

CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 20, 2025

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 6:35 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 Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, Scott Murray, Jenny Bowers-Shultz, and Abby Wilder were present. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Eran Hackman and City Attorney Anne Razo.

The Clerk-Treasurer had emailed the minutes from the May 6, 2025 meeting and Dyer made a motion to adopt the minutes of the May 6, 2025 meeting as emailed. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Rickord announce that a Public Hearing had been advertised to begin at 7 p.m. and the Council would proceed until that time with various items of business.

The first item on the agenda was recognition on Joe Avalos, retiring from the Public Works Department after nearly 48 years of service.

Resolution 2025-4, a resolution honoring Joe Avalos, was brought forth. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to introduce Resolution 2025-4 in its entirety. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Resolution 2025-4 in its entirety. Following comments made by Mayor Rickord, thanking Mr. Avalos for his dedication to the City, Bowers-Shultz then made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-4. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted. It was noted a copy of the signed resolution would be presented to Mr. Avalos. Mr. Avalos was given an opportunity to make any comments, and he noted he appreciated all the City had done for him.

Murray made a motion to make a matter of record the Oath of Office for Clerk-Treasurer Eran Hackman and the Clerk-Treasurer Deputies. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

Next on the agenda was an amendment regarding the August 6, 2024 minutes changing the Federal ARPA Funds amount included in those minute from \$40,022 to \$40,220. Fullenkamp made a motion to make the amendment to the August 6, 2024 minutes for an amount of \$40,022 to \$40,220. Seconded by Bowers-Shultz, the motion was adopted.

The CF-1 Tax Abatement Form from Champion Home Builders, Inc. had been filed in due time and it was noted the employees were lower than they had hoped. Being in

substantial compliance, Fullenkamp made a motion to continue the abatement with Champion Home Builders, Inc. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

A couple of Event Forms were next considered. Nate Stimpson was present to seek permission to close the middle street in the Homestead Addition for an event of fireworks on June 20, 2025. Murray made a motion to approve the event. Seconded by Bowers-Shultz, the motion was adopted.

A second Event Form was for the closing of part of 10th Street for New Beginnings Faith Church to have an outdoor service on August 6, 2025. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the Event Form for the August 6, 2025 event for New Beginnings Faith Church. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Following the adoption of the two Event Forms, City Attorney Anne Razo outlined the procedure for Event Forms for groups desiring to hold events on Madison Street Plaza. It was noted the Council does not weigh in on the types of events as it acts as an oversight to make sure all requirements are fulfilled.

Following the explanation of the process, the meeting was opened for comments from those present and wishing to comment regarding the Decatur Pride, Inc. event to be held on June 28, 2025 on Madison Street Plaza. Individuals were asked to state their name and address and were given two minutes to speak.

Five individuals spoke prior to the time for the advertised Public Hearing scheduled for 7 p.m. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to suspend the Council Meeting for a Public Hearing. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted. Bowers-Shultz then made a motion to open the Public Hearing as advertised regarding an additional appropriation. Seconded by Dyer, the motion was adopted.

City Attorney Anne Razo stated the purpose of the Public Hearing was for input regarding additional appropriations of funds for the purchase of an aerial firetruck. Attorney Razo asked for anyone wishing to speak in favor or against the additional appropriation. With no one wishing to make any comment, Fullenkamp made a motion to close the Public Hearing and reconvene the Council meeting. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Fullenkamp made a motion to make a matter of record the appropriate advertisement for the Public Hearing for additional appropriations. Seconded by Bowers-Shultz, the motion was adopted.

Resolution 2025-5, a resolution for Additional Appropriations, was brought forward. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to introduce Resolution 2025-5 by short title only. Seconded by Dyer, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Resolution 2025-5 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-5. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Following action on Resolution, 2025-5, the floor was again opened for those wishing to speak for or against the upcoming Decatur Pride, Inc. event on Madison Street Plaza. Again, speakers were asked to give their name and address and were allowed two minutes to speak. Another 23 persons spoke offering views from both sides.

Department Heads Input:

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, shared the 5-Points Project was on time to start on June 2, 2025. Gilbert noted he and Police Chief Kevin Gerber were working on the traffic pattern to be used during the project. It was shared that 1st Street will become a main thoroughfare with no street parking from Monroe Street to the south. Letters will be sent to those residents being affected by the traffic change.

Karey Fuelling, Stormwater Superintendent, shared that the department has started to drain two aeration basins that will then be cleaned and equipment replaced.

Council Input:

Dyer made comments regarding the Decatur Pride, Inc. event noting he felt a good discussion had been held. He shared he had attended a Ministerial Group meeting earlier with various individuals including many local pastors.

Wilder shared she had a request from a resident regarding a street speed study on Cherry Lane. It was noted a speed limit could be reduced by 5 mph without a speed study. It was also noted that the concerned resident must come to a Council meeting to voice their concern.

Murray made a motion to pay the claims against the City. Seconded by Fullenkamp, 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 7:52 p.m.