

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 6:40 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street. The meeting was called to order by Dan Rickord. Roll call was taken to show Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, Scott Murray, and Wylie Sirk were in attendance. 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 August 17, 2021 meeting. Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was the recognition of Fire Inspector Tim Bauman as he is retiring from the Decatur Fire Department after 42 years of service. Retired and active members of the Decatur Fire Department were in attendance to show their support for Bauman. Joel Thacker, Indiana State Fire Marshal was in attendance to honor and present Bauman with a Meritorious Service Award. Mr. Thacker noted that very few firefighters remain active in a department for over 20 years let alone 42 years as Bauman has done. Thacker presented the award to Bauman and his wife and son because being a firefighter involves the entire family as they make many sacrifices. Mayor Rickord thanked Chief Thacker for being in attendance at this evenings recognition for Inspector Bauman. Sirk then made a motion to introduce Resolution 2021-10 to be read in its entirety. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was passed and City Attorney Tim Baker read Resolution 2021-10, a resolution honoring Fire Inspector Tim Bauman for his 42 years of service, in its entirety. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-10. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted. A signed copy of Resolution 2021-10 was then presented to Fire Inspector Tim Bauman.

Assistant Fire Chief Hitchcock and Chief Marckel then presented a unique plaque to Bauman to recognize his retirement and extend their appreciation of his 42 years of service. Firefighter Bauman then thanked all for their recognition and shared that it had been a privilege to serve as he stated that he “spent all of his life doing what he liked to do.” Mayor Rickord on behalf of the Council commented that it was an honor to recognize an employee with such a longevity of service to the City of Decatur. He thanked all those retired and active firefighters for their service and for coming to assist in the recognition of Firefighter Tim Bauman.

A letter was received from the Callithumpian Committee requesting financial support towards the “Fireworks Extravaganza” in the amount of \$1,000. If not possible they would consider a \$500 donation. It was noted that the Council’s promotional account has a balance of approximately \$800. Dyer made a motion to direct the Clerk-Treasurer to transfer funds within the Council budget to provide a \$1,000 donation to the Callithumpian Committee. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted. Sirk and Coshow abstained from voting.

Vince Millolland was present seeking information regarding what steps should be taken to allow the Decatur Cub Scouts to clear the area near the Boy Scout Cabin to allow for trails and possibly build a rope bridge. Mr. Millholland was informed that he needs to speak with the members of the Decatur Park Board and also the Indiana DNR for grant funding. He was given the time and location of the next Park Board meeting. Concern was expressed regarding liability, especially regarding a rope bridge built by Cub Scouts.

Tim Ehlerding presented a rental application to use the Madison Street Plaza for a Belmont High School Class Reunion to be held on Saturday, Sept. 25, 2021 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Setup time will begin at noon and teardown the next day. They will need the use of the restrooms, electricity, and sound system. They will have officers working the event and have provided a certificate of insurance. Dyer made a motion to approve the class reunion on the Madison Street Plaza. Sirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Another event form had been received from Hailey Beer for a Countywide evening worship event on the Madison Street Plaza on Sunday, Sept. 19, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Setup time to begin at 4:00 p.m. and teardown at 9:00 p.m. They will need the restrooms, electricity and the sound system for a band. Since this is a community event, Dyer made a motion to approve the event and waive the fees. Fullenkamp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next event form was received from Fire Chief, Les Marckel to hold the annual open house at the Fire Station on Wednesday, Oct. 6th from 4:00 to 8:00 and is requesting to close south of Madison Street to Adams Street, but will allow access for the Decatur Police Department. Dyer made a motion to approve the street closing. Seconded by Murray. Motion carried.

Clerk-Treasurer, Phyllis Whitright announced that the Public Hearing for the 2022 budget has been changed to September 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. and the adoption date will be on October 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Department Heads Input:

Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert announced that heavy trash will be next week. Gilbert also noted that the 2nd Street Streetscapes Phases 2 and 3 project is going well.

Civil Infrastructure Manager, Don Bergdall reported they are still working on sewer projects.

Utilities Auditor, Kevin Hackman shared that the work on the water main loop along 500 N from Oak Grove to Deer Run will begin next week. Also, the project for the pipe replacement from the Berne Wells will begin.

Fire Chief, Les Marckel thanked all for being allowed to make the presentation for retiring Fire Inspector Tim Bauman this evening.

Sergeant Luke Rumschlag, representing the Decatur Police Department, shared that they will be sponsoring a golf outing on Saturday, October 23, 2021 for Jerry Wyss.

Council Input:

Coshow announced that the Highland Games will be held on Saturday, October 2, 2021.

Mayor Rickord reported that there will be an Adams-Wells Artist Tour on Saturday, October 2, 2021 with Dale White showcasing art at The HIVE from 4-7 P.M.

Dyer encouraged residents to box or bag as much as possible for heavy trash pick-up.

Sirk complimented Mayor Rickord for his representation of Decatur on WPTA's Life is Better Here which featured Decatur.

Sirk 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 Sirk, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 7:20 P.M.