

City of Decatur
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes
November 16, 2021

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. Members present were Craig Coshow, Tyler Fullenkamp, and Mayor Dan Rickord. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright and City Attorney Tim Baker.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes of the November 2, 2021 meeting. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the minutes. Coshow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Due to changes that need to be made to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and the Adams County Council on Aging in providing Administrative Services at the MERIT Center, the final approval of the MOU was tabled until the next meeting.

After reviewing the bids for water softening salt for the Water Treatment Plant which were opened at the November 2, 2021 meeting, Utilities Auditor Kevin Hackman recommended the lowest quote of \$121.50 per ton from Mid-American Salt, LLC. Coshow made a motion to approve Hackman's recommendation to accept the salt quote of \$121.50 per ton from Mid-American Salt. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. It was noted that Mid-American Salt is the current supplier of water softening salt for the Water Treatment Plant.

Bids were next opened for the Homestead Drainage Upgrade Project. Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright shared that the request for bids for the project had been published twice in the *Decatur Daily Democrat* and *The Berne Witness*. Mayor Rickord opened the bids, and the City Attorney read the bids aloud. The first bid opened was from Fleming Excavating, Inc., of Decatur at \$471,458.65. The second bid was from VTF Excavation LLC, of Celina, Ohio at \$466,481.40. Both bid included the Bid Bond for 5% and the properly executed Form 96. It was shared that the bids did not include the cost for relocating the utilities. Coshow made a motion for Operations Manager, Jeremy Gilbert to take the bids under advisement to review for the next meeting. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager appeared before the Board regarding the grinding of concrete. Gilbert mentioned that the lot is full at the Public Works property from the numerous projects done throughout the City this past year. The cost to grind all of the concrete would be \$120,000 but Gilbert suggested doing half this year at a cost of \$60,000 with \$20,000 being paid from the MVH-Street Fund and \$40,000 from the Water Utility. Coshow made a motion to approve the grinding of concrete at a cost of \$60,000. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager also had an ADA request from a local resident who had contacted him regarding concerns about some of the sidewalks in her area and around the City. Gilbert had a meeting with the resident and she mentioned that with the Second Street Streetscapes Project she had been forced to use other sidewalks from her Mercer Avenue residence and found the sidewalks need some work, especially for people using a wheelchair. Mayor Rickord remarked that not everyone sees what those in wheelchairs go through to get from one place to another. The Mayor mentioned that the City has a 50/50 cost sharing program for sidewalk improvements and noted some of the neighbors need to participate in this 50/50 program, which is a great deal for residents to replace sidewalks for half the cost. Mayor Rickord suggested that perhaps the City needed to better market the 50/50 Program and talk to some of the residents. Gilbert commented that the City has responsibilities regarding ADA compliance, and that the local resident wanted to bring to the City's attention the area of Legion Park which needs to

be upgraded on Oak Street. Gilbert shared that at conferences regarding ADA compliance, the message has been that if you see someone in a wheelchair, stop and watch in order to see how things are going for them. Perhaps even stop and talk with them to see what their needs are.

The next item of business was from Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent, regarding Code Enforcement for the residence at 1015 Elm Street which is owned by Juan Mendez. Witte stated that the first notice sent to Mr. Mendez was on July 9, 2020 asking him to call Witte's office. No call was received and further notices and calls had been made to Mr. Mendez with no response. On August 21, 2020 a permit had been sought by Mr. Mendez, but from the rest of August through December, 2020 showed no changes to the property. On December 7, 2020 a structural permit was pulled. As of December 15, no work had been done. On February 2, 2021 Witte called Mr. Mendez who told Witte he was waiting for warmer weather. Witte had checked on the progress regularly from February 2, 2021 to November 4, 2021 with no action and on November 4, 2021 notice was served by the Decatur Police Department ordering Juan Mendez to appear before the Board of Public Works and Safety on Tuesday, November 16, 2021. Mr. Mendez was in attendance and shared that he really wanted to demolish the home, since it is in the flood plain and he had put in a new floor only to have it ruined with the last flood. Witte told Mr. Mendez his options were to show some progress or tear down the house. The City could tear it down for the disposal costs of all materials with Mr. Mendez paying for those costs. Operations Manager Jeremy Gilbert gave an estimate of \$2,000 for the disposal of the materials with the invoice being paid within 30 days by Mr. Mendez. Board member, Coshow also instructed the owner he would be responsible for fill dirt and re-seeding the yard in the spring, which the owner agreed to. Mr. Mendez welcomed the opportunity to meet with Building and Zoning Superintendent Curt Witte to sign the contract with the City for the demolition of the home at the cost of the removal of all materials being paid within 30 days of receiving the invoice.

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 6:33 P.M.