

**City of Decorah Utility Committee Meeting
Monday, August 19, 2019**

Immediately following the regular session of the City Council (actual start – 6:45pm)

The City of Decorah Utility Committee met on Monday, August 19, 2019 at 6:45pm. Chairman Andy Carlson called the meeting to order and the following answered roll: Emily Neal, Johanna Bergan, and Randy Schissel. Mayor Lorraine Borowski and Steve Luse were also in attendance. Others in attendance: City Clerk / Treasurer Wanda Hemesath, and City Manager Chad Bird.

Agenda

Discussion regarding storm water management plan and proposed projects

Bird and City Engineer Jeremy Bril reviewed work being done on the city's storm water planning. They noted Bril has a draft storm water ordinance and would like to bring a draft to council for consideration.

There was discussion on utilizing outside resources to assist in drafting a storm water ordinance or seek grants for storm water projects within the city.

Bird and Bril engaged the committee in a conversation about potential projects for consideration and urged the committee to consider major projects for funding as part of the overall storm water utility funding.

Some projects discussed included; the library retaining wall, a permeant pumping station along the levees, a watershed map internal to the city limits showing current infrastructure, and work in the Diversion Channel to mitigate storm flooding.

The committee directed Bird to prepare a revision to the city codes and to develop the project maintenance list for the budget season. They asked for the code revisions to be back to full council by December 31.

Discussion regarding Alliant rate case and city's intervener status

Luse opened the conversation and asked what requirements needed to be met for the city to consider making a financial contribution to the current Alliant rate case before the Iowa Utilities Board. Luse and Hadley noted the work being completed on behalf of the Intervener group, Decorah Area Group and would like to support the legal fund and expenses. They see a public benefit in supporting efforts to fight the proposed rate increase currently being proposed by Alliant with the Iowa Utilities Board.

Bird noted he believed there to be a conflict similar to Iowa Campaign Law regulations and said the contribution of funds for this purpose seems close to issues raised in campaign law and ethics. The committee asked Bird to obtain a written legal opinion on the matter.

Bird noted he would continue to seek guidance and present information to the committee / council.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 7:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

