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CITY COUNCIL PRESS RELEASE

I. Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 3, 2015

Council Opens
Mayoral Succession
Discussion, Talks Library
Building

DECATUR – Decatur City Council members on Monday began a discussion as to how to fill the seat vacated by the untimely passing of Mayor Mike McElroy last month, with plans for future talks set to occur prior to a decision being made.

Monday's regular council meeting represented the first since the mayor, a 12-year member of the city's governing body who was twice elected mayor, died on July 17. During the meeting Mayor McElroy's seat remained cloaked in black in memoriam as council members and attendees began with a moment of silence in his honor and as Mayor Pro Tempore Julie Moore-Wolfe later read letters of condolence from the mayors of Decatur's sister cities.

Members Monday held a closed session to discuss how to best move forward with a mayoral appointment but did not make a decision on how to fill the post, a decision that must be made by September 14.

In other business council members provided city manager Tim Gleason with informal direction to pursue negotiations with Macon County, the Decatur Public Building Commission and the Decatur Public Library board regarding the future disposition of the library building. There have been ongoing discussions between the three entities for some time now, however, the City only recently began to learn specific details about a proposed agreement calling for the library and the County to share space.

While he did not give a specific recommendation, City Manager Tim Gleason laid out the pros and cons of several potential options on Monday including the potential purchase of the building by the City. He indicated that the city's goal in going forward is to negotiate with all involved parties to determine the best option for local taxpayers.

Contact Billy Tyus at 217-424-2727 for more information.