

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
APRIL 6, 2021

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 6:55 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 Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, Scott Murray, and Wylie Sirk were in attendance. Councilman Craig Coshow was absent. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright and City Attorney Tim Baker.

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

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the March 16, 2021 meeting. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was an event form for ABATE of Indiana to hold its Mayor's Ride event in Decatur on June 6, 2021. Sherri Gordon, representing the group, appeared before the Council. Ms. Gordon shared that the group looks forward to returning to Decatur after last year's event could not be held as a result of COVID-19 mandates. Ms. Gordon noted that local food vendors and restaurants will be providing the food for the event which will be held from 12 noon to 5 P.M. on Sunday, June 6, 2021. The group will begin at 9 A.M. for vendors to set up. Street closings requested were 2<sup>nd</sup> Street from Monroe Street south to Jefferson Street, and Madison Street and Court Street between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets. Sirk made a motion to approve the event and the street closings on Sunday, June 6, 2021. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda were representatives for Supporting All Families Everyday (SAFE). Sandy Brown spoke on behalf of the group which distributed blue pinwheels to all present. Ms. Brown shared that April is proclaimed as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Mayor Rickord read a proclamation in recognition of Prevent Child Abuse in Indiana and SAFE of Adams County declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Decatur. The group will be meeting with Judge Conrad at noon on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at the Courthouse.

The Mayor had received a letter from the Decatur Chamber of Commerce requesting sponsorship towards their 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner meeting to be held on Thursday evening, April 8, 2021. Dyer made a motion to sponsor the Chamber dinner meeting the same amount as last year of \$350. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

At the previous meeting, the date for the Decatur Sculpture Tour was announced incorrectly, but the event form had the correct date of Friday, June 11, 2021. Also requested was to use Madison Street Plaza, which they will need electricity, restrooms, and the sound system. All fees will be waived due to this being a community event. Sirk made a motion to accept the date of the DST for Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup> and using Madison Street Plaza. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Ordinance 2021-5, an ordinance to amend the salary ordinance 2020-12 to include the position of Certified Meter Reader, was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2021-5 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was passed and City Attorney Tim Baker read Ordinance 2021-5 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-5 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote showed passage by a 4-0 vote.

Fire Chief, Les Marckel appeared before the Council to request the need to transfer funds within the LOIT Public Safety Fund budget to make repairs to Engine 102 for the fire department. Chief Marckel reported that the engine is losing 250-300 gallons of water each week. By repairing the Engine 102 a savings of about \$65,000 will be seen by not purchasing a new replacement. Chief Marckel will let neighboring departments know the City will be short a pump while the repairs are being made. Thus, the City will be covered for approximately a month for the repairs. The cost to repair the truck is estimated at \$35,000. Resolution 2021-2, a resolution to transfer funds within the LOIT Public Safety Fund budget of \$35,000.00 from Capital Outlays-Machinery & Equipment account to Other Services & Charges-Repairs & Maintenance account to make repairs to Engine 102 for the fire department, was brought forward. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2021-2 by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed and City Attorney Tim Baker read Resolution 2021-2 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-2. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Sirk made a motion to suspend the Council meeting and open a Public Hearing regarding an Additional Appropriation of \$80,000 from the General Fund to pay for WebEx equipment, materials, monthly recurring charges, professional service and support through CBTS for the Decatur Riverside Center. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Dyer made a motion to make a matter of record the proper advertising regarding the Public Hearing. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

During the Public Hearing there was no one present to speak in favor or in opposition to the Additional Appropriation. It was shared that Council had previously approved purchasing WebEx from the funds received from the COVID-19 Relief funds and had to be handled through the additional appropriation process.

Fullenkamp made a motion to close the Public Hearing and reconvene the Council Meeting. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

Resolution 2021-3, a resolution for an Additional Appropriation of \$80,000 from the General Fund to pay for WebEx equipment, materials, monthly recurring charges, professional service and support through CBTS for the Decatur Riverside Center, was brought forth. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2021-3 by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was passed and City Attorney Tim Baker read Resolution 2021-3 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-3. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Rickord brought up the fact that Shelby Nower, the part-time Director of The HIVE, had found another position which gave her more hours and a greater salary. Mayor Rickord shared that there is a need to look ahead to how that program is going to be run. It was noted that phone calls are coming in as people want to rent the facility. Mayor Rickord reported that he has a meeting with Kevan Biggs regarding the volunteer hours that are to come from the residents of the Lofts. Dyer made a motion to make a matter of record the resignation letter from Shelby Nower. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted. Mayor Rickord had spoken with the chairperson of the North Adams Arts Council seeking help with The HIVE.

Mayor Rickord announced that the City will basically follow the mask mandate as outlined by Governor Holcomb. Mayor Rickord has been in contact with Dr. Mike Ainsworth and the Board of Health, if a spike in cases becomes evident, the mask mandate will be put into place. As of now,

Mayor Rickord noted the mask mandate signs will remain at City Hall and people will be requested to wear a mask and social distance.

Department Heads Input:

Police Chief Lennie Corral reported that Officer Schwaller will graduate from the Academy on Thursday, April 8, 2021 and will be on duty on Monday, April 12, 2021.

Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert reported heavy trash collection is going well this week, and plans are to begin collecting yard waste next week. Will be grinding mulch at the compost site tomorrow, Wednesday, April 7, 2021. In the next two (2) weeks or so, the street sweeper will be running, and work at the REV Sports Complex at Hanna Nuttman Park is nearing completion as far as funds are available. Plans are forthcoming for a Grand Opening event for May 8, 2021.

Fire Chief, Les Marckel reported that the new fire truck was put into service for calls as of yesterday, Monday, April 5, 2021.

Utilities Auditor, Kevin Hackman noted that the Winchester Street Water Plant will be ready to be up and running in a couple of weeks.

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 passed.

Adjournment was at 7:43 P.M.