

November 18, 2019

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

Members present: Emily Neal, Ross Hadley, Kirk Johnson, Andy Carlson, Steve Luse, Johanna Bergan. Absent: Randy Schissel

Motion by Johnson, second by Luse, to approve the consent agenda as presented. After the motion, Councilperson Neil requested Item D. be removed from the consent agenda. Based on the request Item D was removed from the consent agenda.

- a. Minutes November 4, 2019 meeting
- b. Claims
- c. Consider Policy Regarding Use of City Owned Equipment
- d. Consider Policy Regarding Use of City Vehicles **Removed**
- e. Resolution 3021 setting Dec. 2, 5:45 p.m., as the date and time for a public hearing amending Title 16 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Decorah pertaining to Subdivision

Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Item D. Policy regarding use of City vehicles was opened for discussion.

Motion by Neil, second by Carlson to add weddings as an approved use. Councilpersons Luse, Johnson and Bergan made it clear they appreciate what volunteers do but do not feel use of city owned vehicles for weddings is a civic use and is not an appropriate use of city property.

Councilperson Johnson stated when insurer's, attorney's and professional staff say we shouldn't allow it we would be fools to not follow their advice.

Councilperson Neil feels this is a small way to show our appreciation to our public safety personnel and their volunteer service.

Roll call vote. Voting aye: Neil, Carlson. Voting nay: Luse, Johnson, Hadley, Bergan. Motion failed.

Motion by Johnson, second by Luse to approve the policy as written. Hadley stated he will not support the policy as written. Wants to see more accountability and data driven information about vehicle use. Voting aye: Johnson, Luse, Hadley. Voting nay: Neil, Hadley, Carlson. Motion failed.

Matter will be placed on future agenda for further discussion and action.

This being the date and time for a public hearing on a proposed easement agreement with Kwik Star, 1101 Montgomery Street for placement of storm water detention and conveyance systems, the hearing was opened.

No public comment. The hearing was closed.

Motion by Luse, second by Carlson, to adopt Resolution 3020 approving an easement agreement with Kwik Star, 1101 Montgomery St. for placement of storm water detention and conveyance systems. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance 1240 prohibiting the keeping of roosters within the City was introduced and read for the second time. Motion by Luse, second by Johnson, to approve the second reading.

Carol Edmundson, 804 Linden St., spoke of how a nearby rooster has affected her and saying people need to experience it to understand it. She played a recording of the rooster crowing on 11/18/19 at 5:08 am.

Ralph Van Fossen, 806 Linden St., stated other neighbors have testified his rooster is not a problem. He finds it interesting the city council would consider banning poultry when other communities are encouraging backyard chickens.

Dan Edmundson, 804 Linden St., stated they never attempted to show it is a bothersome animal to the entire neighborhood. This activity happens right next to their bedroom. There was no other way to address the situation but to complain for themselves.

The Mayor called for the vote. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Luse, second by Johnson, to waive the third and final reading, thereby placing the ordinance on its' final adoption. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Luse, second by Hadley, to authorize notice to the union bargaining unit of intention to terminate dispatching services by the City of Decorah. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned on motion.



Wanda Hemesath, MMC  
City Clerk, Tr.