

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 16, 2023

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 7:00 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 Craig Coshow, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, Scott Murray, and Wylie Sirk were in attendance. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright and City Attorney Anne Razo.

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

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the May 2, 2023 meeting and Dyer made a motion to accept the minutes as emailed. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Rickord welcomed Victoria Hamrick, a member of the Mayor's Youth Council and thanked her for her attendance.

Next, various resolution were presented for consideration. The first resolution, Resolution 2023-5, established a capital assets policy and \$5,000 threshold for the City was presented. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2023-5 by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Resolution 2023-5 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-5. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Resolution 2023-6, a resolution to transfer funds within the LIT-Public Safety Fund, was brought forth. The transfer had been requested by the Police Chief to move \$35,000 from the infrastructure account that was to upgrade the network system at the Police Department, but is no longer needed, and to transfer those funds to the vehicle account to pay for the remaining cost of a new police vehicle and equipment. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2023-6 by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed and City Attorney Razo read Resolution 2023-6 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-6. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Resolution 2023-7, a resolution to amend the Employee Handbook dated 1/1/18, effective 5/16/23 was brought forward, which amends policies #114 disability accommodations, #303 vacations, #305 holidays, #307 sick leave benefits, #316 health insurance, #510 emergency closings, and #512 business travel expense meals. Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2023-7 by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Resolution 2023-7 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-7. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda was the Application for Economic Revitalization Area Designation from I-O Properties, LLC. and I-O Enterprise, LLC. Riggs Florence, owner and Colton Bickel, Executive Director of the Adams County Economic Development Corporation appeared to make a presentation seeking 10-year abatements regarding the property and equipment. Mr. Florence commented that the complete line of equipment had been ordered from the Netherlands at a cost of approximately \$9.36 million. The equipment is expected to arrive in September with start-up within a month. The hope is to begin operating by early November with 103 employees and an average salary of \$24 per hour, and approximately \$6.6 million in salaries. Mayor Rickord noted how this will be a major investment in Decatur and explained a 10-year tax abatement, that does not mean any taxes will be paid, the amount of abatement is decreased 10% each year until there is no abatement after the tenth year.

The first action needed was a motion by Murray to declare the real property as an economic revitalization area. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Due to the amount of investment, Councilman Dyer made a motion to allow the personal property and also the real property a term of ten (10) years for an abatement. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2023-8 by short title only, a Declaratory Resolution for the Designation of an Economic Revitalization Area for I-O Properties, LLC real estate located at 400 Chamber Drive, Decatur. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Resolution 2023-8 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-8. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Sirk made a motion to introduce Resolution 2023-9, a Declaratory Resolution for the Designation of an Economic Revitalization Area upon the application of I-O Enterprises, LLC for the equipment to be abated for ten (10) years, by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Resolution 2023-9 by short title only. Sirk made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-9. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

City Attorney Anne Razo announced that with the adoption of the Declaratory Resolutions a Public Hearing is necessary for the Confirming Resolution, which the Public Hearing will be held at the next Council meeting beginning at approximately 7:00 p.m. on June 6, 2023.

Next on the agenda was a Petition for Voluntary Annexation of 24.219 acres for the Lake Shores Addition, Phase 9, with approximately 65 lots to be developed, and an estimated assessed value of approximately \$16 million. The annexation area will extend existing Lake Shore Drive and connect it with N. Piqua Road and also add a new road connecting Lake Shores Drive to the existing Monroe Street Extended. The annexation is located south of Monroe Street Extended and northeast of N. Piqua Road. The petition is from the Dorothy J. Dryer Revocable Living Trust. It was shared that with the petition a fiscal plan was required by law. Attorney Razo, with the input from the City's Department Heads, had prepared the fiscal plan which resulted in a whelming advantage to the City. Sirk made a motion to make the Petition for Annexation of Lake Shores Addition Phase 9 a matter of record. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Sirk then made a motion to make the Fiscal Plan for the Annexation a matter of record. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted. A Public Hearing regarding action on the annexation will be held at the next Council meeting on June 6, 2023 starting at approximately 7:30 p.m. after which the appropriate ordinance will be considered. Copies of the Fiscal Plan are available for public review in the Clerk-Treasurer's office at City Hall.

Next on the agenda were some event forms.

The first event form presented by Clerk-Treasurer Phyllis Whitright was for an Armed Forces Day Benefit event to be held at 254 North 2nd Street on May 20, 2023 from noon to 10 p.m. They requested closing the alley half a block from Jackson St. Dyer made a motion to approve the request for the Armed Forced Day Event. Seconded by Sirk, the motion was adopted.

An event form for a Class Reunion for the Class of 2013 on Madison Street Plaza was next considered. The event will be held from 6-10 p.m. on August 12, 2023. Two Poor Guys will serve the alcohol and a DJ will be used. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the Class of 2013's request. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

The third event form was for the annual Memorial Day Celebration to be held on May 29, 2023 and will begin on the Jackson Street Bridge and then move to the downtown Memorial. Sirk

made a motion to approve the Memorial Day Celebration Event. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Murray made a motion regarding the Decatur Chamber of Commerce request for a flower pot sponsorship of \$110. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. Coshow abstained from voting.

Mayor Rickord gave an update regarding three (3) summer projects around the City. He shared that the work at Riverside Center which will result with six (6) pickleball courts and one (1) volleyball court. The area will also include a shuffleboard area. The second project addressed was the Kekionga area, to include a Dog Park, stocking the pond, and redoing the co-ed softball diamonds and lighting. Thirdly, Mayor Rickord noted work at the REV Sports Complex, there will be another pickleball court to increase the two (2) courts to three (3) courts. Projects should be completed this summer.

Mayor Rickord announced the upcoming event of a golf cart parade fund raising event for the Kekionga project, with a Patronicity grant which match up to \$50,000 if the City receives donations of \$50,000.00. Mayor Rickord will provide total cost of the project at the next meeting to possibly requesting ARP funds to help with this project.

Mayor Rickord remarked that the City needs to meet with the County again regarding surveying the property at the MERIT Center, as the County has agreed to the project. Mayor Rickord noted the positive work in cooperation of the City and County this year.

Mayor Rickord shared that Victoria Hamrick, member of the Mayor's Youth Council had brought to his attention the need of a life skills class for students, a project she is working to create to assist students.

Department Heads Input:

Curt Witte, Building and Zoning Superintendent gave an update regarding the 50/50 Sidewalk Program, noting the year started with \$64,557 and will finish with \$7,070.64. There are currently thirteen (13) signed contracts. Witte commented that funds may run out for this year if any more sidewalks are needed after these contracts are completed.

Audience Input:

Mary Byer commented that before Council finalizes the abatement for I-O, that a privacy fence and something about the odor should be considered. Ms. Byer was informed that these items would be addressed by City code.

Council Input:

Coshow announced that high school and middle school music students will be participating during the breaks at the Thursday evening concerts. He shared that three (3) had been scheduled and two (2) others were added today.

Murray made a 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, Coshow made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Dyer the motion was adopted.

Adjournment was at 7:53 P.M.