

**City of Decorah Council Work session
Monday, March 25, 2019 – 5:15pm**

The City Council met in a work session on Monday, March 25, 2019 at 5:15pm. Mayor Lorraine Borowski called the meeting to order and the following answered roll: Dan Bellrichard, Andy Carlson, Steve Luse, Ross Hadley, and Kirk Johnson.

Absent: Johanna Bergan. Randy Schissel arrived at 5:40pm.

Others in attendance: City Manager Chad Bird, and Economic Development Director Stephanie Fromm.

Agenda

Discussion and review of Upper Iowa Water Shed Management Authority survey

Mayor Borowski opened the meeting and turned the first item over to Carlson, as the City's representative to the Upper Iowa Watershed Management Authority. Carlson distributed a survey the WMA is asking all member organizations to complete, compile, and return to help the WMA with strategic Planning.

Carlson asked the council members to complete the survey and return it to him and he would assemble responses and report to the WMA.

Carlson also introduced Ross Evlizer who reviewed work of the WMA and how storm water management policy could be developed.

Discussion on economic development

1. History and uses

Bird began discussion about general economic development questions and issues for the council and city. He noted he would like to see the council develop an economic development plan and policy. He referenced the City's current 1995 policy and asked if the council might be interested in updating and expanding such a document. There was general conversation and comments about engaging the Decorah Jobs, Inc. team in a review and update.

Stephanie Fromm and Mike Harman shared information relative to the history of Decorah Jobs and the business park. There was general discussion about overall approaches to development. Bellrichard asked if it might be possible to place performance measurements with each of the projects completed, historically so the council might better understand the impact of each project.

There was general discussion related to hotel / motel funding and how economic development boards may better work together.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 6:51pm.
Respectfully submitted,

