

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 20, 2008

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, May 20, 2008 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 and Councilmen Charlie Cook, Bill Crone, Matt Dyer, and Ken Meyer were in attendance. City Attorney, Tim Baker was also present.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the May 6th council meeting. With no addition or corrections, Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as received. Cook seconded the motion. All council members were in favor. Motion carried.

Bill Carpenter, a Scout Leader introduced four (4) Scouts who were attending the meeting to obtain their Citizenship Merit badge.

Anne Butcher, Wastewater Supt. reported on the improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The improvements include elimination of CSO's, Rehabilitation of five (5) lift stations, a new digester system, and a new lab and office facility. Jeff Rowe of Umbaugh was present to explain the sewer rate increase to fund these projects. Umbaugh prepared a rate study; the total project cost is \$9,276,000.00, which includes bids awarded to contractors, engineering and legal cost, and bond counsel. This is a federally mandated project, no funding with grants are available. The city will have to pay for these projects, by increasing the sewer rates, which will be funded through a State Revolving Fund Loan for 20 years. The proposed average repayment of bonds is \$668,602.10 per year, and \$965,700.00 additional revenue is needed to cover expenses per year. An average inside the city rate will increase by \$11.58 per month to \$27.94, an average outside the city rate will increase by \$17.44 per month to \$42.10. Comments received were from Councilman Cook who remarked that communities are being forced to make these improvements, and since Decatur is making these improvements now, shows Decatur is moving ahead. The Mayor commented Decatur is 2-3 years ahead of other communities with these same mandates. Councilman Meyer pointed out that Decatur rates have been low compared to other communities. There were no other comments, so then Ordinance No. 2008-4, an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 1995-8 and Ordinance No. 2004-6 of the City of Decatur, Indiana was introduced. Meyer motioned to Place the Ordinance on First Reading by short title only. Motion was seconded by Dyer and passed by consent. The City Attorney, Tim Baker then read Ordinance No. 2008-4 by short title only.

Meyer motioned to Pass Ordinance 2008-4 on First Reading. Dyer seconded the motion. The roll call was five (5) members voting in favor and none against.

Meyer motioned to Place the Ordinance on Second Reading by short title only. Motion was seconded by Dyer and passed by consent.

Meyer motioned to Pass Ordinance 2008-4 on Second Reading. Dyer seconded the motion. The roll call was five (5) members voting in favor and none against.

Meyer made a motion to Table Ordinance 2008-4 until the next Common Council meeting on June 3rd, seconded by Dyer. All Council Members were in favor. Motion carried.

The Mayor received a request from the Callithumpian Parade Committee for either a \$1,000.00 or \$2,000.00 donation. The Committee was requesting a larger donation than last year's due to increase in expenses. It was discussed to keep the same as last year's donation, due to the shortfall of revenues from the property tax reforms. Engle made a motion to donate \$1,000.00 from the common council fund, Cook seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Mayor announced at the Board of Works meeting Fleming Excavating, Inc. was awarded the low bid for the Industrial Park Phase III-A Project. The bids received ranged from \$718,000.00 to \$906,000.00.

The Mayor informed the Council Members he received a proposal from Martin Riley, an Architect and Engineering firm from Fort Wayne who toured the city facilities to see how the city can use their facilities more efficiently. The proposal is to evaluate and make recommendations for space utilization, and develop three schemes along with a preliminary opinion of cost for the schemes and present the information to the City in both a written format and presentation. This proposal is not to exceed \$7,425.00. The Mayor requested using the Cumulative Capital Development (CCD) Fund for this proposal. Cook made a motion to approve hiring Martin Riley, and to pay for the evaluation from the CCD fund. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion was unanimous.

The Mayor announced INDOT awarded the contract to LICA Construction for widening the intercession at US Highway 224 East and Piqua Road in the amount of \$556,000.00.

Police Chief, Ken Ketzler reported Officer Jim Franze has completed tagging approximately 100 abandoned vehicles; only two vehicles had to be towed.

Water Supt., Jim Inskeep reported the North Water Tower prep work is behind schedule. Interior work is being done first, which has a lot of welding to be done.

Street Commissioner, Jeremy Gilbert reported 11th Street repair will be completed Wednesday evening. Heavy Trash pickup will begin the first full week in June.

Steve Krull, Parks & Recreation Supt., announced coming events sponsored by the Decatur Parks and Recreation Department on June 7th the 2nd Annual Touch-A-Truck will be at Riverside Center, the City Pool will open on June 9th, and June 14th a picnic in the park, and June 28th will be the Kids Triathlon for ages 5-12. Anyone interested should contact the Parks and Recreation Department for more details.

Councilman Cook mentioned the railroad tracks on 13th Street is in need of repair. The Street Commissioner, Jeremy Gilbert will contact INDOT.

Councilman Dyer received a complaint about a dilapidated home on 8th Street. Dyer was in question of what classifies a property for condemnation. The Mayor will have Building Supt., Roger Gage take a look at the property and notify the owner.

The Mayor announced the Board of Works members approved hiring Andrew W. Stimpson as new volunteer firefighter at the Board of Works meeting.

The Mayor reported there will be no change for disposal fees to the Adams County Solid Waste District for 2009.

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

There being no further business, Meyer made a motion for adjournment. Engle seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.