

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 3, 2026

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 6:20 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street, Decatur. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rickord who then invited those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Roll call was taken to show Jenny Bowers-Shultz, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, and Abby Wilder were present and Scott Murray was absent. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Eran Hackman and City Attorney Anne Razo.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the February 17, 2026 meeting and Dyer made a motion to adopt the minutes of the February 17, 2026 meeting as emailed. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was Ordinance 2026-3, an ordinance of the City of Decatur Common Council to prohibit the use of public records for commercial purposes. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to place Ordinance 2026-3 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2026-3 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to pass Ordinance 2026-3 on its first reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call passed 4-0 with Murray being absent. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 2026-3 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2026-3 by short title only. Shultz-Bowers made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2026-3 on its second and final reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call was held and passed 4-0 with Murray being absent.

Next on the agenda, Mayor Rickord noted the printed agenda had included a possible discussion regarding the Parks and Recreation. Mayor Rickord shared the City is aware of the issue of the need for space for activities and is working to solve the issues. Mayor Rickord shared the City is working with the County and they are working with a consultant to assist with possible funding methods and so forth.

City Attorney Anne Razo added the City has definitely heard the questions of the citizens and is making a great deal of effort in trying to find a solution.

Mayor Rickord noted the great weekend the Belmont Girls' Basketball Team had by winning the State Title. He shared the team is invited to the March 17, 2026 meeting where a resolution will be presented in their honor.

Mayor Rickord also recognized Belmont junior Logan Whitacre who finished 12th in the State in diving competition on Saturday.

Department Heads Input:

Cara Gerber, Parks & Recreation Superintendent, shared the staff is getting geared up for the Daddy/Daughter and Mother/Son Dances taking place soon. The dances will be Mad Hatter themed.

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent, urged citizens to contribute to the NeighborLink program as the group assists County residents in service such as fixing problems or providing dumpsters for clean-up issues.

Josh Zimmerman, Stormwater Superintendent, noted work will begin on March 4, 2026 to install new water mains on 12th Street from Jackson Street to Nuttman Avenue and on Jackson Street from 11th to 12th Street.

Council Input:

Bowers-Shultz shared she had received a call from a resident regarding the bad conditions of the railroad crossing on Washington Street. Mayor Rickord shared he is working with Bunge and the rail company trying to get a solution. He noted the City cannot do any work on the track.

Fullenkamp made a motion to pay the claims against the City as presented. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, Dyer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Adjournment was at 6:35 p.m.