

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2024

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Thursday, September 3, 2024, at 6:29 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 August 22, 2024 meeting and Dyer made a motion to adopt the minutes of the August 22, 2024 meeting as emailed. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

The first items on the agenda were Event Forms presented by Jamie Gephart, Community Coordinator. The first Event was a concert sponsored by the Adams County Cancer Coalition on Madison Plaza on September 20, 2024. The concert will be held from 6-9 p.m. Gephart noted everyone had signed the forms as she was waiting on liability insurance paperwork. Dyer made a motion to accept the Event Form for the Adams County Cancer Coalition. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

The second event was the 5th Annual Regional Recovery project on Madison Street Plaza from 2-10 p.m. on October 12, 2024. They expect 500 people. There will be a few vendors and speakers. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the event. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Jamie Gephart, Community Coordinator, sought permission to add a social media archive subscription for the City. Gephart noted that all social media content is considered public record and the City must retain archives. The subscription would cover up to 12 social media accounts for the City. The cost is pro-rated to begin in September, 2024 at \$849 which included the \$500 set-up fee. The cost for 2025 would be \$4,188. The contract would be renewable each year. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to accept the contract which includes the rest of 2024 and 2025. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Assistant Police Chief Chris Brite appeared before the Council seeking the use of ARPA Funds in order to begin working on the Standard Operations Procedures (SOP) for the Department this fall. The department is trying to update all of its policies. The cost is \$2,792.60 for 2024 and \$11,000 for 2025 which is included in the 2025 Budget proposal. The money will be used to purchase a subscription from Lexipol Company which would assist the department in training and adhering to the SOP of the department. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to use ARPA Funds for work to be done in 2024 at a rate of \$2,792.60. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Attorney Anne Razo shared the Riverfront Development Project is at the point of having to know what kind of revenues are available. It was shared the City is working in conjunction with the Decatur Redevelopment Commission. Council was asked for approval to send an engagement letter to Crowe, the City's Municipal Advisor, to provide a quote to assist in the process. It was also noted there is a developer interested in the project. Fullenkamp made a motion to proceed with the engagement letter to Crowe. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Clerk-Treasurer Kevin Hackman distributed a copy of the 2025 Budget Summary which included a few changes following the August 22, 2024 meeting. Hackman noted a Public Hearing regarding the 2025 Budget will be held on September 17, 2024. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to set a Public Hearing for September 17, 2024 at 7pm. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted

City Attorney Anne Razo shared the Board of Public Works and Safety had accepted two (2) parcels of land/lots from the US Railroad Vest Corporation earlier this evening. The parcels are 4.85 acres and 1.70 acres. Wilder made a motion for the City to accept the lots and have them titled in the appropriate way (to the Parks Department). Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Department Heads Input:

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, shared the first part of the pavement markings that were approved a couple meetings ago had been completed. The second phase will be done following the paving resulting from the latest Communities Crossing Grant.

Gilbert shared the milling to be done by Brook's Construction Company is on schedule to be completed over the next couple of months. Work is actually slated to be started on September 17, 2024.

Gilbert also shared that Heavy Trash Pickup will be next week.

Police Chief Jeff Sheets shared Fire Ops 101 training is scheduled for Saturday, October 19, 2024.

Josh Zimmerman, City Infrastructure Manager, shared emergency repairs for a stormwater outfall are nearly complete. Zimmerman shared that severe erosion along the St. Mary's River bank along the east side of N. First Street near E. Monroe Street greatly affected an outfall system requiring immediate work.

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

Adjournment was at 7:40 P.M.