

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Monday, October 12, 2020

On Monday, October 12, 2020 the City Council of the City of Decatur, Illinois, met in a Study Session at 5:30 p.m., in the Decatur Civic Center Theater, One Gary K. Anderson Plaza, Decatur, Illinois.

Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe presided, together with her being Council members David Horn, Chuck Kuhle, Pat McDaniel, and Rodney Walker. Council members Bill Faber and Lisa Gregory participated through electronic attendance pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(2) and a determination made by Mayor Moore Wolfe that an in-person meeting of all members of the City Council is not practical or prudent because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mayor Moore Wolfe declared a quorum present.

City Manager Scot Wrighton attended the meeting as well.

Mayor Moore Wolfe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Moore Wolfe called for a Study Session on “Stormwater and Sanitary Sewer Issues and Policies.”

Public Works Director Matt Newell gave a PowerPoint presentation on sanitary sewer issues and policies. Mr. Newell reported that the \$25 million project initiated in 2010 to rehabilitate the Lake Shore Drive, Union Street, 7th Ward, and McKinley interceptor sewers concluded in 2020. Mr. Newell added that four focus areas need to be addressed due to wet weather overflows or a significant number of private property backups that include the following areas: North Lost Bridge Road, Florian Avenue, Grand/Fairview, and Ellen/Division. Mr. Newell proposed that the City proceed with final engineering designs for the Grand/Fairview and Ellen/Division area.

A discussion was held on possible revenue sources for future sewer projects that included IEPA funded low interest loans, rate hikes or assessments. Mr. Newell recommended changes to the overhead sewer program to allow 100% reimbursement of eligible overhead installations to a maximum of \$10,000. The City would pay 75% of costs to install an overhead sewer in an eligible house and the Sanitary District would fund 25%. Council indicated that they were comfortable moving forward with staff’s recommendations.

Mr. Newell continued his PowerPoint presentation with a discussion on stormwater issues and policies and identified drainage problem areas within the city. Council indicated that they wanted to defer stormwater issues and policies to a later date.

With no other discussion, Mayor Moore Wolfe called for adjournment. Councilman McDaniel moved the Study Session be adjourned; seconded by Councilwoman Gregory and on call of the roll, Council members Lisa Gregory, David Horn, Chuck Kuhle, Pat McDaniel, Rodney Walker, Bill Faber and Mayor Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the Study Session adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Approved November 2, 2020
Kim Althoff
City Clerk