

**CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
AUGUST 5, 2025**

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at 7:33 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 July 15, 2025 meeting and Dyer made a motion to adopt the minutes of the July 15, 2025 meeting as emailed. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was presented by Jamie Gephart, Community Coordinator, as she presented quotes for the 6 planters for the Cat Alley, a Decatur Main Street Project. The Grainery gave a quote of \$2,550 and an on-line source, E Planters, quoted the 6 planters at \$4,243. The quotes included 3 of the planters at 24 inches and 3 at 36 inches. Dyer made a motion to purchase the 6 planters from The Grainery at a cost of \$2,550. Seconded by Bower-Schultz, the motion was adopted.

Fullenkamp made a motion to make a matter of record the Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Statement for Karey Fuelling. Seconded by Bowers-Shultz, the motion was adopted.

For informational purposes, Clerk-Treasurer Eran Hackman distributed an outline of important dates regarding the upcoming budget season. Beginning with the Council review of Budget Form 1 with the Department Heads on August 19, 2025, then the Budget Public Hearing on September 16, 2025. Budget Adoption on October 7, 2025. First reading of Salary Ordinances on October 7<sup>th</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the salary ordinances on October 21, 2025.

Next on the agenda was Resolution 2025-9, a resolution which is an amendment to the Employee Handbook which mandates Harassment Training for all current employees and all new hires. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to introduce Resolution 2025-9 by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Resolution 2025-9 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-9. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda was Resolution 2025-10, a resolution to authorize an increase to the Decatur Police Department petty cash fund from \$200 to \$400. Dyer made a motion

to introduce Resolution 2025-10 by short title only. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Resolution 2025-10 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-10. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda was a discussion regarding the adoption of a wheel tax. The Mayor and Council Members noted they were not in favor of adding additional taxes, but road improvements and public safety were key factors to consider. After some discussion regarding the need to adopt an ordinance to allow for a wheel tax in order to get state funds for roads, Ordinance 2025-5 was brought forth. Ordinance 2025-5, an Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Decatur imposing a municipal Wheel Tax and Motor Vehicle License Excise Tax and Creating the City of Decatur Wheel Tax Fund and the City of Decatur Motor Vehicle License Excise Tax Fund, was brought forth. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2025-5 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2025-5 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to pass Ordinance 2025-5 on its first reading. Seconded by Dyer, a vote was held and passed 4-0 with Murray being absent. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to table Ordinance 2025-5 until the next meeting on August 19, 2025. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Following the adoption of Ordinance 2025-5 on its first reading, City Attorney Anne Razo announced a Public Hearing regarding said Ordinance would be held on August 19, 2025 at 7 p.m.

Ordinance 2025-6, is an ordinance to amend the salary ordinance which includes a full-time versus a part-time employee in the storm water and waste water department. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2025-6 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2025-6 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to pass Ordinance 2025-6 on its first reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call vote passed 4-0 with Murray absent. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 2025-6 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and City Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2025-6 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-6 on its second reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call passed 4-0 with Murray being absent.

#### Department Heads Input:

Police Chief Kevin Gerber announced that their shed had been delivered.

Fire Chief Jeff Sheets announced that Adams Memorial Hospital extinguisher training had been completed.

Bill Carpenter, Assistant Water Department Superintendent, noted that the “Get the Lead Out” campaign would start again at the end of August the week of the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Josh Zimmerman, Stormwater Superintendent, noted work had been completed around Schirmeyer Street.

Public Input:

John Summers, a member of the Adams County Council, appeared before the Council requesting funds to help finish the project to get a flag flying on top of the Court House. The final amount of funds needed to finish the project is \$6,600. Summers shared that many felt the City should share in the cost since the Court House and City Hall are so closely located to each other. Summers was seeking a 50/50 cost share with the County and the City. Council Members and Mayor Rickord shared their positive views to have a flag flying over the Court House, and Wilder made a motion for the City to assist in the funding at the amount of \$3,300. Seconded by Bowers-Shultz, the motion was adopted.

City Attorney Anne Razo shared she was approached by some of the Judges asking her to ask Council members to think of ideas to encourage the decision of keeping the Judicial Center located in downtown Decatur.

Council Input:

Fullenkamp made a motion to pay the claims against 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 8:17 p.m.