

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, July 5, 2016

On Monday, July 5, 2016, the City Council of the City of Decatur, Illinois, met in Regular Meeting at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, One Gary K. Anderson Plaza, Decatur, Illinois.

Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe presided, together with her being Councilmen Bill Faber, Chris Funk, Lisa Gregory, Pat McDaniel, Dana Ray and Jerry Dawson. Seven members present, Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe declared a quorum present.

City Manager Tim Gleason attended the meeting as well.

Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

This being the time for Appearance of Citizens, the following citizens appeared:

Anthony Chapple stated on May 20, 2016, he was banned from the Civic Center for one year because of his behavior. On June 24, 2016, he received a call from Assistant City Manager Billy Tyus telling him the ban had been lifted. Mr. Chapple thought he should have been told in person the ban had been lifted.

Russell Shulke spoke about the Decatur Public Library's history room and the preservation of the documents. He thanked the Council for the job they are doing.

Bill Steenblock asked Council to request the Park District to open Nelson Park to traffic because it is a value to the City.

The minutes of June 20, 2016 City Council meeting were presented. Councilman Jerry Dawson moved the minutes be approved as written; seconded by Councilman Pat McDaniel, and on call of the roll, Councilmen Bill Faber, Chris Funk, Lisa Gregory, Pat McDaniel, Dana Ray, Jerry Dawson and Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

This being the time set aside for unfinished business and there being none, Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe called for new business.

There were no Proclamations or Recognitions.

Executive Director Bruce Jeffery of the Boys and Girls Club of Decatur gave a presentation regarding the club's history and work done at the club. Mr. Jeffery shared the key elements to help and develop young people are academic success, character, leadership and healthy lifestyles. Mr. Jeffery challenged the Council and community to donate time, talent and treasure.

R2016-86 Resolution Authorizing an Agreement with Farnsworth Group to Prepare a Preliminary Storm Drainage Design Report of the 32nd and Fulton Area, City Project, 2016-04, was presented.

Councilman Jerry Dawson moved the Resolution do pass; seconded by Councilwoman Lisa Gregory.

Upon call of the roll, Councilmen Bill Faber, Chris Funk, Lisa Gregory, Pat McDaniel, Dana Ray, Jerry Dawson and Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

2016-49 Ordinance Amending City Code Chapter 47.3 – Control of Animals, Fowl and Dogs, was presented.

Councilman Jerry Dawson moved the Ordinance do pass; seconded by Councilwoman Dana Ray.

Corporation Counsel Wendy Morthland explained there had not been any previous requirements with the keeping of horses or related animals in the City of Decatur. There have been questions in the past about what is required. This Ordinance takes into account the information the City received from the State and other municipalities. Councilman Pat McDaniel asked if anyone would be grandfathered in. Corporation Counsel Wendy Morthland stated staff had not had any internal discussion about grandfathering nor had staff received any calls from those who may be in violation. Councilman Chris Funk said his preference would be to have people grandfathered in.

Sandy McReynolds shared that she did have a problem with some of the restrictions being proposed because there are people on the outskirts of Decatur that do have horses. She was concerned the Ordinance was so strict it would force people to leave Decatur. She didn't think the Ordinance should be all inclusive.

Holly Burns asked if there were no City Ordinances now on having horses in the City. Corporation Counsel Wendy Morthland replied, correct.

Upon call of the roll, Councilmen Bill Faber, Chris Funk, Lisa Gregory, Pat McDaniel, Dana Ray, Jerry Dawson and Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe called for Consent Calendar Items A through D and asked if any Council member wished to have an item removed from Consent Calendar. Councilman Pat McDaniel asked to remove Item C. Councilman Bill Faber asked to remove Item B.

The Clerk read Items A and D.

A. Receiving and Filing of Minutes of Boards

D. R2016-89 Resolution to Execute Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement with De Lage Landen Public Finance LLC

Councilman Jerry Dawson moved the motion to approve the items as presented do pass; seconded by Councilman Pat McDaniel.

Upon call of the roll, Councilmen Bill, Faber, Chris Funk, Lisa Gregory, Pat McDaniel, Dana Ray, Jerry Dawson and Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

Item. B. R2016-87 Resolution Approving and Determining the Need for Confidentiality of Minutes of Closed Meetings, was presented.

Councilman Jerry Dawson moved the Resolution do pass; seconded by Councilwoman Dana Ray.

Councilman Bill Faber said he could not make a determination as to whether or not the documents should remain confidential or not without reviewing them.

