

City of Decatur
Board of Public Works & Safety Minutes
April 16, 2024

City of Decatur Board of Public Works and Safety members met on April 16, 2024 at 6:00 pm at City Hall in Council Chambers, 172 N. Second Street Decatur. Members present were Tyler Fullenkamp, Craig Coshow and Mayor Dan Rickord. Also present were Clerk – Treasurer, Kevin Hackman, and City Attorney, Anne Razo.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the April 2, 2024 meeting. Coshow made a motion to adopt the minutes from the April 2, 2024 meeting. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was a request from Infrastructure Manager, Josh Zimmerman, for a replacement of the air conditioning unit in the control room at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Zimmerman provided three quotes: Don Myers Plumbing at \$10,531.79, Rorick Electric at \$13,204.93, and Masters Heating & Cooling at \$12,394.00. The current unit is a Carrier unit that is only three years old. Zimmerman recommended the low quote from Don Myers and the Mitsubishi unit at \$10,531.79. It will take 5-7 weeks to get in due to the coils receiving a Blygold treatment to prevent corrosion. Fullenkamp made a motion to move forward with the Don Myers quote and Coshow seconded, the motion was adopted.

Next, Police Chief Kevin Gerber requested permission to use ARP Funds to purchase 8 Flock cameras, which are license plate readers to be placed at different locations coming into the city and throughout. The city would not own the cameras, but would own the data which would be available for 30 days. Chief Gerber noted that it has been highly effective in Wells County & the City of Bluffton and that the City of Ft. Wayne and Huntington use similar systems. Gerber stated Sheriff Dan Mawhorr is also looking into possibly using this system in the County. For 8 cameras, installation and a two-year subscription the cost would be \$53,200. Mayor Rickord suggested getting 4 cameras and then enhance the system later if needed. The 4-camera system would cost \$14,600 in Year 1 and \$12,000 in Year 2. Fullenkamp recommended to pay the first year with ARP Funds, but for Chief Gerber to find money within his budget for subsequent years. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve moving forward with the 4-camera Flock System subject to approval by City Council. Seconded by Coshow the motion was approved.

Brad Roe, Assistant Building & Zoning Superintendent, gave an update on 437 Mercer Avenue. The owner, Mr. Wilson, was required to find a contractor to replace the roof by April 1st. After April 1st a \$100 per day fine was to be enforced with a maximum fine of \$5,000, the total fine currently is \$1,600. Mr. Wilson does not have the money to pay for the roof and has been unable to get a contractor. Mr. Wilson learned of a Neighborhood Impact Program that works between homeowners and financial institutions and awards grants to owners who meet the criteria. The application process is set to open on May 15 and Mr. Wilson should know within 2 to 3 days if he qualifies. The Building Department requested a stay on his fines until he knows if he qualifies and for them to address the Board again at the first meeting in June. Coshow made a motion to approve the stay of fines for Mr. Wilson. Seconded by Fullenkamp the motion was adopted.

Curt Witte, Building & Zoning Superintendent gave an update on 728 Schirmeyer St. Witte was able to get in contact with the owners, Easy Homes Investments of Clearwater, Florida. Witte explained the situation to them and the need for repairs and maintenance on the property. He stated were very friendly and have a property management company in the area. Witte also gave them the name of a local contractor for them to reach out to for repairs and to take care of the yard.

Jeff Sheets updated the Board regarding the automatic transfer switch repairs at the Fire Station. Sheets hired a contractor to make minor repairs and the transfer switch has worked correctly ever since.

Coshow made a motion to make a matter of record the Oaths of Office and Certificate of Appointment for the two new police officers, Luke Roby and Joseph Collier. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted. Coshow then make a motion to make a matter of record the Contracts of Conditional Employment for Roby and Collier. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Jeremy Gilbert, Public Works Superintendent, addressed the Board regarding the Community Crossings Matching Grant. Gilbert has compiled a list of over 2 miles of streets and sidewalks to improve with this grant if approved. The application is due in July and the matching grant is a maximum of 1.5 million this year. Gilbert presented a Not To Exceed amount of \$30,000 with USI Consultants to assist with the grant process. Mayor Rickord also noted that the future of this program is uncertain due to a new governor next year. Jeremy stated that it would be paid from MVH and Local Road and Street Funds. Fullenkamp made a motion to move forward with the Authorization to Proceed and approve the Mayor to sign. Seconded by Coshow, the motion was adopted.

With there being no further business to discuss, Fullenkamp made a motion to adjourn and Coshow seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm