

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
MARCH 16, 2010

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, March 16, 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 March 2nd meeting. There were no corrections or amendments, so Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed, Cook seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Engle made a motion to make the proof of publication for the City's Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending 2009 a matter of record. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Schultz announced the seven (7) applicants for the North Adams Community School Board, Robert Thomas Jr., Tim Klingensmith, Dennis Brunner, Phillip Geimer, Doug Anderson, Tim Ehlerding, Jane Drummer. The Council member will interview the applicants on Tuesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers. The Mayor will contact the applicants for interviews. At the April 6<sup>th</sup> council meeting, Council members will appoint one of the applicants.

The Mayor reported a Public Hearing was held at Riverside Center on Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> for public comment and input on the proposed Comprehensive Plan. The consultant hired by the City, Wightman-Petrie, designated six (6) categories of interest and asked the people in attendance to rank objectives under each category in priority of importance. The information that shows these categories will remain at Riverside Center for public input for a couple of weeks.

Mayor Schultz reminded everyone to complete the Census form that has been mailed.

Utilities Auditor, Dan Rickord reported there is suspect that meters are being tampered with, wanted to remind people that this is a crime.

Mayor Schultz asked for any comments from the public. City resident, Bob Becker thanked Police Chief, Ken Ketzler for speaking to a group of senior citizens about scams. Becker also questioned whether or not the sewer odor at his residence in Deer Run addition was caused by Deans Foods. The Mayor informed Becker the Wastewater Supt. has been working with Deans Foods to eliminate this problem, if the odor continues, Becker was instructed to contact the Mayor, or the Police Dept. or his council member, Bill Crone. Becker also mentioned the vandalism downtown. Council member, Matt Dyer commented citizens need to report if they see the vandalism happening.

City Attorney, Tim Baker reported on the presentation he attended at the county on the effects of the property tax caps. Baker mentioned there is a misconception that the tax caps will reduce everyone's tax bills, which is not true. There will be very few homes to benefit from the tax caps. North Adams Community Schools and the City of Decatur will see the largest revenue losses. The Indiana General Assembly approved having the caps placed in the State Constitution, which will now be placed on the ballot for Indiana voters this fall. It was suggested to hold a public meeting at City Hall for County Auditor, Bill Borne to help educate the public on the effects of the property tax caps.

The Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright announced Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Patty Vergara will be retiring after 33 ½ years. Vergara's last work day will be June 18<sup>th</sup>. Vergara will begin to train her replacement, Wendi Gephart on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

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. Engle seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.