

May 16, 2022

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 City 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, Kirk Johnson

Motion by Olson, seconded by Luse to approve consent agenda

- a. Minutes of the May 2, 2022, Regular Meeting
- b. Claims
- c. Dixie's Biergarten Class C Liquor License Amendment-Expanding Outdoor Service Area
- d. Pulpit Rock Brewing Company Class B Beer Permit Amendment of Ownership Updates
- e. Renewal of Magpie Café & Coffeehouse Class C Liquor License with Sunday Sales
- f. Decorah Pride Parade and Special Event Permit
- g. Holiday Lights Special Permit
- h. Downtown Decorah Betterment Lawn Chair Night Special Event Permit

Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Borowski opened the public hearing on Prairie Lakes Rezoning at 5:48 pm.

Pastor Chris Rygh spoke regarding what the Prairie Lakes Church is bringing to the community along with money into the economy. The plan is to use local businesses for changes that will need to be made in the church. The people coming to the community for services will be spending money in Decorah. He is asking the council to vote to pass the rezoning.

Pastor Doug Bryce-603 Day Street, Decorah-Doug is the pastor at the Christian Life Center in Freeport. Decorah has a development problem that needs to be addressed. He is supportive of the rezoning. The community should be tolerant with religions.

Randy Pfile-607 River Street, Decorah-Randy stated the Council knew that the Church was planning to have services starting Christmas Eve. This is a good use for the building because it is only really good for offices. The Church will redo the building and it will also bring in money to the community.

Brent Brentburesh-408 West Broadway, Decorah-Brent wanted the City Council to know that Prairie Lakes Church was invited into the area by community members that were looking for a church home. This was not an outside church that just decided to come in.

Kent Vanden Berg-504 Terrace Street, Decorah-Kent says he will not go through everything that he has gone through in the past meetings. He just wants to state that the council needs to be conforming to the zoning. He is against the rezoning.

Mayor Borowski closed the public hearing at 6:05 pm.

Schissel made a motion to approve Resolution 3269 which allows the conditional rezoning agreement with Prairie Lakes Church. Zittergruen seconded the motion. The council had a lengthy discussion on the rezoning. Neal felt they should vote with the Board of Adjustment and vote this motion down. Johnson felt this should be approved due to it being hard to find appropriate property. Schissel stated that the

City has already allowed other property tax exempt businesses in that area, should allow the Church also. Olson feels that this is not the right spot for the Church, he will be voting no. Roll call vote. Ayes: Schissel, Zittergruen, Hadley, Jonson. Nays: Neal, Olson, Luse. Motion carried.

Motion by Schissel, seconded by Zittergruen to approve the first reading of an ordinance rezoning for Prairie Lakes Church. Roll call vote. Ayes: Schissel, Zittergruen, Hadley, Johnson. Nays: Neal, Olson, Luse. Motion carried.

Mayor Borowski opened the public hearing on the FYE' 22 budget amendments at 6:33 pm. No comments. Mayor Borowski closed the public hearing at 6:35 pm. City Clerk, Keri Sand, gave an overview of the amendments. Zittergruen made a motion to approve Resolution 3270 approving the FYE '22 budget amendments, Schissel seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Borowski opened the public hearing at 6:36 pm on the plans, specifications, form of contract, and taking bids for the Decorah 2022 alley improvement project. No comments. Mayor Borowski closed the public hearing at 6:37 pm. Luse made a motion to approve Resolution 3271 approving the plans, specifications, form of contract, and awarding the Decorah 2022 alley improvement project. Olson seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Schissel made a motion to approve the site plan for Helms Funeral Home, Olson seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried. Scott Helms took the opportunity to introduce himself to the Council. He thanked everyone for their help through the process.

Neal made a motion to approve the 28E Agreement with the Senior Citizens Center with the addendum to have a sign put back up to show where the Senior Citizen Center is located. Luse seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Luse made a motion to approve the 28E Agreement with Northeast Iowa Housing Trust, Hadley seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Hadley made a motion to approve the MOU with Decorah Real Estate, Luse seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Hadley, Luse, Neal, Olson, Johnson, Zittergruen. Schissel stated that he passed, he wanted more information. Motion carried. Decorah Real Estate will move forward with their proposal of housing in the Decorah area.

Luse made a motion to approve Resolution 3272 rescinding Resolution 3234 and approve the Farmer's Market in Kind Agreement. Olson seconded the motion. Goedken explained that this would waive the Farmer's Market Special Event fee and it would also stop the city plowing snow in the Phelps Cemetery. Roll call vote. Ayes: Luse, Olson, Schissel, Zittergruen, Hadley, Johnson. Nays: Neal. Motion carried. Goedken will be in touch with the Phelps Cemetery care takers, so they are aware before this winter.

Luse made a motion to approve Resolution 3273 for the IDOT GAVI Airport Grant, Olson seconded the motion. Goedken explained that this would allow up to \$300,000.00 in revenue for projects at the Airport for maintenance on the terminal hangar. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Hadley made a motion to approve Resolution 3274 setting a public hearing for the Decorah 2022 Street Improvements-Asphalt Resurfacing Project. Neal seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Luse made a motion to approve the third reading and adopt Ordinance 1292, the regulation of electric vehicle charging stations on public property, Neal seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Hadley made a motion to approve Resolution 3275 setting fees for publicly owned electric vehicle charges, Luse seconded the motion. Schissel asked if the fees would cover the costs of the city. Goedken stated the fees are structured to cover costs. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Luse made a motion to approve Resolution 3276 setting a public hearing for amending Chapter 15.04 related to design criteria variances for C-3 District. Neal seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

The City Manager spoke regarding a possible MOU with Bird Scooters. The business would like to have a relationship with the city before bringing the scooters to Decorah. Bird Scooters had a representative on Zoom to answer any questions. The Council asked multiple questions to the representative regarding helmet use, education on the scooters, age restrictions, along with many other questions. Janelle Pavlovec spoke against the scooters stating that they are hard to see. Chief Smutzler also spoke against the scooters saying that they are not built to keep people safe. Zittergruen made a motion to sign an MOU with Bird Scooters, Luse seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Zittergruen, Luse, Hadley. Nays: Johnson, Neal, Olson. Motion carried.

Mayor Borowski reminded everyone that there are openings on the Library Board, Tree Board, and the Planning and Zoning Board.

Adjourn at 7:58 pm

Keri Sand  
City Clerk-Finance Officer