

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 16, 2011

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, August 16, 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 August 2nd meeting. Engle corrected the fourth paragraph; the transfer within the Parks & Recreation Department's budget should read **from** salaries, not for salaries. Engle made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Corey Miller from Schenkel & Shultz was present to discuss the proposed City/County Building project. Miller explained the next step for this project is to meet with all the departments involved and develop a floor plan, and to establish cost and prepare steps for bonding the project. Miller is requesting a commitment from the City for their portion of the project for preliminary engineering. The City's portion is estimated at \$20,000. Mayor Schultz asked for any comments from Council. Meyer commented the City is in need of a new City Hall and Police Department. Dyer commented that by doing this project shows the City is investing in ourselves, and we are keeping the offices downtown. Mayor Schultz commented that by combining the buildings this will save both the City and County money. Mayor Schultz and the City Attorney will attend the next County Commissioner meeting to show the City's support for this project. Crone made a motion to proceed with the preliminary engineering, Meyer seconded the motion. Motion was unanimous.

The Mayor received a request from Bunge to close a portion of N. 2nd Street from Bunge's office building to Lewis Street to repair the railroad crossing for one week beginning on Monday, August 29th. Dyer made a motion to approve the street closure, Crone seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Schultz received from the Fall Fest Committee of St. Mary's of the Assumption Catholic Church a request to close 4th Street from Monroe to Madison St. on Saturday, Sept. 17th, and also on Sunday, Sept. 18th, and to close Madison St. from 4th to 5th Street on Sunday, Sept. 18th from 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Also to close the alley between 3rd and 4th St. from Monroe St. to Madison Street. Crone made a motion to approve the request. Engle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Larry Isch was present to encourage everyone to attend Decatur's 175th Celebration and the Kekionga Festival. Events will begin August 19th thru August 28th. The Mayor thanked Mr. Isch and Max Miller for their involvement in organizing the events.

The Mayor announced the second Public Hearing for the demolition of the former street department garage building will be at the September 6th council meeting.

Dwayne Skaggs owner of the former Dwayne's Sweeper Shop was present. Skaggs questioned if the City is still going to purchase his building at 167 N. 2nd Street. Skaggs was informed that the Board of

Works members had discussed at their meeting that the environmental study had showed there is asbestos in the building that needs to be removed and disposed, which will cost approximately \$14,000. The Board gave the Mayor authority to negotiate with Skaggs to cost share the removal of the asbestos. Skaggs agreed to reduce the purchase price of the building by \$5,000. Skaggs also asked for an extension to remove his belongings from the building to September 9th. Meyer made a motion to proceed with purchasing the building at the reduced price, and to have the City Attorney prepare an addendum to the real estate agreement dated July 19, 2011 to reflect the purchase price of the building to \$25,000, and the Closing take place on September 9, 2011. Engle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Larry Isch, Park Board President reported the Park Board will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, Sept. 1, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Riverside Center to discuss the results of the survey for the Parks Comprehensive Plan.

Engle made a motion for the Decatur Redevelopment Commission to hold an organizational meeting on August 30, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers. Dyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Engle reported the Plan Commission members approved at their meeting the final site plan for the Red Barn Veterinary Clinic on 11th Street.

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 7:50 p.m.