

**CITY OF DECATUR
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 16, 2025**

The City of Decatur Common Council met on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 6:45 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 Jenny Bowers-Shultz, Matt Dyer, Tyler Fullenkamp, Scott Murray, 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 September 2, 2025 meeting and Dyer made a motion to adopt the minutes of the September 2, 2025 meeting as emailed. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

The first item on the agenda was Nan Everett representing the Homestead Addition Association as she requested a one-way street in the addition on Trick-or-Treat evening, October 31, 2025 for the safety of the children. Ms. Everett also sought police presence if possible, and Chief Gerber said that would be possible. The time for the one-way traffic pattern would be from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Murray made a motion to support Ms. Everett's request for the one-way street. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

It was shared the Decatur Chamber of Commerce had requested \$1,000 from the City Council for costs related to Calithumpian Week. Dyer made a motion to fund the Chamber at \$1,000 for Calithumpian Week. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Jamie Gephart, Community Coordinator, appeared before the Council regarding two Event Forms. The first Event Form was for a wedding to be held on Madison Street Plaza on Saturday, October 4, 2025 from 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Dyer made a motion to approve the Event Form for the wedding on October 4, 2025. Seconded by Bowers-Shultz, the motion was adopted.

The second Event Form was a request from the Decatur Fire Department for street closings on Wednesday, October 8, 2025 for their open house event. Fullenkamp made a motion to approve the October 8, 2025 Event Form from the Decatur Fire Department. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Dyer made a motion to make a matter of record the proper publication of the Public Hearing for the imposing of a Municipal Wheel Tax and Motor Vehicle License Excise Tax and creation of the fund. Seconded by Bowers-Shultz, the motion was adopted.

Ordinance 2025-12, an ordinance to create a Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Grant Matching Funds, was brought forth. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2025-12 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2025-12 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-12 on its first reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call vote passed 5-0. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 2025-12 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2025-12 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-12 on its second and final reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call vote passed 5-0.

Noting it was 7 p.m. and a Public Hearing had been advertised for an Additional Appropriation and the 2026 Budget, Bowers-Shultz made a motion to suspend the Council Meeting and open the Public Hearing. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

The first part of the Public Hearing was for addressing the Additional Appropriation and City Attorney Anne Razo explained the Public Hearing regarding the Additional Appropriation of \$5,000 from the Decatur Redevelopment Commission to the HSIP Grant Matching Fund. Attorney Razo asked for anyone wishing to speak for or against the additional appropriation, and when no one spoke, the Public Hearing for the Additional Appropriation was closed and the second Public Hearing which was for the 2026 Budget was opened for input. During this portion of the Public Hearing, Clerk-Treasurer Eran Hackman shared the figures with a total of \$12,793,807 and \$5,698,560 from the Adopted Tax Levy and an Adopted Tax Rate of 1.4377. Hackman then reviewed the adopted budget amount for each of the Home Ruled Funds which totaled \$1,785,815. When Attorney Razo asked for any input from the public, Steve Christner inquired regarding the process for Police and Fire Pensions and it was shared the State Law is used.

With no other public input, Dyer made a motion to close the Public Hearings and reconvene the Council Meeting. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Dyer made a motion to make a matter of record the appropriate publication regarding the Public Hearing for the 2026 Budget. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Bowers-Shultz made a motion to make a matter of record the appropriate publication of the Public Hearing for the Additional Appropriation. Seconded by Fullenkamp, the motion was adopted.

Ordinance 2025-13, an ordinance for appropriations and tax rates (2026 Budget), was brought forth. Bowers/Shultz made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2025-13 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and Clerk-Treasurer Eran Hackman read Ordinance 2025-13 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a

motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-13 on its first reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call vote passed 5-0. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to table Ordinance 2025-13 until the meeting on October 7, 2025. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Resolution 2025-12, a resolution regarding an additional appropriation of \$5,000 to the HSIP Matching Grant Fund, was brought forth. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to introduce Resolution 2025-12 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Resolution 2025-12 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-12. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Resolution 2025-13, a resolution regarding the transfer of funds from the Redevelopment Commission fund to the HSIP Grant Matching fund, was brought forth. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to introduce Resolution 2025-13 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Resolution 2025-13 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-13. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Ordinance 2025-10, an ordinance to amend the street names in the North Field addition of Cross Creek, was brought forth. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2025-10 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted and Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2025-10 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-10 on its first reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call vote passed 5-0. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance 2025-10 on its second reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2025-10 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-10 on its second and final reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call vote passed 5-0.

Ordinance 2025-11, an ordinance regarding the use of departmental credit cards, was brought forth. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2025-11 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and City Attorney Anne Razo read Ordinance 2025-11 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-11 on its first reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call vote passed 5-0. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to table Ordinance 2025-11 until the October 7, 2025 meeting. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Mayor Rickord sought permission to hold the October 21, 2025 meeting on October 28, 2025 due to he and others being out of town on City business. Dyer made a motion to move the October 21, 2025 meeting to October 28, 2025. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

It was shared that Ordinance 2025-7, the ordinance to increase various fees for the Police Department, had errors and it needed to be repealed. Dyer made a motion to repeal Ordinance 2025-7. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed.

Ordinance 2025-14, an ordinance to address the increase in fees for various items provided by the Decatur Police Department was brought forth. Bower-Shultz made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2025-14 on its first reading by short title only. Seconded by Wilder, the motion passed and Attorney Razo read Ordinance 2025-14 by short title only. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2025-14 on its first reading. Seconded by Wilder, a roll call vote passed 5-0. Bowers-Shultz made a motion to table Ordinance 2025-14 until the October 7, 2025 meeting. Seconded by Wilder, the motion was adopted.

Department Heads Input:

Jeremy Gilbert, Operations Manager, shared work was progressing on the 5-Points roundabout. Gilbert also shared that fire hydrants are being flushed the weeks of September 15-19 and 22-26, 2025.

Council Input:

Dyer shared representatives from PAWS would be attending the October 7, 2025 meeting regarding the cat population in the City.

Public Input:

Steve Christner inquired regarding the traffic problem when Bellmont lets out each day as he asked if a stop light at the intersection of 224 and East Monroe Street might address the issue. Mayor Rickord shared INDOT had been asked about such a stop light and responded in the negative. Mayor Rickord suggested that perhaps timers on the stop lights could be changed by INDOT.

Murray made a motion to pay the claims against the city as presented. 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 7:32 p.m.