

February 17, 2020

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, Randy Schissel

Public Comment

- a. Annual report and update – Parks & Recreation Dept
Parks & Recreation Director Andy Nimrod provided an annual report and update to the Council.
Nimrod reviewed what's fun, what's challenging, and what's happening in the Department.

Motion by Bergan, second by Luse to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- a. Minutes of the February 3, 2020 meeting
- b. Claims
- c. Renewal Class B Beer permit for Winneshiek Co. Ag including Outdoor Service Area and Sunday Sales privileges
- d. Approve new Class C permit for Your Place including Outdoor Service Area and Sunday Sales privileges
- e. **Resolution 3048**, setting a date for a public hearing on a proposal to establish a Self-Supporting Municipal Improvement District – *Monday, March 16, 2020 – 5:45pm*
- f. **Resolution 3051**, a Preliminary Resolution for the Construction of the Decorah 2020 Short Street Improvement Project within the City Limits of the City of Decorah
- g. Accept FY19 Audit Report
- h. C-3 Commercial Design Review re: 410 West Water Street, *Sugar Bowl – remove and replace signage on front of store*
- i. C-3 Commercial Design Review re: 101 West Water Street, *Impact Coffee – install new signage on front of store*

Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

This being the time and date for a public hearing on a master lease agreement with US Cellular for small cell towers. The hearing was opened. Bird reviewed the lease agreement terms for the council. No public comment. The hearing was closed.

Motion by Schissel, second by Carlson, to approve Resolution 3052 entering into a master lease agreement with US Cellular for small cell towers. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Bergan, second by Carlson, to approve a C-3 Commercial Design Review re: 201 West Main Street, US Cellular Wireless – small cell antennae. Roll call vote. Aye: Bergan, Carlson, Schissel, Neal, Luse, Johnson. Nay: Hadley. Motion carried 6 – 1.

This being the time and date for a public hearing on proposed plans and specifications, estimate of cost, proposed form of contract, and acceptance of bids for the construction of the Decorah 2020 Ridge Road Street Improvements, Phase Two – Upper Ridge Road Project. Bird reviewed the project and bids, noting there were two bids received, Skyline Construction and JB Holland Construction. He noted the Engineer's Opinion of Costs was \$653,972.20, Bird stated the apparent low bidder was Skyline Construction in the amount of \$605,274.50 and he recommended award of the bid to Skyline. No public comment. The hearing was closed.

Motion by Schissel, second by Luse, to approve Resolution 3046 approving the proposed plans and specifications, estimate of cost, form of contract, and award of bid for the construction to Skyline Construction in the amount of \$605,274.50 for the Decorah 2020 Ridge Road Street Improvements, Phase Two – Upper Ridge Road Project. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Hadley, second by Carlson, to approve Resolution 3047 approving a 28e agreement with Winneshiek County – Locust Road detour. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Luse, second by Hadley, to approve Resolution 3049, a resolution of acceptance of final plat of Minowa Acres – Final Plat, 2nd Addition. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Luse, second by Carlson, to approve Resolution 3050, a resolution of acceptance of final plat of Scenic View Estates – Fifteenth Addition. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Bergan, second by Hadley to approve Council Rules of Procedure with Option B, allowing for electronic attendance at council meetings. In discussion Schissel stated that council is elected to be present to represent constituents. Bergan stated with today's technology, participation via electronic means was a viable option.

Motion by Bergan, second by Neal to amend the original motion to disallow electronic participation during any legal closed session of the council and to limit electronic participation to only once per calendar quarter. Roll call vote. Aye: Bergan, Neal, Carlson, Hadley. Nay: Schissel, Luse, Johnson. Motion carried 4 - 3.

Roll call vote on the original motion to allow electronic participation. Aye: Bergan, Hadley, Carlson, Neal. Nay: Schissel, Luse, Johnson. Motion carried 4 - 3.

Motion by Neal, second by Luse to approve and accept the 2020 Decorah Sustainability Plan. Neal noted the council and community has worked together on this plan over the past two years. Schissel stated he was concerned about financial impacts the plan may have, especially in regards to green building codes and tax abatement programs. Luse asked for clarification on the difference between adopting, approving, and accepting.

Motion by Bergan, second by Neal to amend the original motion to approve and adopt the 2020 Decorah Sustainability Plan. Roll call vote. Aye: Bergan, Hadley, Carlson, Neal, Luse, Johnson. Nay: Schissel. Motion carried 6 - 1.

Motion on the original motion to approve and accept the 2020 Decorah Sustainability Plan. Roll call vote. Aye: Neal, Luse, Bergan, Carlson, Hadley, Johnson. Nay: Schissel. Motion carried 6 – 1.

Motion by Bergan, second by Neal to approve Administrative Policy #20-01 – Downtown Display of Flags. Schissel asked when this item was last discussed. He didn't believe a decision had come out of the November 2019 committee meeting. Bergan added the policy being considered was developed after that meeting. Roll call vote. Aye: Bergan, Neal, Carlson, Hadley, Johnson, Luse. Nay: Schissel. Motion carried 6 - 1.

Motion by Carlson, second by Luse to approve a draft electric utility franchise agreement and providing same to electric utility provider. Schissel noted he was opposed to a proposed franchise fee noting the potential impact it may have on non-profit entities. Roll call vote. Aye: Carlson, Luse, Bergan, Neal, Hadley, Johnson. Nay: Schissel. Motion carried 6 - 1.

Motion by Schissel, second by Johnson to appoint Jarrad Essa to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

City Manager Bird introduced a proposed amendment to City Code Chapter 5.28 and the council goals and priorities work plan.

Meeting adjourned on motion.



Chad A. Bird
City Manager