

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 5, 2022

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 7:00 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 Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, Scott Murray, and Wylie Sirk were in attendance. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright and City Attorney Anne Razo. Councilman Craig Coshow was absent.

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

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the March 15, 2022 meeting and Dyer made a motion to accept the minutes as emailed. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was a proclamation recognizing April as Child Abuse and Prevention Month. Spokesperson for the SAFE (Supporting all Families Everyday) Cindy Thieme shared that the group believes it is important to celebrate the happiness of children. Blue pin wheels were distributed to all in attendance and information about the program. Ms. Thieme announced a special program would be held in the Court House lawn to make the lawn a pin wheel garden. Mayor Rickord read a proclamation making April Child Abuse and Prevention Month in Decatur.

Next on the agenda was Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert who informed Council that the boiler at Riverside Center needs to be replaced. With warmer weather coming, Gilbert commented that the work was not immediately necessary, but wanted the Council members to be aware of the future need. Gilbert will report back when he receives a second quote.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent appeared before the Council regarding the quotes he had received to repair the building at 138 N. Second Street. Each quote had a different way of making the repairs. The one quote started at \$84,000 to demo the wall and reconstruct a new wall could possibly cost another \$80,000. One contractor suggested bracing the wall between Vinnie's, and the other contractor doesn't want to brace the wall. The quote from Limberlost Construction of Geneva offered a quote of \$188,790. Witte informed Council since this is an emergency situation it is not necessary to take the lowest bid. Witte explained that there is approximately \$145,000 in the unsafe building account so additional funds would be needed. During the discussion it was noted that Witte would talk with Limberlost Construction to see if the cost could be reduced by not doing the one story section in the back of the building. Council members were pleased with work previously done for the City by Limberlost Construction. Dyer made a motion to move forward with Limberlost Construction, with the possibility of not doing the one story back section of the building. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Rickord noted that someone may be interested in purchasing the 138 N. 2nd Street building, but is waiting for grant funding, should hear in the next month or so if awarded the funding.

Police Chief Lennie Corral reported that he is near final form of the UTV Ordinance. Chief Corral had emailed a draft copy of the ordinance to Council members for review. The area still

under consideration is for penalties and fines. By consensus, violations for a first offense will be \$50, second \$100, and third maximum penalty. The plan is to have the ordinance ready for the next meeting on April 19, 2022. If adopted, the ordinance could go into effect upon passage.

Jamie Gephart, Community Coordinator appeared before the Council regarding payment for the update of the City's website. Gephart shared that Council had earlier approved the payment of \$4,500 for the update with payment upon completion. However, Armanda Turney of Armanda Designs is seeking half of the payment at this time with the other half upon completion of the work. The project will take 3-4 months. Dyer made a motion to pay half of the \$4,500 to Armanda Turney of Armanda Designs at this time, and the other half at completion of the project. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Jamie Gephart, Community Coordinator presented the event form for the Decatur Sculpture Tour including a reception on June 9, 2022 on Madison Street Plaza and the tour on Friday, June 10, 2022. Street closing on Madison Street between 2nd and 3rd Streets were requested for Wednesday at 5 P.M., and also the same street closings as in the past for the event. Dyer made a motion to approve the event and the street closings for the Decatur Sculpture Tour. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda were Charlie, Jean, and Jason Brune. As a result of the slaughter house vote for I-O Properties at the March 15, 2022 meeting, they approached Council seeking a change in City Ordinance to follow the Adams County Ordinance 2019-2 regarding what they defined as Intensive Livestock Facility. The Brune's presented their arguments for a change. Audience member Tim Ehlerding did share that the current process worked and noted the question seemed to be regarding the notification of the meeting for public input. City Attorney Anne Razo explained the step by step process which had been followed for the March meeting of the BZA and the City Council. She noted that timelines had to be followed including the fact that a hearing must be held within 45 days of the reception of an application. No further action was taken.

A brief discussion was held regarding the Plan to be adopted as per the American Rescue Plan Act. The Department Heads had come up with several ideas which the Council member need to study and prioritize. Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert had put a lot of work into making improvements to the Sanitation Department. It was mentioned that if the City is going to finance the equipment for the Sanitation Department, action needs to be soon as interest rates are rising quickly. Fullenkamp made a motion to move forward with application with the Indiana Bond Bank for equipment and vehicles for the Sanitation Department. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted. Councilman Dyer inquired if any Department Head had an item that needed to be addressed now. Fire Chief Les Marckel shared that their projects were large enough they would have to use the LIT-Public Safety funds. Utilities Auditor, Kevin Hackman mentioned that the Utility projects listed will have to be done within 3-4 years. Dyer inquired if funds could be used for the needed work for completion of the REV Sports Complex. Sirk suggested streetscape work between Monroe and Jackson Streets. The Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert will provide Council members with estimates. Mayor Rickord directed Department Heads to take a serious look at their departments needs between now and the April 19, 2022 meeting to see if there was anything that needed to be done soon.

Department Heads Input:

Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert thanked his crew especially for their work regarding a water main break at 2:30 A.M. this morning. He noted heavy trash pick-up was this week and that grinding of the brush pile at the compost site will be held next week. No plans are yet in place for grass clippings. Gilbert noted that the REV Sports Complex will open with May 7, 2022 as Opening Day.

Police Chief Lennie Corral shared that Walmart had donated a 70-inch television for use by Belmont's School Resource Officer Trent Busse. He also announced that child car seat checks will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2022 from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. at the police station.

Public Input:

City Park Board President, Larry Isch announced that he had fulfilled his donation matching \$10,000 towards the REV Sports Complex work.

Council Input:

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

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

Adjournment was at 8:48 P.M.