

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 7, 2023

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at 7:05 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 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.

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

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the January 17, 2023 meeting and Dyer made a motion to accept the minutes as emailed. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

As the meeting opened, Mayor Rickord noted the students from the Mayor's Youth Council who were in attendance.

Ordinance 2023-1, an ordinance which amends Chapter 92 of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015 for the purpose of authorizing the deposit of all costs assessed and collected for mowing yards deemed a nuisance be deposited into the general fund, was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2023-1 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2023-1 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-1 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Fullenkamp, a roll call vote was taken and passed 5-0.

Dyer made a motion to approve the same street closings as previous years for the various activities sponsored by the Decatur Chamber of Commerce annual events, 14-Thursdays evening concerts, Germanfest, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Highland Games, Callithumpian Celebration. Motion was seconded by Fullenkamp, and carried, with Coshow abstaining.

Ordinance 2023-2, an ordinance which amends Chapter 78, Schedule III of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015 to add a handicap parking space on the west side of 5<sup>th</sup> Street at 116 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street, was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2023-2 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2023-2 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2023-2 on its first reading. Seconded by Murray, a roll call vote passed 5-0. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2023-2 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed and Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2023-2 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2023-2 on its second reading. Seconded by Murray, a roll call vote showed passage with a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 2023-2 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion was carried and Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2023-2 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-2 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Murray, a roll call vote passed with a 5-0 vote.

Ordinance 2023-3, an Ordinance which amends Chapter 90 of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015 regarding the number of pets permitted within city limits and adds a new section related to restrictions on livestock within city limits, was brought forth. Sirk made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2023-3 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was carried and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2023-3 by short title only.

Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2023-3 on its first reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote passed 5-0. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2023-3 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was carried and Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2023-3 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2023-3 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote showed passage by a 5-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to table Ordinance 2023-3 until the February 21, 2023 meeting for third reading action. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was carried.

Mayor Rickord brought up that he had met with Gigtel representatives at the AIM Summit. Mayor Rickord and others have been meeting with a company since last fall regarding a new phone system for City Hall. This would be a three (3) year contract. It was shared that when talking with other communities using Gigtel, all were happy with the cooperation and service. The cost would save the City \$500 a month and still provide the same service. Sirk made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Mayor and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with Gigtel. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Rickord shared that the interest earned on investments is greater than planned. Thus, it was shared that the Façade Program was not included in the 2023 Budget as funds were allocated towards the 5 Points improvement project. However, with the additional funds becoming available, Council members were encouraged to think about funding the Façade Program and perhaps next year looking at some areas using the concept for residential rather than just for businesses.

Mayor Rickord announced that work has begun on the Dog Park, the pavilion has been built, and the fence for the area will be started next week. However, additional funds will be needed for the park, so fundraisers will be considered.

The Clerk-Treasurer informed Council that there is \$936,000 left in the ARP fund, which will need to be obligated by December 31, 2024.

Mayor Rickord read the letter of retirement submitted by Police Chief Lennie Corral. Chief Corral thanked all for their support through his career on the Decatur Police Force. His last date as Chief is noted as March 3, 2023.

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, Dyer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Adjournment was at 7:45 P.M.