

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 21, 2024

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at 6:34 P.M. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street, Decatur. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dan 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, Scott Murray, and Abby Wilder were in attendance. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Kevin Hackman and City Attorney Anne Razo.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the May 7, 2024 meeting and Dyer made a motion to adopt the minutes of the May 7, 2024 meeting as emailed. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was a request from the Decatur Chamber for funds to assist in the payment for the fireworks to be presented on the 4th of July. After discussion, Dyer made a motion to fund the fireworks at a level of \$2,500.00. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda was Victor Canales who in turn introduced his son Carson to explain the request regarding an event to be held on September 21, 2024 on Madison Street Plaza and likely also on First Street. The event would be a Festival De Hispanos Decatur. The event would be a family friendly social event to feature Hispanic culture, food, artists and activities. A mariachi band is scheduled to play during the day. Murray made a motion to accept the Event Form after Community Coordinator Jamie Gephart shared it had been properly filed. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Community Coordinator Jamie Gephart then presented various Event Forms.

The first Event Form was for the Memorial Day Parade sponsored by the American Legion, Post 43. The event is to begin at 10:30 a.m. at Yost Bridge on Jackson Street for the traditional wreath tossing service into the St. Mary's River. The parade would begin at 10:45 a.m. and go west on Jackson Street to Second Street and then would go south to Court Street. Thus, the need to close that portion of Jackson Street, Second Street, and Court Street. Wilder made a motion to accept the American Legion Event Form for the Memorial Day Parade on May 22, 2024. Seconded by Bowers-Shultz, the motion was adopted.

The next Event Form was for the Belmont High School class of 2004 to hold its class reunion on the Madison Street Plaza. The event would be held on August 3, 2024 with an estimate of 100 people. Fullenkamp made a motion to accept the Class of 2004 Event Form. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

The third Event Form was for the Yoga on the Plaza event. The event is to be held on June 8, July 13, and August 24, 2024 starting at 9 a.m. each day. Dyer made a motion to accept the Yoga on the Plaza Event Form. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

The final item brought forth by Community Coordinator Jamie Gephart regarded the replacement of the banner on the east side of City Hall regarding the sculpture tour. Dyer made a motion to allow the replacement of said banner. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Bowers-Shultz brought up the idea of forming a committee to consider designing a flag and seal for the City of Decatur. Mayor Rickord shared he sees the project needing multiple phrases. Bowers-Shultz asked for a second Council Member to join her and Councilman Murray agreed to assist. Dyer made a motion to accept Bowers-Shultz's request to form a committee to consider designing a flag and seal for the City. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Building and Zoning Superintendent Curt Witte then gave an update regarding the Skate Park. It was shared by Mayor Rickord that he had talked to a group of skateboarders regarding the area on Short Street and they said the location was fine but the condition was trashy. Thus, listening to the youth, work began on proposing an update of the Skate Park. Witte reported work will begin this week as concrete is being poured by TG Concrete. It was noted additional funds are needed for the completion of the project. Dyer made a motion to approve the addition of \$10,000 from the ARPA funds to complete the project. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, presented a report on the Roadway Safety audits performed by Purdue/LTAP. The areas studied were 28th Street at Monroe Street, Second Street at Jackson Street, and 11th Street at Elm Street. Included for each studied area were recommendations to possibly make each of the areas safer. Dyer made a motion to accept the Purdue/LTPA Study. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Dyer made a motion to make a matter of record the Notice to Taxpayers of Additional Appropriation. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Clerk-Treasurer Kevin Hackman shared there was a need for an additional appropriation in the 2024 Budget to fund the heating system work at The MERIT Center at an amount of \$200,000.00. Thus, Resolution 2024-4, a resolution for an additional appropriation of \$200,000.00 for the heating system at The MERIT Center was brought forth. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to introduce Resolution 2024-4 by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Resolution 2024-4 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-4. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda was the third reading for Ordinance 2024-6, an ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Decatur, Indiana, which amends Chapter 78, Schedule 3 of the Code of Ordinance to add a handicap spot at 247 N 6th Street. Bowers-Shultz

made a motion to place Ordinance 2024-6 on its third reading by short title only. Seconded by Murray, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2024-6 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-6 on its third and final reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call vote was taken and Ordinance 2024-6 was adopted by a 5-0 vote.

Building and Zoning Superintendent Curt Witte brought up for discussion land owned by the City on 8th Street. City Attorney Anne Razo provided the process that needed to be followed if the City decides to move forward with possibly selling the lot. No action was taken at this time.

Clerk-Treasurer Kevin Hackman announced it is nearing Budget time and encouraged Council Members to be thinking of any projects/areas for the 2025 Budget.

Department Heads:

Josh Zimmerman, Civil Infrastructure Manager, noted that he should have data from the manhole sensor study by mid-June.

Public Input

An individual present noted her concerns regarding the traffic pattern around the school when she takes her child to school each day. Mayor Rickord noted a meeting had been held recently and he wondered if some funds discussed at that time could be used to make some needed changes. Jeremy Gilbert noted he could bring this to INDOT's attention.

Council Input:

Murray made a motion to pay the claims before the City. Seconded by Bowers-Shultz, 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 7:22 P.M.