

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 16, 2024

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, 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 in attendance while Scott Murray was absent. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Kevin Hackman and City Attorney Anne Razo.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the July 2, 2024 meeting and Dyer made a motion to adopt the minutes of the July 2, 2024 meeting as emailed. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was Beth Johnson, representing USI Consultants, regarding a discussion held during the Board of Public Works and Safety meeting and grant money available from the State to upgrade areas around the school regarding safety issues. The first project study would be to upgrade crosswalk safety along East Monroe Street and Piqua Road in the amount of \$5,000. The second suggestion would be the addition of a left turn lane at Jackson Street at the school entrance to lower the traffic jam at the beginning and ending times of each school day, in the amount of \$10,000. The Board had passed a motion authorizing Mayor Rickord to sign the authorization to proceed forms if the Council provides funds for the process. Operations Manager Jeremy Gilbert noted that MVH funds could be used for the \$5,000 study. Mayor Rickord suggested ARPA funds for the second study. Fullenkamp made a motion to proceed with the application process with USI Consultants working through the process of application, engineering work, and construction for a total of \$15,000. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Next, a representative from Robinson Outdoors appeared before the Council to share information regarding a digital billboard to be placed at 1301 Patterson Street. The billboard will contain such information as weather warnings, amber alerts, and other emergency types of information as well as local information. The representative noted he simply wanted to explain what the company offers and noted it is hoped to have the billboard in place in the next few months.

Next on the agenda was a request from the Decatur Chamber of Commerce for funds to assist with the cost of the fireworks for Callithumpian Week. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to fund the fireworks at \$1,000. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Jamie Gephart, Community Coordinator, appeared before the Council with two event forms. The first form was from Adams Memorial Hospital for an event on Madison

Street Plaza on Thursday, September 5, 2024. Four to five hundred people are expected with the request to close 1st Street. Dyer made a motion to accept the Event Form from Adams Memorial Hospital. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

The second Event Form was for the St. Mary's Fall Fest to be held on September 8, 2024 which asked for the closing of a portion of 5th Street from Monroe Street south. Dyer made a motion to accept the Fall Fest Event Form. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda was a request to use up to \$49,000 of APRA Funds to purchase the needed equipment to properly outfit the new dump truck which has arrived earlier than expected. The Board of Public Works and Safety had opened quotes for this project and Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, recommended accepting the low quote from WA Jones in the amount of \$89,610. Gilbert noted he had approximately \$40,000 in his budget but needed additional funds to purchase the needed equipment rather than waiting until the 2025 budget. Dyer made a motion to dedicate up to \$49,000 of the APRA Funds to fund the needed equipment for the dump truck. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Resolution 2024-5, a resolution noting three (3) parcels of land owned by the City as surplus property, was brought forward. The parcels would be donated to the Decatur Redevelopment Commission. The parcels have been surveyed and have legal descriptions. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to introduce Resolution 2024-5 by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Resolution 2024-5 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz then made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-5. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Ordinance 2024-8, an ordinance to amend the Code Enforcement Division to allow for fast track abatement of weed and vegetation issues, was brought forward. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to place Ordinance 2024-8 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2024-8 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz then made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-8 on its first reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call vote showed 4-0 passage with Murray being absent. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to place Ordinance 2024-8 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2024-8 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-8 on its second reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call vote passed 4-0. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to table Ordinance 2024-8 for third reading at the August 6, 2024 meeting. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Ordinance 2024-9, an ordinance to change the speed limit from 30 to 25 miles per hour on Fairway Drive and Court Street in Cross Creek Subdivision, was brought forth. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to place Ordinance 2024-9 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2024-9 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-9 on its first reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call vote passed 4-0 with Murray

being absent. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to place Ordinance 2024-9 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2024-9 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-9 on its second reading. Seconded by Wilder a roll call vote was held and passed 4-0. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to table Ordinance 2024-9 for third reading at the August 6, 2024 meeting. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Clerk-Treasurer Kevin Hackman reminded Council Members that work will be continuing on the 2025 Budget for next month.

Bowers-Shultz inquired regarding lighting for over the bridge area. Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, noted talks had been held with the State regarding the addition of lighting in that area.

Department Heads:

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, shared that Brooks Construction is to start work regarding the latest Community Crossings project around the 1st of August. Work is also started for application for the next round of grants.

Fire Chief Jeff Sheets shared the application process for a position in the department had closed last Friday and they received 10 applications.

Josh Zimmerman, Civil Infrastructure and Stormwater Manager, shared work has begun on the Stormwater Outfall project.

Karey Fuelling, Wastewater Superintendent, noted letters had gone out to property owners regarding smoke testing and noted if people had questions they could call her office.

Council Input:

It was shared that Bowers-Shultz, Murray, and Mayor Rickord had met with MLS regarding some design for the Lake Shores issue. It was noted some ideas came out of the meeting.

Fullenkamp made a motion to pay the claims against the City. 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 Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Adjournment was at 7:43 P.M.