

**City of Decorah Community Betterment & Housing Committee Meeting
Thursday, August 13, 2020 – 5:00pm.**

Electronic meeting pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.8 – In circumstances where such a meeting is impossible or impractical due to concerns about COVID-19 and social distancing for the safety of Council members and the public.

In support of Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds' proclamation declaring a State of Public Health Disaster Emergency in Iowa, the current COVID-19 situation makes it "impossible and impractical" to meet in one location. Due to this the Decorah City Hall was open to the public for the August 13, 2020 City Council Betterment Committee meeting. However, seating was limited to ensure proper social distancing. Seating was available on a first-come, first served basis. However, the meeting was made available telephonically.

Chairman Johanna Bergan called the meeting to order and the following answered roll: Ross Hadley, Steve Luse, and Randy Schissel. Mayor Lorraine Borowski, Andy Carlson, and Emily Neal were also in attendance. Others in attendance: City Manager Chad Bird, City Clerk / Treasurer Wanda Hemesath, and several Dept Heads.

Agenda

COVID pandemic public health and safety measures

Bergan noted there has been some movement regarding community education and she wondered how much more and how the city can engage in discussions and messaging.

Bergan also gave an overview of the recent Board of Health meeting and other community discussions on this topic.

There was some discussion of whether a simple resolution could provide for infractions and code enforcement. Bird noted he didn't believe a resolution could provide an enforcement measure.

There was a discussion and review of the City's of Dubuque and Mt Vernon and their ordinances and actions on mandates, especially as it relates to enforcement.

There was also a discussion about Iowa's home rule authority law.

The committee reviewed the final draft of the ordinance and made some adjustments based on conversation.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 6:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Community Betterment & Housing – *Bergan, Hadley, Luse, Schissel

Improving quality of life in a community requires supporting initiatives that look to the future of the community. Initiatives and suggestions involving housing, and quality of life matters for the citizens and visitors of Decorah. Improving the quality of the environment through conservation; educational efforts; community beautification or restoration efforts; improving the quality of neighborhoods through capacity building efforts; economic development and overall planning contribute to betterment of a community. Connecting community needs with available resources; by officially recognizing the participating communities and neighborhoods. Ordinance and other policy issues related to matters involving Human Rights Commission and code sections and Historic Preservation Commission and code sections.