

November 1, 2021

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

The meeting was held in the Council Chambers and electronically.

Members present: Ross Hadley, Andy Carlson, Steve Luse, Randy Schissel, Steven Zittergruen, Kirk Johnson, and Emily Neal

Police Chief David Smutzler administered the Oath of Office to Police Officer Cody Imoehl.

Carly Hayden Foster gave an update on the MEU Task Force

Motion by Schissel, Second by Carlson to approve the consent agenda as presented.

a. Minutes of the October 18, 2021 regular meeting

b. Claims

c. Renewal Class C Liquor License for Luther College-The Center for the Arts, including Sunday Sales privileges pending state approval and dram shop

d. Renewal Class E Liquor License for Decorah Mart including Class B Wine, Class C Beer and Sunday Sales privileges

Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

City Manager, Travis Goedken, went over the details concerning the Street Department requesting to purchase a leaf vacuum in lieu of a bucket truck. The amount of the leaf vacuum would be \$80,000.00 compared to the bucket truck at \$65,000.00. The additional funds would come from the Stormwater Utility Fund.

Motion by Neal, second by Luse to purchase the leaf vacuum with the additional funds coming from the Stormwater Utility Fund.

Roll Call Vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance 1281 proposing changes to City Code Chapters 10 and 12 Seasonal Parking Restrictions, Snow Emergencies, and Snow Removal Policies was read for the 2nd time.

Robert Beebe, 607 Day Street, spoke regarding the changes to the Ordinance. He stated that on Day Street he did not feel that the changes would work. He said his neighbors work well together to park on one side of the street, wait to be plowed, and then go move their vehicles to the other side of the street so the plow can come through again.

Johanna Bergan, 409 West Main Street spoke that the ordinance, as written, is too much of a burden on the people of Decorah. That the City should just use the Ordinance that is already in place and enforce it this year and see how it goes.

Zittergruen made a motion to table the ordinance, Johnson seconded the motion.

Jeremy Brill pointed out that Chapter 12 of Ordinance 1281 does address a few items with snow removal that are not controversial and he would like to see those items still addressed for this snow season.

After much discussion, Neal made a motion to table Ordinance 1281 until 2022 except for Chapter 12 which staff should come back to the next meeting with a new Ordinance to address those specific issues. Schissel seconded the motion.

Roll call vote. All voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Schissel, second by Carlson to approve the 2021 Residential Tax Abatement Applications and in the future approve such tax abatements as they come in and not just on an annual basis. Steve Zittergruen requested that the Council be given information on the financial effects of the tax abatement program long term at the next City Council meeting. Travis Goedken will have that information available.

Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

At 7:00 pm Mayor Borowski opened the public hearing regarding the selling of public property at 701 Maple Avenue. No comment. Mayor Borowski closed the public hearing at 7:01 pm.

Steve Zittergruen made a motion to approve Resolution 3223 regarding the selling of the public property at 701 Maple Avenue conditional to Planning and Zoning recommendation, Neal seconded the motion.

Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Luse, seconded by Schissel to approve ROW Boulevard Easement or Lease Administration Policy. After much discussion among council members, Schissel withdrew his second and Luse made an addition to his motion to include language that specifies that the policy only pertains to the applicant/owner. Schissel seconded the amended motion.

Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion passed.

Schissel made a motion to approve Resolution 3224 entering into a Boulevard Easement Lease with A&M Coffee LLC and setting a public hearing date of December 6, 2021 with the amended language of any new sign permit would trigger the Council to review the request and if the property goes into new ownership.

The Council had a lengthy discussion with the concern of any changes to the sign would need to come back to Council for review since it would be placed in city owned property.

Roll call vote. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Hadley approving Resolution 3225 to finalize the annexation of 3ChicsRentals. Neal seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

At 7:50 pm Mayor Borowski opened the public hearing regarding rezoning 3ChicsRentals LLC. No public comment. Mayor Borowski closed the public hearing at 7:51 pm.

Consider Ordinance 1283 to rezone 3ChicsRental LLC. Hadley made a motion to accept Ordinance 1283, seconded by Carlson. Roll call vote. All voting Aye. Motion carried.

Consider Ordinance 1282 approving the 2020 redistricting map (3rd Reading). Schissel made a motion to table the 3rd reading due to Governor Reynolds not signing the bill. Steve Luse seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned on motion.