

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, November 17, 2025

On Monday, November 17, 2025, the City Council of the City of Decatur, Illinois, met in Regular Meeting at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber, One Gary K. Anderson Plaza, Decatur, Illinois.

Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe presided, together with her being Council members Consuelo Cruz, Pat McDaniel, David Horn, Ed Culp, Dennis Cooper and Lisa Gregory. Mayor Moore Wolfe declared a quorum present.

Interim City Manager Melissa Hon attended the meeting as well.

Mayor Moore Wolfe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Moore Wolfe called for Appearance of Citizens.

The following citizens provided comments to the Council: Mark Birch, Dennis Hepworth and Abeer Motan.

Mayor Moore Wolfe called for approval of the minutes.

The minutes of November 3, 2025, City Council meeting were presented. Councilman McDaniel moved the minutes be approved as written; seconded by Councilman Culp and on call of the roll, Council members Consuelo Cruz, Pat McDaniel, David Horn, Ed Culp, Dennis Cooper, Lisa Gregory and Mayor Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

With there being no Unfinished Business, Mayor Moore Wolfe called for New Business.

R2025-302 Resolution Accepting the FY2025 Safe Streets and Roads for All Comprehensive Safety Action Plan, was presented. Councilman McDaniel moved the Resolution do pass, seconded by Councilman Culp.

Ms. Lacie Elzy, Director of Economic & Community Development, provided an overview of the Resolution.

Mr. Andrew Abernathy from Guidepost Solutions provided a brief introduction and spoke about the development of the proposed safety action plan.

Mr. Neil Stika from Kapur & Associates spoke about his background and presented an overview of their findings and recommendations and addressed questions from Council members regarding the proposed plan.

Ms. Elzy, Director of Economic & Community Development, answered questions from Council members about future steps.

Interim City Manager Hon answered questions from Council members regarding funding for crosswalk enhancements.

Upon call of the roll, Council members Consuelo Cruz, Pat McDaniel, David Horn, Ed Culp, Dennis Cooper, Lisa Gregory and Mayor Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

R2025-303 Resolution Amending City Council Policies Fund Reserves, was presented. Councilman McDaniel moved the Resolution do pass, seconded by Councilman Culp.

Interim City Manager Hon provided an overview of the Resolution.

Council members shared their thoughts on the proposed Resolution to reduce cash reserves from 90 days to 75 days.

Interim City Manager Hon responded to inquiries regarding the approximately \$400,000 deficit in the proposed 2026 budget.

Upon call of the roll, Council members Consuelo Cruz, Pat McDaniel, David Horn, Ed Culp, Dennis Cooper, Lisa Gregory and Mayor Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

Mayor Moore Wolfe called for a Public Hearing in the Matter of the 2026 Budget.

Mayor Moore Wolfe opened the Public Hearing at 6:08 p.m.

The following citizen provided comments to the Council: Abeer Motan.

Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the Public Hearing closed at 6:11 p.m.

2025-75 An Ordinance Adopting the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget and Appropriating Monies for the Purpose of Defraying the Expenses of Departments and Funds of the City of Decatur, Illinois for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2026, and Ending December 31, 2026, Including All Outstanding Claims and Obligations, and Fixing a Time When the Same Shall Take Effect, was presented. Councilman McDaniel moved the Ordinance do pass, seconded by Councilman Culp.

Interim City Manager Hon provided an overview of the Ordinance.

Council members expressed their thoughts on the proposed budget while thanking staff for finding ways to reduce the amount of spending and thanking residents for their input.

Upon call of the roll, Council members Consuelo Cruz, Pat McDaniel, David Horn, Ed Culp, Dennis Cooper, Lisa Gregory and Mayor Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

Interim City Manager Hon spoke about the success of Decatur Moves and the completion of the Staley Boat Ramp Project. She also shared that the iFAB Biomanufacturing Summit will be held on March 11, 2026, and that staff is participating in the “Season of Giving” through programs such as Toys for Tots, United Way and Coats for Kids.

Mayor Moore Wolfe called for Consent Agenda Calendar Items A. through D. and asked if any Council member wished to remove an item from the Consent Agenda Calendar. Councilman McDaniel requested to remove Items B. and C. from the Consent Agenda Calendar. The Clerk read Items A. and D.:

Item A. R2025-304 Resolution Authorizing Payment of the 2026 Central Illinois Regional Dispatch Center Invoice - User Fees for the Decatur Police Department and Decatur Fire Department
Item D. Receiving and Filing of Minutes of Boards and Commissions

Councilman McDaniel moved Items A. and D. be approved by Omnibus Vote; seconded by Councilman Culp, and on call of the roll, Council members Consuelo Cruz, Pat McDaniel, David Horn, Ed Culp, Dennis Cooper, Lisa Gregory and Mayor Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

2025-76 Ordinance Amending City Code - Chapter 70 - Property Maintenance Code, was presented. Councilman McDaniel moved the Resolution do pass, seconded by Councilman Culp.

Ms. Elzy, Director of Economic & Community Development, gave an overview of the Ordinance and answered questions from Council members regarding procedures that are followed when structures are occupied.

Upon call of the roll, Council members Consuelo Cruz, Pat McDaniel, David Horn, Ed Culp, Dennis Cooper, Lisa Gregory and Mayor Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

R2025-305 Resolution Authorizing Action Regarding Unsafe Structures, was presented. Councilman McDaniel moved the Resolution do pass, seconded by Councilman Culp.

Ms. Elzy, Director of Economic & Community Development, gave an overview of the Ordinance and answered questions from Council members regarding the timeframe for the demolition of structures.

Ms. Wendy Morthland, Corporation Counsel, answered questions regarding the timeframe for the demolition of structures, and discussed conditions that could accelerate the demolition process.

Upon call of the roll, Council members Consuelo Cruz, Pat McDaniel, David Horn, Ed Culp, Dennis Cooper, Lisa Gregory and Mayor Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

With no other New Business, Mayor Moore Wolfe called for Other Business.

Councilman Culp thanked IBEW for decorating downtown Decatur and the Transfer House and offered condolences for the loss of one of their members. Councilman McDaniel thanked staff for recommendations in supplementing the city's water supply and Councilman Cooper requested a status update on 804 West Wood Street.

There being no Other Business, Mayor Moore Wolfe called adjournment.

Councilman McDaniel moved the regular City Council meeting be adjourned, seconded by Councilman Culp and upon call of the roll, Council members Consuelo Cruz, Pat McDaniel, David Horn, Ed Culp, Dennis Cooper, Lisa Gregory and Mayor Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the regular Council meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Approved December 1, 2025
Kim Althoff
City Clerk