

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 3, 2023

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street, Decatur. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dan Rickord. Roll call was taken to show Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, Scott Murray, and Wylie Sirk were in attendance. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright and City Attorney Anne Razo.

Mayor Rickord invited everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the December 20, 2022 meeting and Dyer made a motion to accept the minutes as emailed. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. Dyer then made a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Common Council meeting held on December 27, 2022 as emailed. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent. Witte shared that when he was hired he was assigned the task of overlooking the fire alarm system for City Hall. Over the years the contract has been with Koorsen's and Witte noted he has not been satisfied with their work and following through with the contract. Witte had contacted Brent Smith of VFP Fire Systems to take over the items contracted with Koorsen's. VFP quoted a price for annual inspections of \$1,700 per year, which also included the fire extinguishers at the MERIT Center. The City is currently paying Koorsen's \$163.35 per quarter, and \$167.50 per hour. In 2022 the total cost to Koorsen's was \$2,461.17 and they had not conducted all the necessary inspections. Coshow made a motion to accept the contract with VFP at a cost of \$1,700 a year. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted. It was noted that Mayor Rickord will sign the contract.

Mayor Rickord mentioned that he had earlier brought up the possibility of looking at the procedures used by the City for tax abatement proposals. Mayor Rickord shared that he checked with other communities and most have an objective process in place that they use. He had contacted Crowe a public accounting and consulting firm who would work with the City in coming up with an objective process for a cost per hour not to exceed \$25,000. Sirk made a motion to proceed with Mayor Rickord's recommendation of hiring Crowe to assist in drafting an objective process for tax abatement applications with the funds coming from the LIT-Economic Development (CEDIT) fund. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright informed Council members that the dates of July 4, 2023 and City election will be on November 7, 2023, which both fall on Council meeting nights. Sirk made a motion to move the July 4, 2023 meeting to Wednesday, July 5, 2023. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. Sirk then made a motion to change the Tuesday, November 7, 2023 Council meeting to Wednesday, November 8, 2023. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Murray made a motion to pay the claims against the City. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Rickord recognized Brianna Converset, member of the Mayor's Youth Council, who was in attendance.

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, Dyer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Adjournment was at 6:45 P.M.