

City of Decatur  
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes  
June 15, 2021

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. Members present were Tyler Fullenkamp and Mayor Dan Rickord. Craig Coshow was absent. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright and City Attorney Tim Baker

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes of the June 1, 2021 meeting. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the minutes. Mayor Rickord seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The first item on the agenda was the home at 710 Schirmeyer Street, owned by Dutch LLC. County Attorney Mark Burry was present and shared that the Adams County Commissioners had placed the 710 Schirmeyer property up for tax sale as a result of delinquent taxes. However, no bids had been received so as a result of the tax code, the County becomes the owner of the property and can assign the property to the City via a resolution stipulating a Certificate of Sale. The City, both the Board of Public Works and Safety and the City Council, needs to adopt a resolution to mirror the resolution adopted by the County. The resolution provides for a redemption period which ends on October 6, 2021 at which time the City can file a petition for a tax deed which gives the City the title to the property. Resolution 2021-7, a joint resolution to be approved by the Board of Public Works and Safety and the City Council was brought forth. Fullenkamp made a motion to introduce Resolution 2021-7, a resolution which mirrors the Resolution adopted by the County Commissioners, by short title only. Seconded by Mayor Rickord, the motion was passed and City Attorney Tim Baker read Resolution 2021-7 by short title only. Fullenkamp made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-7. Seconded by Mayor Rickord, the motion was adopted. Mayor Rickord and City Attorney Tim Baker both thanked Attorney Mark Burry and the County Commissioners for their work in cooperation with the City.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent appeared before the Board regarding Code Enforcement for 822 N. Tenth Street. Witte had received a call on September 28, 2021 from Lupe Garza regarding her concern of the living conditions of Hortensia Artea who resided at 822 N. 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Witte and Adams County Health Department representatives looked at the home which they found in bad condition with a tarp covering most of the roof. Ms. Artea was told the house had to come down. On June 3, 2021 Ms. Artea signed a contract with the City to demolish the home and she would pay for the removal of the materials. Ms. Artea would keep the lot if she pays the disposal costs within 30 days. If no payment is made, a lien will be placed against the property taxes. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the contract with Ms. Artea. Seconded by Mayor Rickord, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda was the lease agreement renewals with The Otis R. Bowen Center for Human Services, Inc. at the MERIT Center. The Bowen Center is leasing two rooms, Room 107 and 108 for a one (1) year term. The annual rent for Room 107, will be \$4,320.00 and Room 108 will be \$1,560.00. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the lease. Seconded by Mayor Rickord. Motion carried.

Fullenkamp made a motion to make a matter of record the retirement letter received from Tim Bauman, Fire Inspector with the Decatur Fire Department, noting September 14, 2021 will be his last day of employment, and will start his retirement on September 15, 2021. Seconded by Mayor Rickord, the motion was adopted.

Fire Chief, Les Marckel appeared before the Board and thanked those who had served on the interview team and administered the aptitude and agility tests for the applicants who had applied to fill the

position left open with the retirement of Tim Bauman. Brian “Bubba” Braun, who is currently a volunteer and who will still need to take the PERF physical, was recommended to fill the open position by Chief Marckel. Chief Marckel shared that there had been a great group of applicants and he encouraged them to apply again as there will likely be two or three openings in the next couple of years. Chief Marckel had scheduled the physical with PERF on June 28, 2021 but may move it to an earlier date if Mr. Braun’s schedule allows for an earlier time. It is planned for Brian Braun to begin a tentative date in mid-July to allow some overlap with Mr. Bauman. Fullenkamp made a motion to accept the recommendation of Brian “Bubba” Braun as a full-time firefighter of the Decatur Fire Department. Seconded by Mayor Rickord, the motion was adopted. Mayor Rickord thanked Chief Marckel for allowing him to sit in for the interviews and also shared the great quality of the applicants.

Karey Fuelling, Wastewater Superintendent appeared before the Board regarding an opening in the Wastewater Department. Fuelling informed the Board that the applicants who applied for the position did not have the qualifications that were posted and asked the Board to reject all the applications and allow her to re-advertise for the position by posting the job with the Wastewater Alliance’s website and Facebook page. Fullenkamp made a motion to reject all the applications and allow Fuelling to repost the job opening. Seconded by Mayor Rickord, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager appeared before the Board regarding the former Mark’s Heating building on First Street. Gilbert had informed the Board about the condition of the building at the June 1st meeting, and the condition of the building is not getting any better. It was noted a decision needs to be made regarding the building but would be delayed since Coshow was absent this evening. Gilbert also informed the Board that the Chamber and Main Street are storing equipment in the building currently, so another location for storing equipment also needs to be discussed.

There being no other business to come before the Board, Fullenkamp made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mayor Rickord, the motion was adopted.

Adjournment was at 6:43 P.M.