

City of Decatur  
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes  
March 21, 2023

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on March 21, 2023 at 6:00 at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street, Decatur. Members present were Craig Coshow, Tyler Fullenkamp and Mayor Dan Rickord. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright and City Attorney Anne Razo.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the March 7, 2023 meeting. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2023 meeting. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. Minutes of the Executive Session held on Thursday, March 16, 2023 had also been emailed and Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2023 meeting. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was Fire Chief Jeff Sheets seeking permission to fill two (2) positions on the paid-on-call roster. Fullenkamp made a motion to permit Chief Sheets to add two (2) positions on the paid-on-call roster. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Fire Chief Sheets then shared that there is equipment in the basement of the fire station that is no longer being used and he wished to sell it at auction or scrap it. Chief Sheets noted there was a workable high-pressure pump and one used for repair parts only. Fullenkamp made a motion noting the equipment was no longer needed and allowed for Chief Sheets to sell it at auction or scrap it, whichever the Chief sees fit. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda was the renewal of the lease with Northeast Indiana Works at the MERIT Center. City Attorney Anne Razo noted the only change was the re-numbering of the room from 6 to 117, and adding Section 12 for defaults and remedies as all other leasing at the MERIT Center. There were no changes in the rental fee of \$2,475.00 annually beginning April 15, 2023 and ending April 14, 2024. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the lease renewal and authorizing Mayor Rickord to sign. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Fullenkamp then made a motion to renew the lease with Easter Seals ARC of Northeast Indiana at the MERIT Center and authorizing Mayor Rickord to sign. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. Easter Seals ARC shares a room with Northeast Indiana Works and the lease changes and rental fee is the same as Northeast Indiana Works.

Mayor Rickord then read a letter of retirement from Nan Everett after serving 50 years (full and part-time) with the Parks Department, her last work day being May 1, 2023. Coshow made a motion to make the retirement letter from Nan Everett a matter of record. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda was a discussion regarding the billboard lease with Burkhart Advertising. Lamar Advertising has now acquired the assets of Burkhart Advertising, and Lamar proposed a new lease. After reviewing the proposed lease from Lamar Advertising, the City Attorney informed the Board that they could negotiate the lease or respectfully decline the offer. Fullenkamp made a motion to authorize City Attorney Anne Razo to communicate with Lamar Advertising to negotiate the lease. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Police Chief Kevin Gerber then appeared before the Board regarding various issues. First, Chief Gerber reported that the K-9 dog named Gunnar had been returned due to his performance was not up to standards. The replacement dog is named Fenrir, Fen for short.

Secondly, Chief Gerber shared that the lateral application process will end tomorrow, March 22, 2023. So far there has been one (1) application. Chief Gerber asked for permission to send the applicant to PERF after the deadline. Fullenkamp made a motion allowing Chief Gerber to proceed with sending the applicant to PERF after the deadline. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Thirdly, Chief Gerber recommended naming Officer Corey Hamm as the new Detective, as the result of the interviews that took place at the Board of Public Works & Safety Executive Session held on March 16, 2023. Coshow made a motion to approve Chief Gerber's recommendation and name Officer Corey Hamm as the Police Detective. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Fullenkamp made a motion to make the Oath of Office for the former Chief of Police Lennie Corral as a member of the Decatur Police Reserves a matter of record. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

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

Adjournment was at 6:22 P.M.