

August 5, 2019

The regular meeting of the Decorah City Council was called to order by Mayor Borowski at 5:45 p.m.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Randy Schissel, Andy Carlson, Kirk Johnson, Steve Luse, Ross Hadley, Johanna Bergen

Motion by Bergan, second by Schissel, to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Steve Johnson, Winneshiek Co. Historic Preservation Commission, read a letter clarifying their support of the Main St. Iowa initiative.

Joel Zook, Winneshiek Energy District, gave an update on the Alliant Energy rate increase protest.

Motion by Luse, second by Johnson, to approve the Mayor appointment of Dave Smutzler as Chief of Police. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Appointment to fill a vacant seat on the city council was opened for discussion. Discussion was held on the timing of the appointment vs the potential for a special election so close to the general election in November. Motion by Schissel, second by Carlson, to table the appointment until September 16 and to take additional applications through September 12. Roll call vote. Voting aye: Schissel, Carlson. Voting nay: Bergan, Luse, Hadley, Johnson. Motion failed.

Candidates Daniel Kirkeby and Emily Neal each stated a few words regarding their desire to serve on the Council by summarizing their submitted applications.

Ballot vote was taken. Results as follows: Neal – 4
Kirkeby – 1
Non vote – 1

Attorney Anderson stated the Council needed to take a verbal vote.

Response as follows:

Johnson – Neal
Hadley – Neal
Bergan – Neal
Luse – Neal
Schissel – Kirkeby

Carlson – Abstain. City Clerk, Tr Hemesath advised a reason needs to be given for abstaining. Carlson had no response he was willing to share and forthwith cast his vote for Neal.

City Clerk, Tr. Hemesath administered the Oath of Office to Emily Neal who then took her place as 2nd Ward Councilperson.

Motion by Schissel, second by Carlson, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- a. Minutes of the July 15, 2019 meeting
- b. Claims
- c. Renewal Class C Liquor License for LaRana
- d. Expanded Service area for Topping Goliath August 7, 14, 21 and 8/22 – 10/31, 2019
- e. Renewal Oneota Co-Op Class C Beer including Sunday Sales
- f. Renewal Special Class C Beer/Wine Permit for Fairfield Inn including Sunday Sales
- g. Renewal Class C Liquor License for Rubaiyat including Sunday Sales
- h. Renewal Class C Liquor License for Stone Hearth including Sunday Sales
- i. Special Event Application for Holiday Lights Magical Nights Nov 27 – Dec 25 - Campground
- j. Resolution 2988 setting a date for a public hearing on an easement agreement with Stan Fullerton / V.I.D.A., Lc for use of public ROW; 101 West Water Street, (August 19, 2019 at 5:45pm)
- k. PPE #9 Gundersen Hangar Project \$131,262.23
- l. Change Order #4 Gundersen Hangar Project – \$2,119.62
- m. Change Order #5 Gundersen Hangar Project - \$9,653.41
- n. Resolution 2989 setting a public hearing on the plans, specs and bid documents for the Library Improvement Project (August 19, 5:45 pm)
- o. Consider Resolution 2990, setting a public hearing date on the plans, specifications, form of contract and estimated total cost of the public improvement, directing Engineer to post notice of taking bids, and setting the date for the bid letting for the 2019 East Broadway Alley Improvement Project (August 26, 2019 at 5:00pm)

Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

This being the date and time for a public hearing on the Resolution of Necessity, preliminary plans, cost, plat and assessment schedule for the 2019 East Broadway Alley Improvement Project the hearing was opened.

Mary Rayburn, 401 William St., voiced concerns regarding trees and bushes located on the back of her property that will need to be taken out. Believes this will destroy the essence of her property and wonders if there is some financial relief from the assessment.

City Manager Bird stated engineers have typically worked with property owners regarding tree removal.

There being no more comments the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Bergan, second by Hadley to adopt Resolution 2983 approving a Resolution of Necessity for the construction of the 2019 East Broadway Alley Improvement Project. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

This being the date and time for a public hearing on an 80/20 voluntary annexation, including land owned by a non-consenting property owner, in the vicinity of the Downing Commercial subdivision, the hearing was opened.

There was no public comment. The hearing was closed.

Time being the date and time for a public hearing on an 80/20 voluntary annexation, including land owned by non-consenting property owner, in the vicinity of the Decorah Business Park subdivision, the hearing was opened.

There was no public comment. The hearing was closed.

Motion by Hadley, second by Schissel, to approve Resolution 2986 authorizing an 80/20 voluntary annexation, including land owned by a non-consenting property owner, to avoid the creation of islands and/or to provide for uniform boundaries and annexation agreements, in the vicinity of the Downing Commercial Subdivision. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Schissel, second by Luse, to approve Resolution 2987 authorizing an 80/20 voluntary annexation, including land owned by a non-consenting property owner, to avoid the creation of islands and/or to provide for uniform boundaries and annexation agreement, in the vicinity of the Decorah Business Park Subdivision. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Hadley, second by Bergan, to approve Resolution 2984 authorizing Upper Explorerland Regional Housing Authority to function within the City of Decorah, Iowa. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Luse, second by Carlson, to approve Resolution 2985 authorizing full and voluntary transfer of IA054 Low-Rent Housing Authority of Decorah HCV program to IA130 Upper Explorerland Housing Authority. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance 1235 amending water rates by 2% was introduced and read for the second time. Motion by Carlson, second by Luse to approve the second reading. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance 1236 amending sewer rates by 2% was introduced and read for the second time. Motion by Carlson, second by Schissel, to approve second reading. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned on motion.



Wanda Hemesath, MMC
City Clerk, Tr.