

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
MAY 15, 2018

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 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 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 May 1, 2018 meeting. There being no corrections, Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes. Murray seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Meyer thanked City Attorney, Tim Baker for being in attendance at this evening's meeting even with the recent passing of his mother.

The first items on the agenda included various CF-1 abatement forms. The first CF-1 abatement form was for Knous Enterprise, LLC (P & B Trucking). The real estate tax abatement for P & B was granted originally in 2013. It was noted the employees were at 30 which is the same, with no additional employees, but the salaries had increased some from \$30,000 to \$52,364. The Mayor shared that P&B has had trouble finding drivers and Murray noted the company has started a driving class in an attempt to get more drivers. Dyer made a motion that Knous Enterprises, LLC (P&B Trucking) was in substantial compliance and the abatement should continue. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

The second CF-1 abatement form to be considered was for Tekni-Plex, Inc. (Dolco Packaging), which was originally filed in 2016. Dan Beer and Jim Baumgartner appeared on behalf of Dolco Packaging. Their employee numbers rose from 220 to 260 and the salaries increased from \$11,100,000 to \$13,300,000, with an additional employees from 20 to 40 with salaries being \$2,200,000. Sirk made a motion to approve the CF-1 personal property tax abatement as Dolco Packaging was in substantial compliance. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

In addition, Tekni-Plex, Inc. (Dolco Packaging) plans to add new equipment in July to be completed by the end of 2018, and is seeking another abatement for 7 years for personal property and 10 years for real estate. Dolco will be adding new manufacturing equipment and a 60,000 sq. ft. warehouse expansion to the existing building. The cost of the equipment, a new egg printer and applied manufacturing tech. lines 4-6 total \$3,510,000. Thus, a Declaratory Resolution was in order. Attorney, Audra Snyder representing Dolco was present and prepared Declaratory Resolution 2018-7, to declare 2110 Patterson Street an Economic Revitalization Area upon the application of Tekni-Plex, Inc D/B/A Dolco Packaging. Sirk made a motion to introduce the Resolution by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was passed, and Declaratory Resolution 2018-7 was read by short title only by City Attorney, Tim Baker. Sirk made a motion to adopt Declaratory Resolution 2018-7 which was seconded by Dyer and adopted. It was announced that a Public Hearing regarding the abatement will be held at the next Council meeting on June 5, 2018. Baker also noted that since this property is also in the TIF District, the Decatur Redevelopment Commission will also need to approve the abatement, which the Commission will meet on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

The next CF-1 abatement form to be approved was for Fresh New Start LLC. The original real estate tax abatement was approved in 2014. Mayor Meyer shared Fresh New Start has about

230 employees in the entire region with 65 employees in Adams County. When the original abatement was filed they estimated employees in Adams County to be 30, and now have 65 with salaries at \$960,000. The number of additional employees in Adams County were estimated at 30, and they currently have 35, with salaries of \$925,000. Dyer made a motion to continue the real estate abatement as Fresh New Start LLC was in substantial compliance. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

Setting up a PayPal account to accept contribution for the Hanna Nuttman Park Renovations Project was next considered. It was noted that PayPal is the most secure way for fund raising via the internet. Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright had checked with the State Board of Accounts regarding setting up such an account, and shared that the SBOA would not take audit exception to the use of Paypal to receive donations online for a city project providing the requirements of IC 36-1-8-11 are met. It would first require approval by City Council, and SBOA recommended that the funds received into the PayPal account be transferred to the appropriate bank account no later than the next business day, and to have good internal controls. Contributions to this project can also be done by check or cash and dropped off at City Hall. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the Clerk-Treasurer to set up a PayPal account for this fund raising project, and to open a new bank account for this project. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Ordinance 2018-10, an ordinance to provide guidelines for gifts received from vendors, was brought forward. The ordinance prohibits the solicitation of gifts for personal pecuniary benefit and limits gifts which may be made to City elected officials and employees and establishes other gifting which is permissible. An elected official or employee may accept a gift as long as the annual aggregate is no more than \$100. Awards and plaques can be accepted as long as the value is \$75 or less. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2018-10 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney, Tim Baker read Ordinance 2018-10 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-10 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Murray, roll call vote showed a 5-0 vote for passage. Mayor Meyer announce that Ordinance 2018-10 has been adopted.

Approval was sought to use \$5,060 from the Riverboat Fund to complete payment for signage at the Nature Preserve. Dyer made a motion to approve using \$5,060 from the Riverboat Fund to pay the remaining cost of the signage. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed with a 4-1 vote with Sirk being the no vote.

Discussion then centered on the closing of the Madison Street Plaza to vehicular traffic. The concern from many was the need to protect the investment. Local businesswoman Missy Burkhalter was in the audience to express concerns regarding parking for businesses along the street and for deliveries. Mayor Meyer shared his desire to work with businesses to work out any problems. After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Sirk to direct City Attorney Baker to draft an ordinance to close Madison Street Plaza to vehicular traffic. Seconded by Coshow the motion was adopted.

An event form for the Memorial Day Parade on May 28, 2018 had been prepared by Fritz Bultemeyer of the American Legion, Adams Post 43. The parade is to be at the Jackson Street Bridge at 10:30 A.M. and proceed to the Peace Monument on the Court House lawn at 11:00 A.M. The event will last until approximately at 1:00 P.M. Sirk made a motion to approve the Memorial Day Parade event. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager provided an update on the Washington Street project. Fleming Excavating, Inc. will finish the boring under the railroad and the water main extension will be finished with preparation to begin with the milling to begin next Wednesday with paving to follow from the railroad to US 27. The paving company will be in a week from Wednesday, May

23, 2018, and will do Washington Street, Winchester Street by Walmart, and other short residential areas.

Gilbert also shared the First Street sidewalks are progressing and the light poles for the east side are to be delivered on Friday. The milling and paving will take place from Jefferson Street to Monroe Street.

Gilbert explained that INDOT was redoing the handicap ramps on US 224/Monroe Street as they must be in code with the Federal Highway Department, which changes about every two (2) years. It was also noted that the traffic light pattern has been out of sync the last six (6) months or so and all will be corrected but may have traffic backed up until repairs and milling is completed.

Gilbert shared the need to replace the 2003 Street Sweeper which manufacturers suggest last about 10 years. The sweeper has had numerous problems and has needed numerous repairs over the last few years. He shared that due to steel tariffs the 2019 sweepers would greatly increase in price. Indiana has a state bid for the exact machine we have with great savings. The state bid cost is \$216,694 and Gilbert feels the trade-in value is \$15-20,000. It was recommended that Gilbert and the Clerk-Treasurer research financing options and report at the next meeting on June 5, 2018.

#### Department Heads:

Police Chief, Lennie Corral shared that the officers are now carrying their new Glock 17's. He noted that Officer Hamm completed his K9 training. Corral also shared it was a privilege for him and four other police officers to serve as security for former quarterback Terry Bradshaw and his wife during a recent appearance in Fort Wayne.

Jim Hitchcock, Assistant Fire Chief noted the military flags are being placed on the light poles along Monroe and Second Streets. He announced the Board of Public Works and Safety had approved four (4) new volunteers for the department which puts them at full staff. The four (4) volunteers approved were Arlo Geels, Trevor Gray, James Sheets, and Blake Adams.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor noted things were going well with the new software, but still aren't ready for the adoption of the ordinance. Dyer then made a motion to again table Ordinance 2017-15 regarding liability for invoicing city services by the utilities office. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Supt., shared he had attended Floodplain Management training last week.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager shared work is continuing on various projects and praised the Primco employees on doing a great job on the Madison Street Plaza project. Gilbert commented that 90% of Primco's crew are local residents, and are taking pride in the project.

Melissa Norby, Community Development Director shared the Farmer's Market is to begin this Thursday, DeKegger tickets are now on sale, and 436 tickets had been sold for The Mersey Beatles Concert which netted a profit of \$6,200, which will go towards the Hanna Nuttman Ball Park renovations. Norby reminded everyone to please stay off the Madison Street Plaza while it's under construction for safety reasons.

#### Council Input:

Murray announced that a bounce house will be sponsored and set up for the June 23, 2018 Island Vibe Concert.

Coshow inquired about cleaning of the river under the bridges and was told the County was responsible for one area and INDOT for the other and both are aware of the need.

Public Input/Questions:

Al Bedwell inquired about the condition of the railroad tracks and Jeremy Gilbert responded that those on Washington and Second Streets would be worked on this year.

Coshow 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 Murray, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 9:00 P.M.