

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 19, 2010

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 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 Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from January 5th meeting. There were no corrections or amendments, so Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed, Cook seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ben and Kristine McCormick were present to announce a campaign to increase public awareness of Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week to be February 7th-14th. Kristine handed out pamphlets to council members explaining CHD. Kristine also shared her personal story of losing a baby with this disease. The Mayor then read a Proclamation to support the campaign of Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week.

Frederick J. Schultz, who serves on the Park Board and John L. Schultz, Mayor of the City of Decatur, has completed the annual Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement, attached with the contract between the City of Decatur and Baker & Schultz, Inc. for property on Elm Street which was purchased for the Street Department. Cook made a motion to make the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement a matter of record. Engle seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Clerk-Treasurer will send a copy to the Adams County Clerk, and a copy to the State Board of Accounts.

The City Attorney, Tim Baker prepared Consent to Representation form for Council's approval. Baker being appointed as City Attorney of Decatur desires to retain a private law practice, and represents the Adams County Solid Waste Management District and Baker & Schultz, Inc., who have contractual relationships with the City of Decatur. Council members and clients consent in writing to such mutual representation and provide no conflict of interest from mutual representation. Dyer made a motion to make the Consent to Representation a matter of record. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

James P. Hitchcock, who is the appointed Deputy Fire Chief for Decatur Fire Department has completed the annual Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement. James Hitchcock owner of Hitchcock Concrete, Inc. has been contracted with the city to perform concrete work for property owners utilizing the City's Sidewalk Program. Meyer made a motion to make the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement a matter of record. Dyer seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Clerk-Treasurer will send a copy to the Adams County Clerk, and a copy to the State Board of Accounts.

Previously at the Board of Works meeting, the Board members approved the Annual CEDIT Fund Agreement for 2010 with the Adams County Economic Development Corporation subject to Council's approval. The ACEDC is requesting two (2) payments of \$16,378.00 totaling \$32,756.00 for the year 2010. This amount is 13% of Decatur's 2010 CEDIT distribution. Dyer made a motion to approve the agreement. Engle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Larry Macklin, Executive Director of the Adams County Economic Development Corporation presented a plaque to the City from the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership declaring Decatur's Industrial Park III is now certified as site ready. Macklin explained Adams County has two sites, one in Decatur and the other in Monroe, and both are owned by the community. Having these properties certified as site ready will allow Adams County to compete with other communities. Another benefit is both properties are near a four lane highway. Macklin congratulated Decatur for the certified site, and also praised Sally Jackson, ACEDC Executive Asst. who prepared the applications submitted to NIRP to have these properties certified, which required 22 qualifications. Council also thanked Macklin for all his efforts in this project.

The Mayor has received phone calls in reference to the fire protection fee on the utility bill. The Mayor explained due to the shortfall in revenues in the general fund, fire hydrant rental fees have been moved from being paid by property tax, and is now paid as a user fee on the utility bill.

Mayor Schultz received a letter from Bluffton's Mayor, Ted Ellis who thanked the Decatur Fire Department for helping fight a fire in downtown Bluffton on January 10th. Deputy Fire Chief, Jim Hitchcock reported there were 13 firefighters from Decatur, and the aerial ladder truck and pumper were used.

Councilwoman Engle commented she is very pleased in how the repairs to the railroad crossing on 13th Street have held up.

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. Meyer seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.