

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
JUNE 15, 2021

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, June 15, 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 Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, and Wylie Sirk were in attendance and Craig Coshow and Scott Murray were 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 June 1, 2021 meeting. Sirk made a motion to approve the minutes as emailed. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was Ordinance 2021-9, an ordinance which amends Section 31.03 (A) (1) of Chapter 31 of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015 to change the start time of the Council meeting either ten (10) minutes after the adjournment of the Board of Public Works and Safety meeting or 7:30 P.M. whichever comes first rather than the set time of 7:30 P.M. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2021-9 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Tim Baker read Ordinance 2021-9 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2021-9 on its first reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote showed passage by a 3-0 vote. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2021-9 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was passed and City Attorney Tim Baker read Ordinance 2021-9 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2021-9 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote was held and passed 3-0. Sirk made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 2021-9 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was passed and City Attorney Tim Baker read Ordinance 2021-9 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-9 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Dyer, the roll call vote showed passage by a 3-0 vote with Coshow and Murray being absent.

The City Attorney, Tim Baker explained Resolution 2021-6, a resolution which establishes the policy by which Common Council members may participate by electronic means of communication, was brought forth. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2021-6 by short title only. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion passed and City Attorney read Resolution 2021-6 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-6. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted with Coshow and Murray were absent.

Tim Ehlerding, representing the Decatur Redevelopment Commission (DRC) appeared before the Council to present the Commission's required yearly report. Ehlerding thanked the Council for the opportunity to appear before them and presented a handout in regards to the 2021/2022 Budget. Ehlerding noted the 2020 TIF Distribution was \$188,408.23 with other income being \$1,299.00 from the lease payment from the lofts parking lot. He shared that the fund balance as of 12-31-2020 was \$450,503.93 and noted that is not the current balance. The 2021 Budget was \$175,000 with 2021 expenditures to date of \$32,016.18 with \$56,260.00 encumbered as of May 10, 2021. Ehlerding gave the estimated impact of qualified distribution of the taxing entities for 2020 from the \$188,403.23 received by the TIF District. Taxing units noted were Adams County, Decatur City, Library, Solid Waste, North Adams, and Township. Ehlerding commented that the DRC looks forward to 2022 and listed the target areas as per the Mission Statement, the Goals, and the 2022 Target of \$175,000.00. Mayor Rickord remarked that one of the best things regarding the DRC is that their looking for

projects. He noted the DRC assisted with the cost of the trail at REV Sports Complex (Hanna Nuttman) and the members are looking to make the Bollman/US 27 Intersection safer for pedestrians.

Resolution 2021-6, a joint resolution passed earlier by the Board of Public Works and Safety, regarding 710 Schimeyer Street was brought forward. Resolution 2021-6 mirrors a resolution adopted by the Adams County Commissioners (County Resolution No. 2021-12) which would transfer or assign a tax certificate to the City of Decatur for the 710 Schimeyer Street property. It was noted that after October 6, 2021, the City could petition the Court for a tax deed and become the legal owner of the property. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2021-6 by short title only. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion passed and City Attorney Tim Baker read Resolution 2021-6 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-6. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted with Coshow and Murray being absent. Mayor Rickord shared his appreciation of the County for their work with the City regarding this issue.

Police Chief Lennie Corral appeared before the Council sharing that his Administrative Assistant Betzi Butler has attended a class and brought back many good ideas. One area Chief Corral noted was the need to increase the fee for police reports which is currently at \$10.00 and suggested an increase to \$20.00 for CD's and DVD's. Corral mentioned that some cities charge \$100 to \$150 for these reports. City Attorney Tim Baker noted that the Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) would need to be amended by the Board of Public Works and Safety and then an ordinance needs to be adopted by the Council. If there are no objections, Attorney Baker will draft the SOP for the Board of Public Works and Safety and the Ordinance for the Council for the next meeting. Fullenkamp made a motion to move forward with the increase fees. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright shared that she needs to begin working on the 2022 Budget, and requested from Council what to budget for raises. She informed Council that John Kintz of Kintz Insurance had negotiated with PHP Insurance, the employee health insurance rate which started with a 6% increase, went to 3%, and ended up at 0% increase. Regarding employee raises, Dyer suggested looking at 2% or 3% raises. Mayor Rickord mentioned that the greatest asset the City has is its employees. Fullenkamp noted there are a lot of employment options available and he does not want to lose City employees. City Attorney Tim Baker remarked that the inflation rate is higher this year than past years in addition to the competition. Mayor Rickord is looking at a portion of the ARP funding to see how it can be used possibly as a stipend with a % increase. Sirk recommended looking at what 3% would be, and possibly a lump sum if the ARP funding is available. After further discussion, it was noted by consensus for Clerk-Treasurer to put together a 3% proposal.

Mayor Rickord announced that the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Sculpture Tour was held last Friday evening, June 11, 2021 and was a good event with numerous people in attendance, and that the Committee needs to be commended for all their efforts.

Dyer commented that the Thursday Evening Concert had worked well with the movement of the vendors.

#### Department Heads Input:

Police Chief Lennie Corral shared that firearms training would be held for 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> shift Officers on Friday, June 18, 2021.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager reported several projects continue to go on including a rash of water main breaks. Mayor Rickord added there has been some rusty water the last few weeks from the new plant and re-flushing of the entire system is now being done.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent advised that all builders who plan to change occupancy or use of a building in a different way needs to call his office. He also informed anyone putting in a deck, porch, or fence needs to get a permit.

Fullenkamp made a motion to pay the claims. 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 7:39 P.M.