

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 18, 2011

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 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 Councilwoman Barb Engle, Councilmen Charlie Cook, Bill Crone, Matt Dyer 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 meeting was called to order by Mayor John Schultz. The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from January 4th meeting. There were no corrections or amendments. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Cook seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Adams County Veteran's Officer, Vincent Quinones contacted the Mayor for an annual donation of \$500.00 toward flags and markers for memorials. Meyer made a motion to approve the donation from the common council fund. Dyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Mayor received a letter from Larry G. Carty, Business Manager/Treasurer of North Adams Community Schools in reference to placing a referendum question on the ballot in the May 2011 municipal election. Attached to the letter is a copy of the approved General Referendum Resolution to the Adams County Council requesting that the question be placed on the May ballot, and also requesting that the County Council certify the question to be voted on at the referendum to the Adams County Election Board. Engle made a motion to make the letter a matter of record. Cook seconded the motion. Motion carried.

James P. Hitchcock, Asst. Fire Chief has completed an Uniform Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement for contracted work he may be awarded to by the City for concrete work under Hitchcock Concrete, Inc. who he and his wife Rita Hitchcock are owners. Crone made a motion to make the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement a matter of record. Engle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Schultz mentioned Decatur is looking into possibly being on Facebook. The Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer will meet with Heather Cruse, website developer. The Mayor will also talk with the Department Heads to get their input. Mayor commented this may be a good way to communicate with the public.

The Mayor received a request from the Chamber of Commerce for a donation of \$150.00 for the Annual Chamber Dinner to be held on February 3rd. Cook made a motion to approve donating \$150.00 from common council funds, Crone seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Schultz announced the Board of Works members appointed Mark Cook to fill the position of Sergeant Tim Berkshire who will be retiring effective April 1st.

Street Commissioner, Jeremy Gilbert announced the City was awarded the INDOT grant for replacing street signs. The grant is for \$291,000.00, with a 10% match. INDOT will be taking bids from contractors for material and placement of signs in late July or early August 2011. Project is to be completed in eight weeks. Informational signs are also included in the grant. Gilbert is asking the public for their input for the informational signs. For example, directional signs to City Hall or to other public buildings.

The Mayor reported appropriation balances that were reverted back for 2010; General fund \$614,691, MVH-Street fund \$162,478, and the Parks & Recreation fund \$99,622. An additional \$133,000 was reverted back in 2010 from 2009. Mayor Schultz thanked the Department Heads for not spending all of their budgets.

Councilwoman Engle announced the final site plan for Prime, Inc. was approved at the Plan Commission meeting. The Mayor added the real estate closing for Prime, Inc. also took place today, who purchased two lots in Decatur's Industrial Park III-A.

Councilman Crone reported he was contacted by a citizen who was unhappy about being ticketed for over parking during a big snow. The citizen felt there should be a concession for snow. No action was taken.

Councilman Dyer remarked, since Decatur will be celebrating 175th birthday to remind citizens of city ordinances by cleaning up their properties. Councilman Cook added this was something discussed at the Plan Commission that the ordinances are only followed when a complaint is filed. It was suggested to hire a Zoning Code Officer. The City Attorney suggested if the city would like to hire a Zoning Code Officer; then this position will need to be added in the budget. But for now, Roger Gage, Building Supt. can perform these duties until this position can be filled.

Engle made a motion to allow the claims as presented. Cook seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, Dyer made a motion for adjournment. Cook seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.