

City of Decatur
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes
January 6, 2026

The City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety Members met on Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street, Decatur. Members present were Craig Coshow, Tyler Fullenkamp, and Mayor Dan Rickord. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Eran Hackman and City Attorney Anne Razo.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the December 16, 2025 meeting. Coshow made a motion to adopt the minutes of December 16, 2025 as emailed. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was a motion by Fullenkamp to make a matter of record the resignation letter from Derek Schultz resigning from the Decatur Fire Department. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Police Chief Kevin Gerber appeared before the Board seeking permission to hire a lateral officer, Kobey Eaton, for an open position in the Department. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the hiring of the lateral officer, Kobey Eaton, to fill the department vacancy. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Police Chief Kevin Gerber than sought permission to proceed with the hiring process for 6 applicants that had been interviewed recently. Noting Assistant Chief Chris Brite plans to retire, likely in June, Chief Gerber shared his desire to hire an officer prior to Officer Brite's retirement. Chief Gerber sought permission to proceed with background checks and physicals. Fullenkamp made a motion to allow Chief Gerber to proceed with the process for the future hiring of an officer to fill the vacancy caused by Assistant Chief Chris Brite's retirement. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Chief Kevin Gerber shared that Dallas Creager had been hired a year ago as a member of the Decatur Police Department and his year of probation ends on Wednesday, January 7, 2026. Thus, Fullenkamp made a motion to remove the probation status and place Officer Creager as a regular status officer. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Next, an INDOT change order for the final quantity adjustment for the roundabout was brought forth for a signature. Fullenkamp made a motion to authorize Mayor Rickord to sign the INDOT change order regarding the roundabout. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

Building and Zoning Superintendent Curt Witte appeared before the Board regarding the Code Enforcement issue discussed at the December 16, 2025 meeting regarding the residence at 809 N. Second Street. It was reviewed that the owner had been given until today to clean up the rubbish and vegetation or a daily fine would begin. Witte shared he had received a phone call today from the owner asking for an extension. Witte shared he and Assistant Superintendent Brad Roe had agreed to an extension as the owner gave Witte and Roe permission to visit him at the residence and work with him. Witte noted an extension date of January 21, 2026 was given. Coshow made a motion to accept the recommendation of Superintendent Witte for the January 20, 2026 date for cleanup or a fine will be placed on a daily rate. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda were Fire Chief Jeff Sheets and Police Chief Kevin Gerber regarding the phone service for each department. It was shared both departments currently were on the County System and they had been given 30 days to leave that system. Both department leaders sought permission to become a

part of the Gigtel phone plan currently used by the City which would have a great savings at nearly ½ the cost paid to the County. Coshow made a motion to accept both departments as part of the City's Gigtel phone system. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Coshow made a motion to authorize Mayor Rickord as a signer for the contract with Midstates Recreation for the equipment purchased for the "Cat" alleyway. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

City Attorney Anne Razo reported the trash contract between the City and the Solid Waste Management District for 2026, noting there is a limit of 5% increase and the 2026 increase is 4.3% for an amount of \$59.71 per ton.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Coshow made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mayor Rickord, the motion passed.

Adjournment was at 6:20 p.m.