

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Monday, November 23, 2020

On Monday, November 23, 2020 the City Council of the City of Decatur, Illinois, met in a Study Session at 5:30 p.m., in the Decatur Civic Center Theater, One Gary K. Anderson Plaza, Decatur, Illinois.

Mayor Julie Moore Wolfe presided, together with her being Council members Bill Faber, David Horn, Chuck Kuhle, and Pat McDaniel. Councilmembers Lisa Gregory and Rodney Walker participated through electronic attendance pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(2) and a determination made by Mayor Moore Wolfe that an in-person meeting of all members of the City Council is not practical or prudent because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mayor Moore Wolfe declared a quorum present.

City Manager Scot Wrighton attended the meeting as well.

Mayor Moore Wolfe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Moore Wolfe called for a Study Session on the proposed 2021 city budget.

City Manager Wrighton gave a brief overview of General Fund revenues and answered questions from Council concerning staffing levels and the budgetary impact of COVID-19.

Finance Director Gregg Zientara gave a brief overview of the principal revenue categories and answered questions from Council regarding food and beverage tax, hotel and motel tax, and video gaming tax.

Councilman Faber exited the Theater at 6:11 p.m. and returned at 6:13 p.m.

City Manager Wrighton moved forward to the budgets of the Legislative, Executive, Human Resources and IT Department and answered questions from Council regarding performance outcomes and COVID-19 updates.

IT Director Jim Edwards answered questions from Council relating to Zencity software and Enterprise Fund 77 – City Fiber Fund.

City Manager Wrighton moved forward to the PEG Capital Fund and budgets of the City Clerk, Legal Department, and Finance Department.

Councilman Faber exited the Theater at 6:56 p.m. and returned at 6:59 p.m.

City Manager Wrighton moved forward to the budget of the Economic and Community Development Department.

Councilman Horn exited the Theatre at 7:11 p.m. and returned at 7:15 p.m.

Economic and Community Development Director Cordaryl “Pat” Patrick answered questions from Council regarding mowing, use of a retail consultant and a new position to assist with HOME funds.

Planning and Development Manager Greg Crowe discussed streamlining the Zoning Ordinance.

City Manager Wrighton moved forward to TIF funds, Neighborhood Revitalization funds and the Police Department budget.

Councilman Faber exited the Theater at 7:29 p.m. and returned at 7:32 p.m.

Police Chief Jim Getz answered questions from Council regarding Community Liaison Officers, US Marshalls, street cameras, overtime, and mask enforcement.

Finance Director Gregg Zientara answered questions from Council regarding pension funding.

City Manager Wrighton moved forward to the Fire Department budget.

Fire Chief Jeff Abbott answered questions from Council regarding Equipment Replacement Fund, fire inspectors, traffic preemption program and Fire Station #7.

Councilman Faber exited the Theater at 8:24 p.m. and returned at 8:26 p.m.

Deputy City Manager Jon Kindseth gave an overview of the Mass Transit budget including an update on the service provider and answered questions from Council regarding bus fares, structural issues with the Mass Transit building, and new busses.

City Manager Wrighton gave a brief overview of the Internal Service Funds that included Building Fund, Fleet Maintenance, Risk Management and Benefit Insurance.

Finance Director Gregg Zientara answered questions from Council regarding costs associated with an Employee Health Care Clinic.

Mayor Moore Wolfe exited the Theater at 8:41 p.m. and returned at 8:44 p.m.

Councilman Horn exited the Theater at 8:48 p.m. and returned at 8:51 p.m.

City Manager Wrighton moved forward to the Miscellaneous Funds that included Decatur Urban Area Transit Study (DUATS), City Municipal Band, Public Education and Government (PEG) and Autonomous Funds that included Decatur Public Library, Library Capital, City of Decatur Library Trust, Firefighter Pension and Police Pension.

With no other discussion on the budget, Mayor Moore Wolfe called for Appearance of Citizens and the following citizen provided comments to Council: John Phillips.

With no other Appearance of Citizens, Mayor Moore Wolfe called for adjournment.

Councilman Faber moved the Study Session be adjourned; seconded by Councilwoman Gregory and on call of the roll, Council members Bill Faber, Lisa Gregory, David Horn, Chuck Kuhle, Pat McDaniel, Rodney Walker and Mayor Moore Wolfe voted aye. Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the motion carried.

Mayor Moore Wolfe declared the Study Session adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Approved December 7, 2020
Kim Althoff
City Clerk