

City of Decatur  
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes  
July 18, 2023

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on July 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street, Decatur. Members present were Craig Coshow, Tyler Fullenkamp, and Mayor Pro Tem Matt Dyer. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright and City Attorney Anne Razo. Mayor Rickord was absent attending a Mayors' Conference.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the July 5, 2023 meeting. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Fullenkamp made a motion to make a matter of record the Certificate of Appointment/Oath of Office for Mitch Baumann as Captain of the Fire Department effective July 18, 2023. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

The Interlocal Agreement with the County regarding the MERIT Center and the Council on Aging was taken up for action. City Attorney Anne Razo shared that the County Commissioners had committed \$200,000 for the .7-acre area at the MERIT Center in order to erect a garage for the vehicles used by the Council on Aging and to proceed with getting public transportation in Adams County. Also, as part of the agreement was a long-term lease of 20 years at the MERIT Center for the Council on Aging. It was noted that the cost of surveying the area would be paid by the City from the \$200,000 commitment from the County. Attorney Anne Razo will continue to communicate with Attorney Clayton Lengerich on the agreement to update the room numbers and a final draft of the Agreement will be available for action at the August 1, 2023 meeting.

Karey Fuelling, Wastewater Superintendent appeared before the Board regarding a resident at 5494 N. Piqua Road wishing to connect to the sanitary sewer due to having a failed sewer septic system. It was shared that several years ago a sewer line was constructed and paid by Terry and Nancy Baker, anyone connecting to the line would pay \$3,250, plus a \$1,000 for the tap fee, which the Baker's would be reimbursed the \$3,250, and the \$1,000 would be paid to the City. Civil Infrastructure Manager, Josh Zimmerman commented that there is plenty of capacity to add another line. Fullenkamp made a motion to allow the resident at 5494 N. Piqua to tap-in to the sanitary sewer line. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor appeared before the Board regarding the bids that had been opened at the July 5, 2023 meeting for the WWTP Effluent Outfall Sewer Replacement Project. Hackman shared that after he and the Civil Infrastructure Manager, Josh Zimmerman looked at the list of materials needed and the work that needed to be done, it is felt that the project could be done in-house at a much lower cost. Hackman noted that the Sewage Operating fund has taken a hit when one of the larger sewage users had closed their plant in 2021, causing revenues to go down. Thus, Hackman recommended to reject both of the bids received on July 5, 2023. Fullenkamp made a motion to accept Hackman's recommendation and reject both bids received. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Utilities Auditor, Kevin Hackman gave an update on the contract and presented a change order from Kokosing Industrial in the amount of \$93,525.00 for the final 20" waterline replacement quantities for the Winchester Street Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project that will be paid from the Water bond. Hackman reported that just over \$129,000 was left in the 2018 Water Utility Bond. Fullenkamp made a motion to accept the change order with Kokosing at \$93,525 and authorized Mayor Rickord to sign the contract. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda was a code enforcement issue at 1005 Schirmeyer Street. Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent, and Brad Roe, Assistant Building and Zoning Superintendent, had been working with this residence for the last two (2) years. Complaints were again received on April 20, 2023 and drive by inspections had been made numerous times. It was noted that the original owner had passed away and his nephew had inherited the property, which has since been purchased by Alex H. LLC. Witte showed pictures noting the roof is collapsing and there are holes in the foundation and animals are coming in and out of the building, and the yard needs mowed and has overgrown weeds and vegetation. The owner has received notification to appear at this evening's meeting, but did not show. The first abatement letter had been sent on April 28, 2023. Witte would like to start the condemnation process for the property. Fullenkamp made a motion to allow Witte to go in and take care of the weeds and vegetation first and then begin the condemnation process. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent shared that if everyone for which complaints are received for weeds and vegetation were to appear before the Board, that would take up hours of the Board members' time. Thus, Witte is seeking permission to begin a process to issue an abatement letter allowing 10 days after the first notice is given to the property owner, and five more days after the second notice to clean up weeds and vegetation. Fullenkamp made a motion to allow Witte to abate the weeds and vegetation after the five days from when the second notice is given. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager appeared before the Board seeking permission to proceed with lighting one field at the REV Sports Complex, as an anonymous donor contributed \$125,000. Gilbert received a quote from Musco, which is a state bid, so there is no need for other quotes. Gilbert noted that pricing keeps increasing per field. Gilbert has discussed this with the City Park Board who is in favor of lighting the field. Some of the fixtures have been changed, but still same quality. Gilbert asked permission to include adder #1, which is the backside fixtures on pole A1 for field 2 in the amount of \$14,000, this amount also includes additional 30-amp contactors for fields 2 & 3. The \$125,000 would be paid from the Park Donation fund, Gilbert is only requesting permission for the additional \$14,000 at this time. Following a lengthy discussion, Fullenkamp made a motion to recommend to Council to move forward with the proposed lighting of one field at a cost of \$125,000 (using donated funds) and the additional cost of \$14,000 to be paid from the Parks Capital Improvement account in the LIT-Economic Development (CEDIT) fund. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

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

Adjournment was at 6:52 P.M.