

City of Decatur
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes
January 4, 2022

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. Members present were Craig Coshow, Tyler Fullenkamp, and Mayor Dan Rickord. Also present was Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright. City Attorney Anne Razo attended virtually.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes of the December 21, 2021 meeting. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the minutes. Coshow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation regarding the possible solar project at the east water plant. Utilities Auditor Kevin Hackman appeared with Gary Leckonby and Ryan Miller, representatives from Kokosing Industrial, Inc. Leckonby outlined the project noting that the emphasis is to make a decision prior to June 1, 2022 when AEP would make changes in the costs. A proposal presented was for Kokosing to offer ownership of the facility for six (6) years in order to take advantage of federal tax incentives which cannot be offered to the City. At the end of the six (6) years the City would have a buy-out option. The process of Net Metering was explained. It was shared that the solar panels are designed for a life of 30 years and following the 30 years the effectiveness is estimated to be 85% of the original specifications and would likely not need to be replaced. It was estimated there would be a gain of \$47,000 in savings each year for the City. The only replacement parts needed would be the invertors at a cost of \$5,000 once or twice within the 30 years of panel life. It was again emphasized that the time is of essence with the June 1, 2022 date for the law may be changed. Coshow commented that the solar project was a wise move but noted there still were questions. Mayor Rickord recommended a Special Meeting is needed in order to seek information from Hackman regarding the pros and cons and his plan for the next five (5) years. Coshow made a motion to table the issue until a Special Meeting could be held for Utilities Auditor Kevin Hackman to gather more information. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

By consensus, a Special Meeting was scheduled for Monday, January 10, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. and will be posted at least 48 hours prior to the meeting and the media will be notified.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent appeared before the Board regarding the home at 710 Schirmeyer Street. Witte had sought permission to demolish the home three (3) years ago but had to wait as the home went through the tax sale process. Clerk-Treasurer Whitright had received a letter from the Adams Circuit Court today noting the City now owns the property. Thus, Witte is seeking permission to demolish the home. City Attorney Anne Razo advised that the County Auditor's office needs to be contacted to verify that office has received notice of the tax sale deed and it has been properly recorded. Fullenkamp made a motion to allow Witte to start demolition as soon as the deed has been received by the City. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Karey Fuelling, Wastewater Superintendent appeared before the Board regarding that she had been notified by Johnson's Junction BP located at 952 N. 13th Street requesting permission to pump ground water from around the fuel tanks into the City's sanitary system for a tank maintenance project. Fuelling had prepared a letter describing the complete process to be conducted by BP. Fuelling also commented that she had no concerns with the project. Coshow made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the letter that outlines the procedures for BP to follow. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Wastewater Superintendent Karey Fuelling reported that the Adams County Regional Sewer District (ACRSD) had received permission to move forward on a new sanitary sewer system at Oakwood addition. The ACRSD had asked if the City wanted to keep any of the equipment at the lift station in that addition. Fuelling recommended the City to keep the equipment for possible use in the future. Fullenkamp made a motion to keep the equipment. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright presented the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and the County Commissioners regarding the Adams County Council on Aging providing administrative services at the MERIT Center had been signed by all parties, the City, County Commissioners and the Council on Aging. Fullenkamp made a motion to make the MOU a matter of record. Coshow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

In absence of the City's Operations Manager Jeremy Gilbert, the Clerk-Treasurer reported that the advertisement for bids for the Community Crossings Matching Grant will be published on January 3rd and again on January 10th, with bids to be opened at the February 1, 2022 Board of Public Works & Safety meeting.

The City Attorney Razo reported on behalf of the City's Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert that IDEM has approved the Homestead Drainage Upgrades Project and AEP still needs to relocate the power lines prior to starting the project.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent reporting on behalf of the City's Operations Manager Jeremy Gilbert that the company that does the testing regarding asbestos on the flood homes is in Decatur this week and he would also like for them to test for asbestos in the building at 138 N. 2nd Street. Coshow made a motion to allow Gilbert to have the company test for asbestos at the 138 N. 2nd Street. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

There being no other business to come before the Board, Fullenkamp made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Adjournment was at 6:42 P.M.