Upon call of the roll, Councilmen Chris Funk, Lisa Gregory, Pat McDaniel, Dana Ray, Jerry Dawson and Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe voted aye. Councilman Bill Faber voted nay. Six ayes; one nay. Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

Item. C. R2016-88 Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Aerial Pictometry Photography Macon County Emergency Telephone System Board, was presented.

Councilman Jerry Dawson moved the Resolution do pass; seconded by Councilwoman Dana Ray.

Councilman Pat McDaniel asked if any purchase above \$25,000 had to be on the regular agenda and not on the consent calendar. Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe thought the \$20,000 was to allow the manager to purchase items without it coming before Council. Councilman Pat McDaniel asked to revisit the practice.

Upon call of the roll, Councilmen Bill Faber, Chris Funk, Lisa Gregory, Pat McDaniel, Dana Ray, Jerry Dawson and Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

This being the time set aside for Other Business, Councilman Bill Faber reiterated his previous proposal from the last Council meeting; he proposed Council adopt a binding resolution amending the Municipal Code modifying the City Manager's duties. Councilman Bill Faber read a statement he prepared about the firing of the Chief

of Police by the City Manager. He asked that the City Code be amended to require the consent of the City Council before the City Manager may terminate the Police Chief or Fire Chief. No other Council members spoke in support of Councilman Faber's resolution.

Councilman Jerry Dawson thanked City staff for getting all of the liquor licenses renewed on time.

With no Other Business, Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe called to Recess to a Study Session for Council Goals.

Councilman Jerry Dawson moved to recess to Study Session; seconded by Councilwoman Lisa Gregory.

Upon call of the roll, Councilmen Bill Faber, Chris Funk, Lisa Gregory, Pat McDaniel, Dana Ray, Jerry Dawson and Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe asked Council members to share a couple of their top infrastructure goals. Councilman Jerry Dawson shared a priority of his was to see the overpass at Martin Luther King Jr. Drive over I-72 built to open up retail and help traffic flow. If the City had the funds, he would like to revitalize the corridor from downtown to Millikin University. Councilman Jerry Dawson also thought Council would have to look at new fire houses. Councilwoman Dana Ray shared the City still needs to focus on the infrastructure. She agreed with Councilman Dawson about the overpass at Martin Luther King Jr. Drive over I-72. Councilwoman Dana Ray believed neighborhood revitalization is key and the City must be fiscally responsible. Councilman Pat McDaniel's infrastructure goals were to repave local streets and pave over bad brick streets. He agreed with the overpass over I-72. Councilman Pat McDaniel would like to see a positive comprehensive program for revitalization of the neighborhoods. Brush College Road is the most essential road project. He would also like to see a minor change to allow a side yard program. Councilman Bill Faber wants to grow jobs to revitalize the City. Councilwoman Lisa Gregory stated organizational operations is her number one goal. Jobs are key to growth. Also, a strategic plan that includes short term and long term goals and the creation of a comprehensive development plan. Councilwoman Lisa Gregory's number one infrastructure priority is fire houses. The overpass, Brush College Road, and work being done with the streets and sewers comes next. To continue to develop a community of choice is to continue to work with the Park District to provide places where citizens can enjoy being outside. Neighborhood revitalization ties into jobs and Councilwoman Lisa Gregory would support the creation of a public/private partnership. She also shared that the creation of a first class tech community is the creation of a fiber optic network. Councilman Chris Funk would like to revisit the downtown parking situation, address some of the structural challenges in the City's budget and identify ways the City can do more with less. Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe mentioned some of her goals are job creation, Brush College Road,

I-72 overpass, beltway project, fire houses fixed and partnership with other governmental entities to work smarter.

Councilman Jerry Dawson moved to recess to Closed Executive Session for the Purpose of a Discussion Regarding Litigation, when an Action, Against, Affecting or on Behalf of the Particular Public Body has been Filed and is Pending Before a Court of Administrative Tribunal, or when the Public Body Finds that an Action is Probable or Imminent and the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees of the Public Body; seconded by Councilman Pat McDaniel, and on call of the roll, Councilmen Bill Faber, Chris Funk, Lisa Gregory, Pat McDaniel, Dana Ray, Jerry Dawson and Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

Council went into Closed Executive Session at 6:45 p.m.

There being no further business, Councilman Jerry Dawson moved the regular Council meeting be adjourned; seconded by Councilwoman Dana Ray, and all were in favor by voicing no objections. Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe declared the Council meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Approved July 18, 2016
Debra G. Bright
City Clerk