

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, January 5, 2026

On Monday, January 5, 2026, 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 Ed Culp, Dennis Cooper, Lisa Gregory, Consuelo Cruz, Pat McDaniel and David Horn. 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 announced that Item #1 under New Business, the Resolution Authorizing Amendment No. 5 for the Professional Engineering Services Agreement with Spheros, has been removed from the agenda.

Mayor Moore Wolfe called for Appearance of Citizens.

The following citizens provided comments to the Council: Dianne Spaniol, Ayn Owens and Renee Ferre.

Mayor Moore Wolfe called for approval of the minutes.

The minutes of December 15th, 2025, City Council meeting were presented. Councilwoman Gregory moved the minutes be approved as written; seconded by Councilman Culp and on call of the roll, Council members Ed Culp, Dennis Cooper, Lisa Gregory, Consuelo Cruz, Pat McDaniel, David Horn 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.

Interim City Manager Hon provided an overview of the evaluation criteria, application, and scoring sheet for the proposed City Council Community Grant Program and answered questions from Council members.

Council members shared their feedback, and Interim City Manager Hon will meet with them individually to discuss the program further.

Interim City Manager Hon provided the City Manager Update regarding personnel changes withing the city. New Hires: Miranda Lambert, Assistant Director of Economic & Community Development, Steven Keys, Engineering Tech I, Jason Cunningham, Transit Utility Worker, Joey Bessonette, Service Worker, Seth Boerger, Dakota Bradbury, Francisco Cordova, Kendall Dehority, Malcolm Gray, Ethan Greene and Kendile Whitford, Police Patrol Officers,

Appointment: Jason Lawson, Water Services Manager Promotions: Jason Nolan, Fire Captain, Jeremy Appenzeller, Police Sergeant, Brian Oros, Police Sergeant Retirements: Tim Wittmer, Police Sergeant, Jeff Hockaday, Detective, Jim Edwards, Director of Information Technology, Dylan Pritts, Fire Captain and Randy Miller, Water Services Manager.

Mayor Moore Wolfe called for Consent Agenda Calendar Items A. through I. and asked if any Council member wished to remove an item from the Consent Agenda Calendar. Councilman Horn requested to remove Items A. through D. from the Consent Agenda Calendar.

The Clerk read Calendar Items E. through I.:

R2026-01 Item E. Resolution Authorizing Action Regarding Unsafe Structures

2026-01 Item F. Ordinance Annexing Territory 3969 West Division Street

2026-02 Item G. Ordinance Annexing Territory 3062 South Wheatland Road

2026-03 Item H. Ordinance Annexing Territory 3071 South Wheatland Road

R2026-02 Item I. Resolution Accepting the Bid and Authorizing the Execution of a Contract with SAK Construction, LLC, for 2025 Trenchless Long Lining Repairs Project, City Project 2025-28

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

2026-04 Ordinance Rezoning Property from R-1 Single Family Residence District to M-1 Intense Commercial/Light Industrial District - Property Northwest of the Intersection of West Mound Road and North Westlawn Avenue (07-07-29-476-004), was presented. Councilwoman Gregory moved the Ordinance do pass, seconded by Councilman Culp.

Ms. Lacie Elzy, Director of Economic and Community Development, presented an overview of the following four agenda items. She addressed questions from Council members concerning the decommissioning plan, mitigation strategies, responsibility for damages, the notification process for rezonings, insurance, maintenance, and reporting.

Ms. Maroua Jabouri, Developer, addressed questions from Council members regarding reporting, citizen subscriptions, maintenance and visual barriers.

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

2026-05 Ordinance Rezoning Property from R-1 Single Family Residence District to M-1 Intense Commercial/Light Industrial District - Property Northwest of the Intersection of West Mound Road and North Westlawn Avenue (07-07-29-476-006), was presented. Councilwoman Gregory moved the Ordinance do pass, seconded by Councilman Culp.

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

R2026-03 Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Development Agreement with Decatur Northwest 2 LLC for a Commercial Solar Energy Facility, was presented. Councilwoman Gregory moved the Resolution do pass, seconded by Councilman Culp.

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

R2026-04 Resolution Authorizing Development Agreement Between City of Decatur, Illinois and Decatur Northwest 1, LLC, was presented. Councilwoman Gregory moved the Resolution do pass, seconded by Councilman Culp.

Upon call of the roll, Council members Ed Culp, Dennis Cooper, Lisa Gregory, Consuelo Cruz, Pat McDaniel, David Horn 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.

Councilwoman Gregory expressed concerns regarding the state of Wabash Crossing and a housing complex near Garfield Park. Councilwoman Cruz inquired about the need to focus on public safety in the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan, beyond just traffic issues. Councilman Horn expressed interest in obtaining neighborhood crime data. Councilwoman Cruz also mentioned the importance of analyzing different types of crime to develop strategies for addressing these issues.

There being no Other Business, Mayor Moore Wolfe called for Recess to Closed Executive Session at 6:28 p.m. pursuant to Open Meetings Act Section 2(c)(1) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body and Section 2(c)(11) litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent.

Council returned to the regular City Council meeting following Closed Executive Session at 8:02 p.m.

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

Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the regular Council meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Approved January 20, 2026

Kim Althoff

City Clerk