

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 2, 2022

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, August 2, 2022 at 6:50 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street, Decatur. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dan Rickord. Roll call was taken to show Councilmen Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, and Wylie Sirk were in attendance. Councilman Scott Murray was absent. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright and City Attorney Anne Razo.

The Mayor asked for everyone to silence their phones during the meeting.

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

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the July 19, 2022 meeting and Dyer made a motion to accept the minutes as emailed. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was Ordinance 2022-13, an ordinance which amends Chapter 78, Schedule I of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015 to allow parking on the north side of Adams Street between 10th Street and 11th Street, and to have a no parking zone on the South side of Adams Street from 10th Street to 11th Street. Parking will be prohibited at all times. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2022-13 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2022-13 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2022-13 on its first reading. Seconded by Dyer, the roll vote passed 4-0 with Murray absent. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2022-13 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2022-13 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2022-13 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote passed by a 4-0 margin with Murray being absent. Sirk made a motion to table Ordinance 2022-13 for its third reading until the August 16, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Community Coordinator, Jamie Gephart appeared before the Council regarding a couple of street closings requests. The first street closing was to close Madison Street from the alley to Second Street and possibly to 3rd Street if needed for a Summer Jobs Fair to be held on Thursday, August 18, 2022. Dyer made a motion to approve the street closing for the Jobs Fair on August 18, 2022. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

The second request for a street closing was from St. Mary's Catholic Church for their Fall Festival to be held on Sunday, September 11, 2022. The street closing request is for 5th Street from Monroe Street to Madison Street. Sirk made a motion to approve the street closing of 5th Street from Monroe Street to Madison Street on September 11, 2022 for the St. Mary's Fall Festival. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Rickord received a letter from the Callithumpian Committee requesting \$1,000 towards the fireworks for Callithumpian Week. Dyer made a motion to approve the request from the Callithumpian Committee of \$1,000 from Council's promotional account. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted with Coshow abstaining.

Ordinance 2022-12, an ordinance to amend Chapter 130, Section 130.02 of the Decatur Code of Ordinances of 2015 regarding the slaughtering of animals within the City limits was read on two readings the previous meeting and now was brought forward for the third and final reading. The Ordinance amends the location and use of a commercial operation to be solely within an industrial park in an I-1 or I-2 industrial zoned area, and shall limit permissible commercial operations to slaughter, harvest or butcher of animals to cattle and processing of animal products fit for human consumption, shall comply with all requirements and conditions and the approval for a special exception use by the City of Decatur Board of Zoning Appeals, and shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, rules and regulations. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2022-12 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2022-12 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-12 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote showed 4-0 passage with Murray being absent.

Next on the agenda was Michelle Lengerich, Director for the Council on Aging which has its office located at the MERIT Center. Ms. Lengerich noted the library area has been turned into a Senior Center and noted a need for another entrance. Ms. Lengerich requested permission to make improvements to three (3) areas which she has taken before the MERIT Center Board and the County Council. First, with only one entrance, it was suggested to have a door added to the garden room. Secondly, there is a storage closet that could be used as far as the water hookup to build a handicap restroom. And, thirdly, building a garage and adding a driveway for the Council on Aging vehicles is proposed. Ms. Lengerich noted the funds have been attained from the County, and has applied for a grant through the Adams County Community Foundation, and has submitted a request to the County for monies from the American Rescue Fund. After discussion, it was noted there are still questions although Sirk noted he feels all request are legitimate needs. Fullenkamp commented that he is in favor of the improvements if the County is funding the improvements. Mayor Rickord suggested that Council needs to be involved in the plans and the determination of ownership after a new garage is built. Ms. Lengerich was instructed to have the County Attorney contact the City Attorney on an agreement between the City and County before any improvements are made. Mayor Rickord suggested Council members have time to study the area before taking any action.

Next on the agenda was an ordinance to increase sanitation rates to help pay for the debt service on the two new garbage trucks, dump trailer and recycle bins. The last rate increase was in 2009. The new trash and recycling cart/containers for the residents will be paid with funds received through the American Rescue Plan. City Attorney Anne Razo drafted two ordinances; one for a flat \$3.50 rate increase across the board and one with a 29.167% increase. Attorney Razo shared that after reviewing the code it was found that there are various rates besides residential such as usage at schools, churches, mobile homes, and other areas that a \$3.50 across the board rate would not be a uniform increase for all users while the 29.167% would be a uniform increase for all. Thus, Councilman Sirk made a motion to approve the 29.167% increase across all rate codes for sanitation fees effective September 1, 2022. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was carried. Attorney Razo also mentioned other Sections of Chapter 51 needed amended, Section 51.06 for required receptacles, and Section 51.16 for curbside containers for recycling. The City will provide the first trash cart and recycling cart to each user. Any additional trash cart shall be assessed a separate and additional fee per month. The carts are to remain with the property. Councilman Fullenkamp suggested to include in the Ordinance a fee if a container is lost or damaged. Attorney Razo recommended passing the Ordinance as written on two readings to have the rate increased to help cover the debt at this time, and then before final reading, can add provisions for lost or damaged containers. Sirk then made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2022-

14 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was carried and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2022-14 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2022-14 on its first reading. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and a roll call vote showed passage with a 4-0 vote with Murray being absent. Sirk made a motion to place Ordinance 2022-14 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2022-14 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to pass Ordinance 2022-14 on its second reading. Seconded by Dyer, a roll call vote passed with a vote of 4-0 with Murray being absent. Sirk made a motion to table Ordinance 2022-14 for third reading at the August 16, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was carried.

Department Heads Input:

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager informed Council that all the trash and recycling totes have arrived that will be used with the new garbage trucks. A letter has been sent to residents for two routes regarding the size and number of totes they desire and Gilbert asked that the surveys be returned to the City in a timely manner. The changeover of the new collection system will begin the week after heavy trash week in September and will be done by a week by week schedule with a target to have all routes involved by the week before Thanksgiving. The change would not be the smoothest at first as change brings some problems and there has not been a change for some time. He asked the residents be patient and work with the City workers. The new collection should make things safer for the employees, and be done more quickly. The new trucks should arrive in the next 4-6 weeks.

Fire Chief Jeff Sheets announced that the new firefighter, Nick Patton starts work tomorrow, Wednesday, August 3, 2022.

Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor shared that the painting and repairs to the Piqua Road water tower has started today and hopefully will be finished soon.

Karey Fuelling, Wastewater Superintendent reported that she had met with the engineers regarding the outfall for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. She also announced that she is hiring a full-time Wastewater Operator, applications and the job posting is on the Decatur website.

Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright informed Council that she will provide copies of the proposed 2023 budget form 1's for Council's review at the next meeting.

Public Input:

Leah Springer, who lives near the new Water plant on 600 north shared concerns about water pressure once the slaughterhouse begins using a large amount of water each day. She wants to be proactive rather than reactive and would like to know what plans the City has for that usage. Kevin Hackman, Utilities Auditor, informed her that the Winchester Street Plant would supply water to Industrial Park. Bill Carpenter, Assistant Water Superintendent informed her that the new water plant has the capacity above the current usage.

Fullenkamp made 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 was adopted.

Adjournment was at 7:35 P.M.