

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
MARCH 2, 2010

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, March 2, 2010 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 Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from February 16th meeting. There were no corrections or amendments, so Engle made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed, Dyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Mayor received a request from WZBD radio to close a portion of Jackson St. from Highway 224 East to the bridge and to close the Riverside parking lot on Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> for an Easter Egg Hunt. Engle made a motion to approve the request, Crone seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Mayor announced the Department Heads are reviewing an application to be completed by vendors for special events, and will present to Council for their approval at a future meeting.

Next on the agenda was the Final Reading for Ordinance No. 2010-1, an ordinance reducing the speed limit on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street from Jackson Street to Adams Street from 30 mph to 25 mph, and also reducing the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph in Stratton Way Addition. The Ordinance list maximum speed limits on certain City Streets and maximum speed limits on City Streets adjacent to or near schools located within the City. The City Attorney noted a change in Exhibit "A" Everhart Drive from Rod to Grant should be listed in Exhibit "B" under School Speed Zones. There were no other comments or corrections, so Meyer made a motion to Place the amended Ordinance on Third Reading by short title only. Motion was seconded by Dyer and passed by consent.

Meyer motioned to Adopt Ordinance 2010-1, seconded by Dyer. Roll call for Adoption of Ordinance 2010-1 was Cook, Crone, Dyer, Engle, and Meyer in favor and none opposed.

A discussion whether or not to allow permit parking downtown took place. Downtown business owners, Dan Butcher and Rick Sovine were present to report their concerns. The City Attorney gave Council different options, once council makes their decision a public hearing will be held to give the public an opportunity to comment. Mayor remarked if employees would park on the 1<sup>st</sup> Street parking lot, which is free parking all day, there wouldn't be a parking problem. Councilman Dyer commented the city needs to provide convenient parking on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, and parking for employees, the city needs to continue with parking control otherwise there would be no parking available. Councilman Meyer reported he had the Parking Control Officer conduct a survey on different days and different times to see how many parking spaces are available. The survey showed there were plenty of parking spaces available for people to park. Councilman Meyer added if people are willing to walk, there wouldn't be a parking problem. Councilman Cook remarked the parking issues started with complaints from Merchants wanting designated parking. Cook suggested opening up the back lot south of the alley on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street for free parking (first come, first serve) and leave the other parking as is. Cook commented by having permit parking wouldn't be solving

the parking issue, since the city would have additional cost in signage and permits, and it would also be more difficult for the Parking Attendant to control. Board of Works member, Bill Karbach commented he would like to see the city try permit parking and see how it works, Karbach spoke with several people and they are willing to pay for parking. A resident who lives in the apartment above Fifth Third Bank also remarked he would like to see the permit parking be available. Business owner, Rick Sovine suggested sending letters instructing Merchants where they should park. The Mayor asked Council members for a motion, no motions were made. The Mayor then proceeded with the next item on the agenda.

Mayor reported 300 Comprehensive Plan surveys were returned. A public hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Riverside Center to discuss the results of the survey.

Mayor Schultz reminded everyone the deadline to apply for the School Board appointment is on Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m., anyone who lives in District 3 can apply in the Clerk-Treasurer's office at City Hall.

The Mayor announced Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup> is Spotlight on Decatur. Council members will judge booths at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Schultz announced the change for heavy trash is now two (2) times a year. First collection will be the week of April 5<sup>th</sup>, and second collection will be in September.

Roger Gage reported the Census banners, posters, are out now. Census questionnaires will be mailed March 15<sup>th</sup> through April 15<sup>th</sup>. The questionnaire has 10 questions, it will take 10 minutes to complete, and the results will last for 10 years.

Chris Krull, Parks & Recreation Leisure Services Director handed out flyers to promote Decatur-Adams County Family Friendly Spring Break Activities to take place March 22 to March 24.

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. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

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John L. Schultz, Mayor of the  
City of Decatur, Indiana

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phyllis J. Whitright, Clerk-Treasurer