

City of Decatur
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes
July 6, 2021

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

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes of the June 15, 2021 meeting. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the minutes. Coshow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

First on the agenda was Police Chief Lennie Corral regarding changing the officers Class A uniforms to a new style. The French blue uniform would change to dark blue to have a more modern look. Officers Blaze Brooks and Andrew Elwell were in attendance to model the new uniforms, both commenting positive for the change. The uniform will also include a cabbie style hat which Chief Corral felt officers would keep as they retire. It was noted the Class A uniforms are mandated for such activities as court, attending a funeral, special detail, and graduation from the Academy. Chief Corral commented that the dark blue uniform looks more professional. A new SOP will need to be adopted if the new uniform is approved by the Board. Chief Corral mentioned that Brateman's gave him a good deal with the total cost being \$4,068 for 22 officers, which \$2,068 has been encumbered from the 2020 budget, and the remaining amount to be paid from the 413 account in the police 2021 budget. Coshow made a motion to approve the recommendation to change the current Class A uniform to the newer style. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Police Chief Lennie Corral reported that Officer Colyn Torson would have a year of probation completed as of July 21, 2021. However, Officer Torson is struggling in some areas and Chief Corral noted he had talked with him and felt it was wise to continue the probation status for an additional six (6) months until January 21, 2022. Chief Corral added that it could even be possible that he would recommend the probation status be shortened at a later date. Fullenkamp made a motion to accept Chief Corral's recommendation and extend the probation status of Officer Colyn Torson for six (6) months until January 21, 2022. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent appeared before the Board regarding a Code Enforcement issue at 1620 W. Madison Street which is owned by Laurie Blythe. Witte shared that a notice for abatement was sent on May 25, 2021. The residence has been checked often with no change, and on June 17, 2021 a notice was sent to Ms. Blythe to attend this evening's meeting. However, there had been no response. On June 17, 2021 Witte had found that in addition to the fence that needed to be fixed or removed, cars, old mattresses, and other debris were in the area behind the fence. After discussion, Fullenkamp made a motion to move forward with the same letter from City Attorney, Tim Baker that had been sent to others residents recently when they had not complied, noting a fine would be instituted per day if the work was not completed. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager appeared before the Board regarding the building on First Street which was formerly Mark's Heating. It is currently being used for storage for the City, the Decatur Chamber of Commerce, and Decatur Main Street items. Gilbert reported that the building is in bad condition and there is a need for more storage. Gilbert informed the Board that the Adams County Regional Sewer District (ACRS) has received some grant funds and would like to purchase the Quonset hut building used by the City Water Department and also the Parks & Recreation Maintenance building located on Grant Street. If the City would sell these two buildings it could be a source of funding for a

new building to be built at the Elm Street property so everything would be kept at one location. City Attorney Tim Baker will look into the statutes regarding selling buildings involving two (2) municipalities, and Gilbert will begin to check the cost of a new building for storing all City-owned equipment.

The next item on the agenda was a request by the Adams County Health Department to connect a house on 550 North to the City sewer. Terry Baker and Matt Baker had installed a 2-inch force main for their benefit in 2013 and that via contract with the City if someone wants to tie into the system, Bakers are allowed to recoup their cost. The cost of the survey and construction was \$26,000. The pro-rated cost for eight (8) to tie into the system is \$3,250 per property. Fullenkamp made a motion to make a matter of record the original receipts from the Baker's totaling at least \$26,000 for installing the force main. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. The City will collect and reimburse the Bakers under the recorded agreement between the City and the Bakers. Fullenkamp then made a motion that Wastewater Supt., Karey Fuelling would submit a letter to the Adams County Health Department noting that the City has approved the connection cost of \$3,250. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

The City Attorney had prepared three (3) new lease agreement for the MERIT Center, Community and Family Services, Family Centered Services, and The Literacy Alliance. The lease agreements were presented and it was shared that the Literacy Alliance had asked for some specific changes to the lease agreement. After discussion it was decided the lease agreements would remain the same for all tenants. Coshow made a motion to approve the three (3) lease agreements and authorized Mayor Dan Rickord and Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright to sign the agreements. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. Per Craig Coshow and Wylie Sirk, Colton Bickel, the Executive Director of the Adams Co. Economic Development Corp. will contact the Drake's for a cleaning schedule for the MERIT Center and regular cleaning is to be paid by the City through the lease payments.

City Attorney Tim Baker informed the Board that in 2019 Attorney Stacy Somers had contacted the City for funding regarding a back-up source of water in the Town of Monroe. With the re-negotiation of the contract for the water from Berne and with the repair changed to add a water line parallel to the current line, the resale of water would be whatever is in the current code. A call had been received about a year and a half ago from Attorney Somers and no agreement had been signed. Attorney Baker announced that something is likely to come before the Board in the near future.

Fullenkamp noted he would not be able to attend the Council meeting and knew that the employees raises would be discussed, he wanted to share his support for the proposed 3% increase.

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

Adjournment was at 6:58 P.M.