

April 4, 2022

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

The meeting was held in the Council Chambers and electronically.

The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Members present: Randy Schissel, Emily Neal, Kirsten Olson, Steve Luse, Steven Zittergruen, Ross Hadley

Absent: Kirk Johnson

Motion by Luse and seconded by Olson to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- a) Minutes of the March 21, 2022, Regular Meeting and Minutes of the March 28, 2022 Work Session
- b) Claims
- c) COPS and Rodders Car Show/Fundraiser Special Event Permit
- d) New Class C Liquor License for Vesterheim Museum with Outdoor Service and Sunday Sales
- e) Renewal Class C Liquor License for B.P.O. Elks #443 with Outdoor Service and Sunday Sales

Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Borowski opened the public hearing at 5:50 p.m. for the Resolution of Necessity for the Decorah 2022 Alley Improvements. Several citizens spoke to the council concerning the assessments.

Joanne Egge-501 Winneshiek Avenue

Mrs. Egge spoke that she did not feel that the assessment was fair because she does not utilize the alley. She feels that the alley needs to be fixed for those that enter and exist using the alley, but she does not. Joanne feels that the City of Decorah, at times, picks and chooses who they work with on how much they pay. She would like someone from the City Staff to contact her and have a discussion.

Gerald Bruce-503 Winneshiek Avenue

Mr. Bruce spoke regarding the garbage trucks going through the alley. He feels that the alley is not made for such heavy trucks, and this is what is causing the damage to the alley.

Tim Smock-505 Winneshiek Avenue

Mr. Smock wanted to know about how the drainage would work after the project is complete. Right now, the water drains onto his property and causes problems. City Engineer, Jeremy Bril, explained that curb will be installed on a large part of the project and Mr. Smock should not have problems in the future.

Erica Reynolds-604 Decorah Avenue-

Mrs. Reynolds had some general questions of what the plan was of when they were starting and how long the City thought it would take to complete the project. Mr. Bril stated that the start date would be late summer and should be done yet this calendar year.

Mayor Borowski closed the public hearing at 6:05 p.m.

Motion by Hadley, second by Zittergruen to approve Resolution 3258 approving the Decorah 2022 Alley Improvement Project. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Luse and seconded by Olson to award Bolton & Menk the North Alley Municipal Master Plan Contract with funding coming from the Hotel/Motel Fund. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Hadley, seconded by Luse to enter into a professional service agreement with Impact 7G. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

The City Council discussed the public restroom and the agreement with Bank of the West. The Council requested that staff research potential scenarios and report back at the next meeting.

Motion by Hadley and seconded by Neal to approve the FYE '23 stormwater projects which will utilize grant opportunities to help with the funding. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Neal, seconded by Luse to approve the cash match IFA Water Infrastructure Fund. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Luse and seconded by Olson to approve the Northeast Iowa RC & D contract for grant assistance. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

City Council discussed the potential locations and fee structure of the EV stations that will be installed within the next few weeks, weather permitting. The Council directed staff to prepare an ordinance to outline how fees will be charged once installed.

Motion made by Neal, seconded by Olson to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Winneshiek County Fair Board. Zach Kerndt and Chuck Ihde discussed with Council the start and finish times that the car races will operate. The Board will start the races at 6:30 p.m. with the goal of being finished at 10:00 p.m.; 11:00 p.m. will continue to be the hard stop except for a couple of exceptions during the season where they will be able to run later if needed. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Luse and seconded by Hadley to approve Resolution 3259 to accept the Oneota Drive Bridge Project as complete. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Luse and seconded by Olson to approve Resolution 3260 accepting the Locust Road Improvement Project as complete. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Schissel, seconded by Luse to approve Resolution 3261 approving the increase in compensation for the law firm of Anderson, Wilmarth, Van Der Maaten, Belay, Fretheim, Gipp, Evelsizer Olson, Lynch & Zahasky. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Olson and seconded by Neal to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 1289 to amend Decorah Municipal Code, Chapter 2.50 Human Rights Commission. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Neal and seconded by Luse to waive the third reading and adopt Ordinance No. 1289 amending Chapter 2.50 Human Rights Commission. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Luse and seconded by Neal to approve Ordinance 1290 to increase the water rates by 8%. Roll call vote. Voting aye: Luse, Neal, Olson, Zittergruen, Hadley. Nay: Schissel

Motion by Olson and seconded by Luse to approve Ordinance 1291 to increase the sewer rates by 4%. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Borowski announced that applications will be taken for the positions opened on the Library Board until April 15th. Those applications need to be sent to the City Clerk, Keri Sand.

The Tree Board also has an opening on their board. Applications can be sent to the City Clerk, Keri Sand.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.