

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 18, 2022

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 7:05 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dan Rickord. Roll call was taken to show Councilmen 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.

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

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the January 4, 2022 meeting. Sirk made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

First on the agenda was Colton Bickel, Executive Director of the Adams County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC) regarding a proposal for a tax abatement for a possible business to open in Decatur. Lance Camper Manufacturing Corporation, a subsidiary of REV Recreation Group, Inc. had submitted the application for a tax abatement for real property valued at \$1.6 million and \$800,000 for equipment. It was noted that Decatur was one of a few locations being looked at for the possibility of 120 new jobs with hourly wages of \$20-\$22 an hour. The building to be used is being leased from REV at 1236 Patterson Street, which was once All-American Homes. The abatement is normally for ten (10) years but the question centered around the length of the lease with REV Recreation Group, which was not definitely defined. However, it was noted that the abatement could end at any time the company is not in compliance which would include ending their lease with REV Recreation Group. Sirk made a motion to move forward with the abatement. Seconded by Dyer, no action was taken following discussion so Sirk rescinded his motion. Sirk then made a motion to introduce Declaratory Resolution 2022-1 by short title only for the designation of an economic revitalization area upon the application of Lance Camper Mfg. Corp. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was carried. City Attorney Anne Razo read Resolution 2022-1 by short title only. Sirk then made a motion to pass Resolution 2022-1. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted. Lance Camper was thanked for considering Decatur for a location. A public hearing will be scheduled for the next Council meeting on February 1st for the confirming resolution.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor appeared before the Council regarding moving forward with the Solar Project at the east Water Treatment Plant, and also recommended by the Board of Public Works members to adopt the necessary Resolution, which is to adopt Indiana Code 5-23 for use as an alternative procurement method for utilizing a public-private agreement for City projects. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2022-2 by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion was carried and City Attorney Anne Razo read Resolution 2022-2 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Resolution 2022-2. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Utilities Auditor Kevin Hackman shared that he would let anyone providing bids know that if the deadlines could not be met the City would not be interested in proceeding with the Solar Project. City Attorney Anne Razo remarked that the public-private agreement is just another tool that could be used for public works projects, and that there would be no contractual obligation if timelines could not be met. Council will need to approve what the Board of Public Works and

Safety members had approved at their meeting to allow Hackman to proceed with getting the RFPQ's in order to start the process, especially with the time constraints. The Board could have approved the project if the project was for five (5) years but with the project being for six (6) years, Council's approval is necessary. Sirk made a motion to give Hackman permission to proceed with finalizing and publication of the RFPQ's. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Ordinance 2022-1, an ordinance that amends Chapter 91 of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015 in its entirety, regarding Fire Prevention; Fireworks, was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2022-1 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2022-1 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-1 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Murray, a roll call vote was held and Ordinance 2022-1 passed with a 5-0 vote.

Ordinance 2022-2, an ordinance which creates a Fire Prevention Enforcement account as a separate line item within the City's General Fund to be used for fire prevention education, training, and enforcement materials, was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2022-2 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2022-2 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2022-2 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Murray, a roll call vote showed 5-0 passage.

Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the final plat plan for Meadows of Cross Creek Phase III as approved by the Decatur Plan Commission and recommended to the Council for approval. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager appeared before the Council recommending yield signs and stop signs within Phase III of the Meadows of Cross Creek Subdivision. Sirk made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2022-3 for its first reading by short title only, an ordinance which amends Schedule V of Chapter 77 of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015, by establishing or amending traffic schedules for Palmers Pass, Fuzzys Circle, Hogans Alley, and Tigers Trail. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2022-3 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2022-3 on its first reading. Seconded by Murray, a roll call vote showed 5-0 passage. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2022-3 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed and Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2022-3 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2022-3 on its second reading. Seconded by Murray, a roll call vote was held and passed 5-0. Sirk made a motion to table Ordinance 2022-3 for its third reading at the February 1, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Murray, the motion was carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright sought permission to cancel outstanding checks that are over two (2) years old totaling \$748.77, which will be redeposited into the fund the checks were originally drawn from. Sirk made a motion to make a matter of record the cancellation of outstanding checks over two (2) years old. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright sought permission to delete funds with zero balances and no activity. Resolution 2022-3, a resolution declaring dormant funds was COVID-IFA CARES Relief Fund, IPEP Grant, 2015 HMGP Buyout Grant, 2016 Flood Acquisition PDM Grant, and Payroll OH Child Support. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2022-3 by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed and Attorney Razo read Resolution 2022-3 by short title

only. Sirk then made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-3. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Police Chief Lennie Corral appeared before the Council seeking permission to purchase new boots for an officer who had rescued a female from the St. Mary's River on December 28, 2021. As a result of the rescue, the officer's boots were filled with muck. A discussion was held regarding what funds should be used. Chief Corral suggested using the Police 413 account. Sirk made a motion to let the discretion of where to take the funds from o Chief Corral. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Rickord had received a thank you with a picture from the Bellmont Wrestling Team as they thanked the fire and police departments for the escort through town following their State Championship. Mayor Rickord congratulated the team and the people who came out and cheered the team on during the escort through town.

Department Heads Input:

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager announced that bids for the Community Crossing Matching Grant will be opened on February 1, 2022. Gilbert also mentioned that there will be another opportunity to apply for grant funds in the middle of the year. Gilbert reported his department is getting a lot of projects completed and have had few waterline breaks so far.

Police Chief Lennie Corral thanked the great support of the community for the K-9 projects as he mentioned the VFW has donated \$5,000 to the project. It was noted that the kennel at K-9 Officer Blaze Brooks' residence has been completed by the high school students and Officer Brooks plans to take the students out to lunch. Officer Brooks is to pick up his K-9 dog on January 31, 2022. Mayor Rickord thanked the high school students for helping.

Jim Hitchcock, Assistant Fire Chief also mentioned that the VFW had contributed to the Fire Department for the purchase of smoke detectors. Assistant Chief Hitchcock also shared that if there is snow, it is appreciated if individuals shovel out the fire hydrants.

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

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

Adjournment was at 8:00 P.M.