

CITY OF DECATUR
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY MINUTES
MAY 19, 2009

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety met on Tuesday, May 19, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers. Members present were Mayor John Schultz and Board members Ken Meyer and Bill Karbach. 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 May 5th. There were no corrections or amendments offered, so Karbach made a motion to approve the minutes as received, Meyer seconded the motion. Motion was unanimous.

The City Attorney reported he spoke with Andrew Briggs of Bank of Geneva and recommended the city to pay off the contract with Gale and Donna Nidlinger for the 450 N property. The bank will calculate the interest up to the date of the closing. Once the contract is paid, Attorney, Dave Baumgartner will release the deed being held in escrow. Meyer made a motion to pay off the contract with Nidlinger's, and to get the deed to the property. Karbach seconded the motion. Motion carried. This will be paid from the CEDIT fund, approximately \$180,000.00 is still due, plus interest.

The city received tax bills for the new Street Department on Elm Street. The taxes are over \$14,000.00. This is taxable since the city is buying on contract. If this is the case, the board members may consider paying this contract off. The Clerk-Treasurer will check with the County to make sure this is taxable to the city.

The mayor reported the Utilities Auditor, Bob Ladd authorized changing the hourly rate of the utility clerk, Kate Brickley to the meter readers hourly rate while filling in for the full-time meter readers vacation without prior approval of the Board of Works members. The mayor will inform the department heads at their next meeting, any changes to pay must receive prior approval from the Board of Works members before making any changes. A change to the personnel policy will be done for the next Board of Works meeting. Karbach also mentioned having a range of pay in the salary ordinance. Meyer made a motion to make this change a matter of record. Karbach seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Due to the many calls received about tall grass, the mayor asked the Board of Works members to come up with ways to handle yards not being mowed. As of now, the city's ordinance reads, the grass needs to be 12 inches or higher before the city can do anything about it, and then it is very difficult getting reimbursed for the cost.

Commonwealth Engineers, Inc. prepared a letter recommending payment #7 to Fleming Excavating for Division C – Sanitary Sewer System Rehabilitation – Lift Station Improvements in the amount of \$43,482.13. Karbach made a motion to approve payment #7 for Fleming Excavating. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried. Also submitted was change order #3F for Flemings Excavating an increase of \$43,453.11 for generator modifications, storm sewer work, and final adjustments to quantities. With these changes the new contract price totaled \$823,831.99. Meyer made a motion to approve change order #3F, Karbach seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Clerk-Treasurer will submit the payment request and the change order to the State Revolving Fund Loan Program.

The Clerk-Treasurer informed the Board of Works members the original contract to Commonwealth Engineers for the three (3) sewer projects totaled \$1,021,000.00, to-date \$908,411.00 has been paid, with a balance of \$112,589.00.

The Council members attending the Board of Works meeting, and R. "Skip" Gard handed out a folder of information about Sports 2 College, Inc. Gard explained the organization is to provide the Middle School through early College age youth in Decatur and surrounding areas with sports training. The program consists of nine steps to groom each player into a more positive, healthy, and athletic person. Gard goal is to design a sports facility in Decatur using the GE building location on 9th and Dayton Street, which would generate revenue to the city. Gard has met with Adams County Economic Development Director, Larry Macklin and the Mayor about this facility. If anyone is interested or have any questions or comments, they should contact R. "Skip" Gard at 888-993-5558.

The Clerk-Treasurer reported she was contacted by Anthem Insurance, and George Bernier is no longer working for Anthem. The city's new sales representative will be Lisa Seifert. The August renewal amount will be increased by \$95,000 or 11%. No decision was made at this time.

Jeff Rowe of H.J. Umbaugh & Associates proposed a strategic and financial plan for the city and utilities over a five year period. The Mayor, Clerk-Treasurer and the City Attorney met with Rowe previously concerning the financial situation for the city and utilities, due to economy and the property tax reform. The City Attorney commented in 2010 the city will need to cut expenses or raise revenues to about \$1 million to maintain a cash balance. Umbaugh will look at every fund when laying out a proposal. Umbaugh can do a rate study and have it finished by August. The cost of the strategic and financial plan is \$23,500, which can be paid from various funds. Karbach made a motion to approve hiring H.J. Umbaugh & Associates subject to council approval of the funding. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried. Rowe will give a Power Point presentation at the council meeting.

The Mayor reported Mark Greishop will start a Community Garden on Salem Road, with approximately 40 plots. The only contribution the city will provide is to till the ground.

There being no further business, Meyer made a motion for adjournment. Karbach seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.