

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Tuesday, January 20, 2015

On Tuesday, January 20, 2015, 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 Michael T. McElroy presided; together with him being Councilmen Jerry J. Dawson, Larry W. Foster, Patrick S. Laegeler, Pat McDaniel, Julie Moore-Wolfe and Dana M. Ray. Seven members were present. Mayor McElroy declared a quorum present.

Interim City Manager, Gregg Zientara, attended the meeting as well.

Mayor McElroy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The minutes of the meeting of December 15, 2014, were presented. Councilman Pat McDaniel moved the minutes be approved as written; seconded by Councilman Jerry J. Dawson, and on call of the roll, Councilmen Jerry, J. Dawson, Larry W. Foster, Patrick S. Laegeler, Pat McDaniel, Julie Moore-Wolfe, Dana M. Ray and Mayor McElroy voted aye. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

This being the time set aside for unfinished business and there being no unfinished business, the Mayor proceeded to New Business. Mayor McElroy introduced Richelle Irons who provided an overview of the Historical and Architectural Sites Commission. She also introduced presenters who presented HASC Awards to local citizens and businesses. Patrick Hoban provided an update on the Community Fiber Network. Sue Lawson, President of Coalition of Neighborhood Organizations, provided the following upcoming events: January 27, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the Staley Room at the Decatur Public Library – CONO Meeting; February 3, 2015 in Angela Hall at St. Thomas Church – GM Square Chili Supper; and January 24, 2015 Ham and Bean Supper at 5:30 p.m. Ms. Lawson also updated Council on activities and end of year projects.

2015-01 Ordinance Rezoning Property R-1 Single Family Residence District to B-2 Commercial District 150 West Pershing Road was presented.

Councilman Jerry J. Dawson moved the Ordinance do pass; seconded by Councilman Julie Moore-Wolfe. On call of the roll, Councilmen Larry W. Foster, Patrick S. Laegeler, Pat McDaniel, Julie Moore-Wolfe, Dana M. Ray, and Mayor Michael T. McElroy voted aye. Councilmen Jerry J. Dawson abstained because he is related to Pat Dawson, the owner of Miles Chevrolet. Mayor Michael T. McElroy declared the motion carried.

2015-02 Ordinance Amending B-3 Planned Shopping Center District 3079 North Water Street was presented.

Councilman Pat McDaniel moved the Ordinance do pass; seconded by Councilman Jerry J. Dawson. On call of the roll, Councilmen Jerry J. Dawson, Larry W. Foster, Patrick S. Laegeler, Pat McDaniel, Julie Moore-Wolfe, Dana M. Ray, and Mayor Michael T. McElroy voted aye. Mayor Michael T. McElroy declared the motion carried.

R2015-01 Resolution Accepting the Bid of Jackson Ford, Decatur, IL, for the Purchase of Ten (10) Ford 2015, Police Interceptor Mid-Size Utility Vehicles, was presented.

Councilman Julie Moore-Wolfe moved the Resolution do pass; seconded by Councilman Dana M. Ray. On call of the roll, Councilmen Jerry J. Dawson, Larry W. Foster, Patrick S. Laegeler, Pat McDaniel, Julie Moore-Wolfe, Dana M. Ray, and Mayor Michael T. McElroy voted aye. Mayor Michael T. McElroy declared the motion carried.

R2015-02 Resolution to Appropriate Additional Motor Fuel Tax Funds to Pay the City's Portions of Construction and Engineering Costs for Main/Fairview – Sunset/Fairview Approach Paving by Municipality under the Illinois Highway Code, City Project 2011-22, was presented.

Councilman Jerry J. Dawson moved the Resolution do pass; seconded by Councilman Dana M. Ray. On call of the roll, Councilmen Jerry J. Dawson, Larry W. Foster, Patrick S. Laegeler, Pat McDaniel, Julie Moore-Wolfe, Dana M. Ray, and Mayor Michael T. McElroy voted aye. Mayor Michael T. McElroy declared the motion carried.

R2015-03 Resolution to Appropriate Motor Fuel Tax Funds for Traffic Signal Maintenance and Street Maintenance by Municipality under the Illinois Highway Code was presented.

Councilman Jerry J. Dawson moved the Resolution do pass; seconded by Councilman Julie Moore-Wolfe. On call of the roll, Councilmen Jerry J. Dawson, Larry W. Foster, Patrick S. Laegeler, Pat McDaniel, Julie Moore-Wolfe, Dana M. Ray, and Mayor Michael T. McElroy voted aye. Mayor Michael T. McElroy declared the motion carried.

R2015-04 Resolution Authorizing an Agreement for Lake Decatur Watershed Conservation Services with the Macon County Soil and Water Conservation District was presented.

Councilman Larry W. Foster moved the Resolution do pass; seconded by Councilman Patrick S. Laegeler. On call of the roll, Councilmen Jerry J. Dawson, Larry W. Foster, Patrick S. Laegeler, Pat McDaniel, Julie Moore-Wolfe, Dana M. Ray, and Mayor Michael T. McElroy voted aye. Mayor Michael T. McElroy declared the motion carried.

