

CITY OF DECATUR
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY MINUTES
MARCH 3, 2009

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety met on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers. Members present were Mayor John Schultz and Board Members Bill Karbach and Ken Meyer. Also present was City Attorney, Tim Baker and Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor John Schultz. The Clerk-Treasurer emailed the minutes from February 17th. There were no corrections or amendments offered, so Meyer made a motion to approve the minutes as received, Karbach seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Street Commissioner, Jeremy Gilbert reviewed the bids for street material, equipment and labor. Only one (1) bid was received for asphalt and street material, which was from Meshberger Brothers Stone Corp & LICA Construction Corp. Gilbert recommended accepting this bid. Meyer made a motion to accept the bid from Meshberger Brothers Stone Corp. & LICA Construction Corp. Karbach seconded the motion. Motion carried. Details of this bid are on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's office.

Gilbert reported not all bids for equipment rental had completed the proper paperwork required, due to the bidders being misinformed. Gilbert explained bids for equipment are used if a disaster, such as, flood, tornado, etc. would occur. The City Attorney explained to the board members their options on when a bid is not submitted correctly. Meyer made a motion to reject all equipment rental bids, due to some bidders being misinformed, and then re-advertise to accept bids for April 7th Board of Works meeting. Karbach seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Clerk-Treasurer received partial payment estimates from Commonwealth Engineers, Inc. who has reviewed and recommends payment #7 for \$388,823.79, and payment #8 for \$399,242.93 to Thieneman Construction, Inc. for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project. Also submitted were invoices for engineering services for this project from Commonwealth Engineers, Inc. totaling \$26,851.00. This project is 79.69% complete. Meyer made a motion to approve the payments requested, Karbach seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Mayor was contacted by a Decatur resident wanting to do volunteer work for the city. The City Attorney will check on the requirements of volunteer workers.

The Clerk-Treasurer handed out information to the Board of Works members and the Council members on donations paid from the Common Council fund and the Mayor's fund in 2008. The Mayor had discussed cutting back on budgets with the Department Heads. It was suggested to eliminate having the City's annual Christmas party and also eliminating giving Decatur Dollars to employees. This would save approximately \$4,900.00. Council members will review the list of donations and discuss at another meeting where to cut back.

The Mayor reported it has been 4-5 months since Umbaugh presented the rate study on outside sewer rates. The Mayor has not heard back from the Oakwood Association who was going to seek legal advice on how to handle delinquent sewer bills in that addition. The City Attorney talked with the Oakwood residents and informed them they can have a meter installed if they feel they are being overbilled on sewage.

The Clerk-Treasurer was instructed to contact Anthem Insurance representative to attend the Board of Works meeting either on March 17th or April 7th to discuss different insurance plans before renewal on August 1st. Council members will also discuss wages and benefits for 2010.

Councilman Crone reported he spoke with County Commissioner, Ed Coil about having a Countywide Library District. Crone stated Coil informed him the County Commissioners will not act on this unless they hear from the Township Trustees if they are in favor of a Countywide Library District. Crone stated Coil has not heard from any Township Trustees.

Due to lack of time, the Agreement between the City of Decatur and North Adams Community Schools for a School Resource Officer was tabled until March 17th Board of Works meeting. Councilman Crone commented in the agreement, the job description should be written the SRO is a City Police Patrol Officer, who is on a school assignment. Final determination on the School Resource Officer will be on Tuesday, March 17th.

Councilman Cook commented to the Mayor when Council members were reviewing the claims against the city, council members suggested using city employees to fix minor repairs instead of hiring contractors to save on cost. Council members also requested budgets from Utility departments. The Mayor will check on how other cities prepare budget for Utilities departments, and report back to Council members.

County Councilmen Randy Colclasure and Tom Krueckeberg were present to discuss LOIT Tax (local option income tax) with the Board of Works members and Council members. Colclasure explained it is a new tax, but will offset the property tax revenue loss. The county has the majority vote, but wanted some input from city officials on whether or not they were in favor of the tax. Once the LOIT tax is implemented it cannot be rescinded. The deadline to implement the tax for 2010 is April 1, 2009. The Mayor commented the LOIT tax is worth looking into, but suggested to the County Councilmen not to pass this tax just to make the deadline, the tax needs to be explained correctly to the public. The Mayor will get information to the city Council members on the LOIT tax. Once the County has their public meeting explaining the LOIT tax, the Mayor and city council members will announce their views of the tax at another council meeting.

There being no further business, Karbach made a motion for adjournment. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.