

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 5, 2011

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, July 5, 2011 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 meeting was called to order by Mayor John Schultz. The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from June 21st meeting. There were no corrections or amendments. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Cook seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Raises for 2012 were discussed. City employees have not received raises in the last two (2) years. Councilman Dyer complimented the Department Heads for reducing their spending the last couple of years, which has allowed raises in 2012. Dyer recommended a flat \$1,000 raise. The raise would be for full-time employees, elected officials, and pensioners. The Mayor explained the council members pay is calculated on 10% of the Mayor's salary, so if \$1,000 raise is given, then council would receive \$100. Engle made a motion to approve a \$1,000 raise for 2012 with final approval from the State. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

John Kintz from Kintz Insurance discussed health/dental insurance renewal with PHP Insurance. The renewal is a 15% increase for health and 8% increase for dental. Kintz recommended the City to go to a 4-Tier plan instead of the current 2-Tier plan. Kintz commented that there is no incentive for spouses not to be on the insurance, since there is no cost to the employee. By going to a 4-Tier plan it will help reduce claims. The Mayor added that a single plan cost the City \$495.00 per month, and a family plan cost the City \$1,495.00 per month. This gives an employee with a family \$1,000 more in benefits. Kintz recommended adjusting the cost to the employee on a family plan to \$150.00 per month, since it is the most expensive plan. Meyer made a motion to go to a 4-Tier plan (single, employee & spouse, employee & children, family) Engle seconded the motion. Motion carried. Effective August 1st, the benefits will remain the same; the cost to an employee will be \$1 a year for a single plan, \$75 per month for employee & spouse coverage, and \$75 per month for employee & children coverage, and \$150 per month for family coverage. Crone made a motion to amend the City's policy that if an employee's spouse or eligible child has insurance coverage with their employer, than that becomes their primary coverage. Cook seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Cook made a motion to table appointing members to the Redevelopment Commission till the next Common Council meeting on July 19th. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Mayor received two (2) appraisals for the property at 167 N. 2nd Street (former Dwayne's Sweeper Shop). The appraisal from Steven J. Kreigh Enterprises was \$33,900.00. The appraisal from Bradley A. Butler of Butler Appraisal Services, Inc. was \$32,000.00. Dyer made a motion to make the appraisals a matter of record. Crone seconded the motion. Motion carried. Crone made a motion for Mayor Schultz and the City Attorney to meet with the property owner and negotiate a price to purchase the property. Cook seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Schultz read a letter from INDOT congratulating the City of Decatur who will be awarded \$1.3 million in federal funds for improvements to Piqua Road & E. Monroe Street. The City will commit approximately \$340,000 towards this project, with construction to begin in 2014.

The Mayor announced an informational meeting will be held on August 16th, and a Public Hearing on August 30th for the raising of Highway 224 East project.

Adam Eguia, organizer of the 4th of July Fireworks was present to thank the City for all their help in making the 19th Fireworks event a success. The only problem was with their PA system. Eguia will make improvements for next year.

Rev. Jim Splawn of Huntington requested permission to have a tent revival on 7th Street at the train depot parking lot on August 18, 19, 20 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mayor informed Mr. Splawn the Kekionga Festival will be taking place then, and another church may be doing something similar. The Mayor will contact Jim Compton and the Park & Recreation Supt. to see if this conflicts with what is being planned for the Kekionga Festival and then report back to Mr. Splawn. Another concern about the 7th Street location was the congestion that could impact fire response.

Chris Krull, Parks & Recreation Leisure Services Director requested closing a portion of East Monroe Street to Ogg Street on Saturday, July 23rd from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. for the 5th Annual Kids Triathlon. Crone made a motion to approve the street closure, Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

City Attorney, Tim Baker mentioned he will be meeting with the Department Heads in the near future to make them aware of the many new state laws that took effect July 1st.

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. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.