Mayor Michael T. McElroy called for Consent Calendar Items A through G and asked if any Council member wished to have an item removed from Consent Calendar. Items A through G were approved by Omnibus Vote.

Councilman Pat McDaniel moved that Consent Calendar Items A through G be approved by Omnibus Vote; seconded by Councilman Jerry J. Dawson, and on call of the roll, Councilmen Jerry J. Dawson, Larry W. Foster, Patrick S. Laegeler, Pat McDaniel, Julie Moore-Wolfe, Dana M. Ray, and Mayor Michael T. McElroy voted aye. Mayor Michael T. McElroy declared the motion carried.

Receiving and Filing of Minutes of Boards and Commissions,

R2015-05 Resolution Approving Appointments to City Boards and Commissions,

R2015-06 Resolution Authorizing Action Regarding Unsafe Structures,

R2015-07 Resolution Accepting Quote and Approving Expenditure of City Funds for Laptop Computers – CDS Office Technologies,

R2015-08 Resolution Accepting Price Quote and Approving Expenditure of City Funds for Software Licenses – Notch Corporation,

2015-03 Ordinance Amending City Code Chapter 7 – Officers and Employees Generally, and

2015-04 Ordinance Approving Appointment of City Clerk.

This being the time for Appearance of Citizens, Lt. Commander Mark Atkinson, a representative of the Navy Reserves invited Council and the public to attend and help celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Navy Reserves on March 3, 2015, at an Open House at 2595 East Federal Drive, Decatur, Illinois. John Batcher, citizen of Decatur and local business owner, addressed Council to provide a heads-up that at an establishment may be opening wherein alcohol may be sold. He advised Council he feels there are too many establishments within a 10 block area. He hoped the Liquor Commissioner would consider the saturation of establishments selling alcohol and not allow the sale of alcohol at the particular establishment.

Mayor McElroy deferred to Interim City Manager Gregg Zientara for a discussion about diversity and the hiring of minorities and women. Interim City Manager Gregg Zientara advised this issue is important to the City and as staff began discussing and investigating the issues involved they realized further research is needed in order to make a recommendation to Council. Reviewing state and federal laws that involve diversity employment is necessary in order to come up with recommendations and solutions. The study will take 4-6 months as it is apparent there are many issues that exist and it will take staff time to research and provide solutions or recommendations for Council to consider. Interim City Manager Gregg Zientara advised Council will provide progress reports to Council. Councilman Dana M. Ray requested a first progress report be within 30 days.

With regard to the balance of funds in the Neighborhood Improvements Fund, Councilman Dana M. Ray stated she had specific questions and would like to meet with Richelle Irons and Corporation Counsel to be advised as to what can and cannot be done. Specifically Councilman Ray wants to prevent houses from being put on the City's demolition list and she would like the City to take proactive measures.

Councilman Jerry J. Dawson requested a study session on motor fuel tax to repair roads and bridges. Councilman Julie Moore-Wolfe supported the study session. In addition, Councilman Julie Moore-Wolfe requested the City look at the lane lines on Franklin Street. Richard Marley, Director of Public Works, advised the lines that are currently delineating the lanes are temporary and not very durable. He stated he would look into the issue. Mr. Marley was asked to provide and did provide an overview of the Franklin Street renovation. Councilman Larry W. Foster asked Mr. Marley to also look at Wood Street.

Councilman Pat McDaniel requested a study session regarding Administrative Court. He stated the program is extremely important to the City and he would like a progress report as well as give the public a chance to share constructive suggestions. Councilman Jerry J. Dawson supported the study session. In addition, Councilman Pat McDaniel reminded council he suggested adding information to water bills to make citizens aware of City ordinances or change in ordinances.

Interim City Manager suggested at the February 2 meeting a study session on the Ambulance Service; February 17 meeting a study session on motor fuel tax and March 2 meeting study session on Administrative Court.

Councilman Dana M. Ray stated she supports a note in the water bills regarding ordinances and information on the City. Interim City Manager advised staff is looking

into the content and message for a short newsletter that might possibly be ready for the water bills in the month of February.

Councilman Dana M. Ray moved to recess to study session for the Treasurer's Financial Report; seconded by Councilman Larry W. Foster and on call of the roll, Councilmen Jerry J. Dawson, Larry W. Foster, Patrick S. Laegeler, Pat McDaniel, Julie Moore-Wolfe, Dana M. Ray and Mayor McElroy voted aye. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Interim City Manager and Finance Department Director Gregg Zientara presented an overview of the Treasurer's Report.

Mark Tyus, requested time to speak and the Mayor allowed him to speak. Mr. Tyus advised that it disturbed him that it would take the City 4-6 months to research and study the minority ordinance. He stated he also does not want any mistakes and would like it to be right the first time.

There being no further business, Councilman Larry W. Foster moved the regular Council meeting be adjourned; seconded by Councilman Patrick S. Laegeler, and on call of the roll Councilmen Jerry J. Dawson, Larry W. Foster, Patrick S. Laegeler, Pat McDaniel, Julie Moore-Wolfe, Dana M. Ray, and Mayor McElroy voted aye. The Mayor declared the Council meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Approved February 2, 2015
Linda M. Swartz
City Clerk