forward. It was noted the resolution provides for transfers of money already in the budget and no extra funds. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2019-12 by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Resolution 2019-12 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-12. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright requested to encumber funds from 2019 to the 2020 budget for the Police, Fire, and Street departments. \$13,427.24 to the General fund, \$46,459.00 to the MVH-Street fund, and \$121,488.25 to the LOIT-Public Safety fund. Sirk made a motion to give Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright permission to encumber various funds totaling \$181,374.49 from the 2019 to the 2020 budget. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Sirk made a motion to carry over \$8,500 of façade funds into the CEDIT budget for two projects that were not completed in 2019 to 2020. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

It was shared that earlier in the Board of Public Works and Safety meeting, members had approved the purchase of a new fire engine/rescue truck at the bid amount of \$774,900 allowing Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright to look at the funding methods. Dyer made a motion to approve the purchase of the new fire engine/rescue truck. Seconded by Collier, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Meyer made a request to the Council to allow him, Melissa Norby, and Mayor-elect Dan Rickord to put together a grant for Regional Cities Funding. Mayor Meyer feels good about putting forth the grant and would like to encourage members from Greater Decatur to help as a presentation must be made for the grant. Collier made a motion to allow Mayor Meyer, Melissa Norby, and Mayor-elect Rickord to apply for such funds. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted. Collier shared that he feels the City is in great position to be presented such funds with the funds pledged for Hanna Nuttman, which were not available for earlier inclusion in a proposal.

Resolution 2019-13, a resolution recognizing Cameron Collier as he is ending his term on City Council. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2019-13 in its entirety. Seconded by Dyer. The motion was carried. City Attorney, Tim Baker read Resolution 2019-13 in its entirety. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-13. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Department Heads Input:

Police Chief, Lennie Corral noted several semi-trucks have been going down Second Street and some had been stopped and cited yesterday. He has talked to Bunge regarding the situation.

Fire Chief, Les Marckel wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and stressed the need to be safe especially with burning in fireplaces.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor noted the new water plant was coming along well and was about 180 days ahead of schedule. Hackman also had presented three claims that needed to be paid this year towards the new water plant, which were from Kokosing Industrial for \$680,586.41, and Midwestern Engineers for \$13,600.00, and Extreme Builders for \$16,003.24. By consensus, the claims were approved to be paid.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent reported that the new employee, Anthony Lothridge, is starting on Monday, December 23, 2019.

Don Bergdall, Civil Infrastructure Manager shared that a lot of sewer projects are going on around the City and asked citizens to be patient.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager noted much has been accomplished this past several years and thanked Mayor Meyer and Councilman Collier for their involvement and support.

Bill Karbach, Code Enforcement Officer and Board of Works member thanked Mayor Meyer for having confidence in him.

Council Input:

Councilman Collier thanked the City for eight rewarding years and thanked the Citizens of Decatur for allowing him to serve. He thanked the City Employees, the Department Heads for their proactive work and noted each department and how they are looking ahead. Collier also thanked Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright and her staff for answering his questions, Melissa Norby for her selfless efforts, his fellow Council members, former Mayor Schultz for his foresight and courage to seek a Stellar grant, and Mayor Meyer for taking up those projects that had been handed to him, and

he also thanked the Collier family. Collier encouraged Council and the City to continue working on the projects adopted over the past years and see them to completion. He noted his only regret is that there needs to be defining roles for volunteers and committee members.

City Attorney, Tim Baker presented the Transfer Station Contract for 2020 between the City and the Adams County Solid Waste Management District, which includes a \$.94 increase to \$45.76 per ton of solid waste disposal at the district transfer station. Sirk made a motion to approve the 2020 contract with the Solid Waste District. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

City Attorney Baker shared he had planned to provide a resolution recognizing Mayor Meyer, but Mayor Meyer had asked him not to. Attorney Baker thanked Mayor Meyer for keeping him on as City Attorney, and noted how committed Ken is to Decatur. The Mayor goes to numerous meetings where he is the voice and face of the City. Attorney Baker also thanked the Mayor's wife Mary Jean for sharing him with the City noting that when someone serves in this position, the family serves with them. It was noted that much of the ground work laid as Ken Meyer became Mayor has been accomplished and ground work is now laid for the next few years. It was noted that the tremendous appointments made by Mayor Meyer is a tribute to his leadership.

Mayor Meyer thanked the Department Heads, noting he was proud of them. Then he thanked the people of Decatur for giving him the honor and privilege to serve as Mayor.

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 Collier, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 8:35 P.M.