

September 18, 2023

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Borowski at 5:45 PM.

The meeting was held at the Decorah Council Chambers and electronically.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Ross Hadley, Kirk Johnson, Steve Luse, Randy Schissel, Kirsten Olson, Emily Neal, and Steve Zittergruen

Julie Fisher of 712 West Main Street Decorah spoke to the City Council regarding the sidewalks. She wanted to thank the City Council for addressing the sidewalk issues around Decorah. Fisher stated that she was scared last winter because of the offsets and tilts of the sidewalks and is glad they are getting fixed.

Consent agenda was presented.

- a. Minutes of the September 5, 2023
- b. Claims
- c. Consider Pay Application #1 for the Decorah 2023 Alley Improvements Project
- d. Consider Pay Application #2 for the Decorah 2023 Street Improvements-Asphalt Resurfacing Project

Olson made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Neal seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Borowski opened the public hearing at 5:50 PM on amending the official zoning map of the City of Decorah, Title 17, Section 17.60.020 of the Municipal Code of the City of Decorah to change the zoning classification from A-1 Agriculture District to C-1 Highway Commercial District for a parcel of land owned by Decorah Jobs Inc. Maddie Putnum with Decorah Jobs spoke to Council regarding the request. Putnam stated that the request is due to wanting to have the parcel ready for commercial business when trying to sell the parcel. Mayor Borowski closed the meeting at 5:51 PM.

Schissel made a motion to approve the first reading of an ordinance to amend the official zoning map of the City of Decorah, Iowa set forth in Title 17, Section 17.60.020 of the Municipal Code of the City of Decorah to change the zoning classification from A-1 Agriculture to C-1 Highway Commercial District for a parcel of land in the Decorah Business Park that is owned by Decorah Jobs. Hadley seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Neal made a motion to approve Resolution 3389 approving the transfer of funds from the Decorah General Fund to the Decorah Library Special Gifts Fund, Olson seconded the motion. City Clerk, Keri Sand explained that the fund request is related to funds that were donations intended for RSVP. Department Head Kristin Torresdal requested the transfer to be able to make sure the donations are being used as they were intended. Mayor Borowski indicated that this should be the practice going forward. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

City Manager Travis Goedken and City Engineer Jeremy Bril spoke regarding the Fiscal Year 2025 Street Improvement Plan. Bril presented three different options for consideration to be done during fiscal year 2025 but wanted to get Council feedback on which plan they were most interested in pursuing. This will give the City Engineer an indication of what plan to pursue for budget purposes. The consensus was to take a deeper look at the Heivly Street project.

Mayor Borowski asked if any Council or Department Heads had anything to report on. Council member Steve Luse asked the City Attorney, John Anderson, if there were a lot of cities in Iowa that have an elected Park Board. Anderson explained that he was not sure how many cities elected Park Boards; most cities appoint the Park Board. Anderson explained he has not done a lot of research on the subject. Mayor Borowski requested that the City Attorney research the subject of Park Boards and let the Council know of his findings.

Olson made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5 (1)(j) Real Estate at 6:40 PM, Neal seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Olson, Neal, Schissel, Luse, Zittergruen, Hadley, and Johnson. Motion carried.

The City Council returned from closed session at 7:46 PM. Schissel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Luse seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Keri Sand
City Clerk-Finance Officer