

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 21, 2023

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at 6:40 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 March 7, 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.

The first item on the agenda was an event application from SAFE in Adams County to hold a SAFE Family Downtown Carnival on April 29, 2023 from 1-3 P.M. on Madison St. Plaza. Jamie Gephart, Community Coordinator noted the request included the restrooms, electricity and the sound system and the closure of a portion of 1st Street. The group expects 200-300 people to attend the event. Sirk made a motion to approve the SAFE event, and the street closing. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Rickord then read a Proclamation naming April as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month. Representatives from SAFE of Adams County distributed flyers and pin-wheels to Council members and others in attendance. Mayor Rickord thanked the group for their work.

Mayor Rickord had announced at the Board of Works meeting a retirement letter from Nan Everett was made a matter of record, with her last day being May 1, 2023. Everett has served the Parks Department for 50 years (part-time & full-time). Ms. Everett was thanked for her many years of service.

Ordinance, 2023-5, an Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Decatur which amends Chapter 154 of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015, as supplemented, for the purpose of establishing subdivision ingress/egress standards to be included in plans and specifications submitted for the purpose of obtaining final plat approval by Plan Commission, was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2023-5 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was carried and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2023-5 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2023-5 on its first reading. Seconded by Fullenkamp, a roll call vote passed 5-0. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2023-5 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was carried and Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2023-5 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2023-5 on its second reading. Seconded by Fullenkamp, a roll call vote was held and passed 5-0. Sirk made a motion to table Ordinance 2023-5 for third reading until the April 4, 2023 meeting. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Department Heads Input:

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager announced that spring heavy trash week will be the week of April 10th, and urged residents to be kind and courteous to employees and try to keep things bagged as much as possible. No electronics or construction materials will be picked up.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor reported that new water main work is being done on Elm, Line, Niblick and Winchester Streets, including street paving and new sidewalks. He noted that things will be torn up for a while.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent asked for permission to use one of the vacant rooms on the second floor at City Hall for a fitness room for employees. Witte explained that he had personal fitness equipment that is not being used and would allow the City to use if approved. By consensus, the City Attorney was directed to look into the liability and the management of having a fitness room, and report back at the next meeting.

Other input:

Mayor Rickord sought permission to use the vacant office on the first floor of City Hall to be used by the members of the Mayor's Youth Council as a work space. The Mayor also mentioned that he is looking into getting a grant through the Adams County Community Foundation for a laptop for the Youth Council to use. Sirk made a motion to allow the vacant office on the first floor of City Hall to be used for a work space. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

City Attorney Anne Razo, recognized Nan Everett for all her work, especially in the area of sports where she had made a difference for so many youths of the area.

Speaking on behalf of the Decatur Main Street and the Decatur Chamber of Commerce, Craig Coshow noted that WZBD is no longer doing the annual Easter Egg Hunt, so Decatur Main Street and the Decatur Chamber of Commerce will be taking over the event, which will be held at noon on April 8, 2023 at Riverside Center, and are looking for sponsors.

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

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 7:15 P.M.