

CITY OF DECATUR  
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES  
JANUARY 2, 2024

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, January 2, 2024, 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 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.

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

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the December 19, 2023 meeting and Dyer made a motion to accept the minutes as emailed. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Rickord noted three (3) members of the Mayor's Youth Council were in attendance and each gave her name and grade at Belmont High School—Victoria Hamrick, Brooke Sutter, and Andrea Curtis.

The first item on the agenda concerned the Oath of Office forms for those elected to various positions. Murray made a motion to make a matter of record the various Oath of Office forms. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. Those taking Oath of Office were Dan Rickord as Mayor, Kevin Hackman as City Clerk-Treasurer, Matt Dyer (At-large), Jenny Bowers-Shultz (District 1), Tyler Fullenkamp (District 2), Abby Wilder (District 3), Scott Murray (District 4) to City Council.

Next concerned the Certificate of Appointment/Oath of Office forms for those appointed to various positions. Murray made a motion to make a matter of record the various Certificate of Appointment forms. Seconded by Bowers-Shultz, the motion was adopted. Those appointed were Anne Razo as City Attorney, Tyler Fullenkamp as a Board of Public Works and Safety and Plan Commission member, Craig Coshow as a Board of Public Works and Safety member, Erin Heyerly as Utilities Auditor, Karey Fuelling as Wastewater Superintendent, Bill Carpenter as Assistant Water Superintendent, Curt Witte as Building and Zoning Superintendent, Brad Roe as Assistant Building and Zoning Superintendent, Jeremy Gilbert as Operations Manager/Supt, Matt Schultz as Assistant Operations Manager, Kevin Gerber as Police Chief, Chris Brite as Deputy Police Chief, Jeff Sheets as Fire Chief, Chad Baumann as Deputy Fire Chief, Phil Summers and Dave Schnitz as Board of Zoning Appeals members, Wendi Gephart and Cherie Beinz as Deputy Clerk-Treasurers.

Next was the election of a Mayor Pro Tem. Wilder made a motion to nominate Dyer to serve as the Mayor Pro Tem. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion passed.

## Department Heads

Mayor Rickord noted that Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, had spoken earlier to various areas needing work regarding vehicle and pedestrian safety. He stated these areas will be worked on this year.

Dyer inquired regarding the Dog Park. Gilbert shared the Park opens tomorrow—Wednesday, January 3, 2024. Information is available at Riverside Center and people wanting to use the Park must present proof of vaccination and the cost is \$30 for the year. The name of the park is a result of a contest and is Paws and Play Park. It was noted the rules are posted at the Park.

Police Chief Kevin Gerber shared his department is taking applications for an officer.

Jamie Gephart, Community Coordinator, shared the City website is being updated.

## Council Input

Dyer shared that as a result of a report by WZBD regarding the schools he is meeting with the Superintendent of North Adams Community Schools tomorrow regarding how the schools can be marketed better. He noted the continuation of the School and the City working together.

Fullenkamp welcomed the two new members—Bowers-Shultz and Wilder—to the Council.

A member of the Mayor's Youth Council, Victoria Hamrick, shared she is still working on getting students involved in programs that are basic but not part of the school curriculum. She shared she has produced life skills videos and they are available on the City YouTube page.

Dyer made a motion to pay the claims before the City. Seconded by Murray, the motion was adopted.

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, Dyer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Adjournment was at 7:13 P.M.