

CITY OF DECATUR  
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY MINUTES  
JULY 21, 2009

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety met on Tuesday, July 21, 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 July 7th. There were no corrections or amendments offered, so Karbach made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed, Meyer seconded the motion. Motion was unanimous.

The Council members attended the Board of Works meeting.

The Mayor explained that Dean Foods are over their limit in sending waste to Decatur's sewer system. The Mayor and Wastewater Supt., Anne Butcher met with Dean Foods on Monday to discuss the problem. The City will allow Dean Foods waste as long as it's not over the limit. The Mayor was advised by Dean Foods they are spending \$500,000 to help the situation. Butcher will contact Commonwealth Engineers whether or not this helps the problem, Butcher should have an answer next week. The City Attorney commented Butcher sent a letter to Dean Foods on June 23<sup>rd</sup> for being over four times the limit. The City ordinance allows being over the limit, but a surcharge is applied. The Mayor commented that what Dean Food's is trying to improve will be beneficial to the city. The Mayor will keep the Board of Works and Council Members informed of the progress.

The Mayor announced the boat launch at Kekionga Lake was approved at the July 13<sup>th</sup> Park Board meeting.

Complaints on dog owners not cleaning up after their dogs on sidewalks downtown, in the parks and at River Greenway Trail was discussed. The mayor asked for the Board Members and Council to think about coming up with some suggestions on how to resolve the problem. This will be discussed in the future.

The Anthem representative will be at Riverside Center on Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> to inform the employees of any changes to the Health, Dental & Prescription Drug coverage.

A discussion of whether or not to allow spending for a City annual party and Decatur Dollars, or let the money revert back to the General fund was discussed. Councilman Meyer commented the Decatur Dollars is used by all the employees, where the party is not utilized by all the employees. Councilwoman Engle suggested cutting the cost in half by doing away with the party and continuing the Decatur Dollars. No decision was made at this time; this will be discussed at the August 4<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

City Attorney, Tim Baker prepared an ordinance for golf cart use on city streets. Baker read and explained what is required to operate a golf cart in the city. A police officer will have to go to the resident's home to register the golf cart, which will be \$30 a year. Karbach made a motion to approve the ordinance as prepared and recommend the ordinance be approved by council members. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Street Commissioner, Jeremy Gilbert was present to discuss heavy trash pickup. Council recommended cutting back heavy trash pickup from four times a year to two times a year. Gilbert suggested cutting out the December heavy trash pickup because of weather. Gilbert also suggested keeping the schedule as is for 2009, and then making the change in 2010. It was decided to change the heavy trash pickup schedule for 2010 to twice a year in April and September. This will be discussed at the next council meeting on August 4<sup>th</sup> so the ordinance can be amended. Gilbert also recommended getting another leaf vac machine to help get leaves up quicker. The cost of another leaf vac is estimated at \$32,500. No decision was made.

Police Chief, Ken Ketzler handed out the current law on curfew. Ketzler commented if parents allow kids out, there isn't anything the police can do. The State determines how cities handle curfew. The Board of Works and Council members were to review the law and then address this at another meeting.

Board Member, Ken Meyer reported he has contacted Heather Eichhorn about doing an online survey. Meyer said Eichhorn informed him that this could be done, but with online surveys it is hard to regulate single votes per person. There is a way to conduct a survey online by one vote per city bill account number; however it may cost more than what the city wants to spend on a survey. Meyer suggested that the city draft a survey and include it in the monthly utility bills sometime in the future.

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.