

April 15, 2024

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: Randy Schissel, Emily Neal, Kirsten Olson, Christopher Miculinich, Steven Zittergruen, Ross Hadley, and Brent Parker

Mayor Borowski read the Arbor Day Proclamation

Consent agenda was presented.

- a. Minutes of the April 1, 2024, Meeting
- b. Claims
- c. Appointment of Jessie Joyner to the Sustainability Commission
- d. Amendment Class C Retail Outdoor Service-Impact Service for the following dates:  
September 07, 2023, September 14, 2023, September 21, 2023, September 28, 2023,  
October 05, 2023,  
May 02, 2024, May 09, 2024, May 16, 2024, May 30, 2024, June 06, 2024, June 13, 2024,  
June 20, 2024,  
June 27, 2024, July 4, 2024, July 11, 2024, July 18, 2024, July 25, 2024, August 01, 2024,  
August 22, 2024
- e. 2024 Farmer's Market Lease Agreement

Olson made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Miculinich seconded the motion. Randy Schissel requested that letter E regarding the Farmer's Market Lease Agreement be removed from the consent agenda. Olson and Miculinich withdrew their motions. Olson made a motion to approve the consent agenda without letter E. regarding the Farmer's Market Lease Agreement, Miculinich seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Olson, Miculinich, Parker Schissel, Zittergruen, Neal, Hadley. Motion carried.

Schissel spoke regarding the Farmer's Market Lease. He wants to know why they are getting special treatment when other events do not. The current contract states \$16.00 per event, yet as of now, the city has an agreement with the Farmer's Market where the fee is waived. Neal stated that the timing is wrong for setting fees at this time since there is already conversation regarding the fee for special events. Zittergruen made a motion to approve the Farmer's Market lease as currently written, Olson seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

The Cops and Rodders special event request was presented. There have been complaints from business owners on Water Street regarding the date of the special event request which is to be held May 18, 2024. This falls on the same weekend as the Decorah Community School District Graduation and Luther College Graduation.

Vic Pinckney of 1100 Locust Road, representing the Elk's Lodge spoke regarding the special event request. He explained to the council that the reason that this date was chosen is that it falls during the National Police Week. The event is to celebrate and raise funds for the Decorah Police Department K9 Program.

Police Officer Cody Imoehl spoke to council regarding the event. Officer Imoehl has been working with the Elk's Lodge to plan this event. Their feeling was that bringing an extra 1,000 people to the downtown area would be a positive thing.

Kellie Courtney of 210 West Water Street spoke regarding the event. She believes that the people that come down to see the cars are not the same people that would also go into her business on that same day to shop. She felt the restaurants will always win regardless of the event, but the retail merchants would be hurt by having this event the same weekend as the two graduations.

Kate Scott of 405 East Broadway asked for the clarification of the City Manager's statement that the car show would be in the morning. Officer Imoehl clarified that the awards would be given out at 1:00 PM and the street would be back open by 2:00 PM.

Hadley made the motion to approve the Cops and Rodders special event with the change of the date to May 11, 2024, Olson seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Hadley, Olson, Parker, Neal, Zittergruen, Miculinich, Schissel. Motion carried. The organizers of the special event agreed to this change.

Mayor Borowski opened the public hearing for the Decorah Municipal Airport Solar Array Project at 6:33 PM. No public comment. The public hearing was closed at 6:34 PM.

Mayor Borowski opened the public hearing for the Decorah Municipal Airport Corporate Hangar with Attached Terminal Building Project at 6:36 PM. No public comment. Mayor Borowski closed the public hearing at 6:37 PM.

Mayor Borowski opened the public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2025 Budget at 6:37 PM. No public comment. The public hearing was closed at 6:38 PM. Zittergruen made a motion to approve

Resolution 3441 approving the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget, Olson seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Zittergruen, Olson, Neal, Hadley, Miculinich, Parker. Nays: Schissel. Motion carried.

Mayor Borowski opened the public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2024 Amendment at 6:39 PM. No public comment. The public hearing closed at 6:40 PM. Zittergruen made a motion to approve Resolution 3442 approving the Fiscal Year 2024 Amendment, Neal seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Borowski opened the public hearing on the plans, specifications, form of contract, and taking bids for the Decorah 2024 Carlson Park Gateway Trail Project at 6:42 PM. Benji Nichols of 412 Oak Street spoke regarding the project. He understood and agreed that the council should not award the project due to the bid coming in so high. He feels that the contractors are already booked up for 2024 and we would have more luck in 2025. He would like to have the project keep moving forward in a positive manner. Schissel made a motion to approve the resolution to approve the plans, specifications, form of contract and takings bids for the Decorah 2024 Carlson Park Gateway Trail Project, Olson seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: None. Nays: Schissel, Olson, Zittergruen, Parker, Neal, Hadley, Miculinich. Motion failed.

Mayor Borowski opened the public hearing at 6:50 PM regarding amending Chapter 17.84 R-5 Planned Unit Development District of the Decorah Municipal Code at 6:50 PM. No public comment. The public hearing closed at 6:51 PM. Zittergruen made a motion to approve the first reading of an ordinance to amend Chapter 17.84 Planned Unit Development District of the Decorah Municipal Code, Schissel seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

The City Manager went over the C-3 Plan Design request for Caleb Ulring at 201 West Water Street, 205 West Water Street, and 101 Winnebago Street. Caleb Ulring of 909 Pleasant Avenue was present to answer questions from the council. Zittergruen made a motion to approve the C-3 Plan Design request for Caleb Ulring, Olson seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Olson made a motion to approve Resolution 3443 amending the Personnel Pay Plan for the City of Decorah, Miculinich seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Neal made a motion to approve the first reading of an ordinance to amend Section 8.44.040 Yard Waste Disposal for the Decorah Municipal Code with the amendment that council may choose to suspend the change by resolution, Olson seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Zittergruen made a motion to approve the first reading of an ordinance that amends Decorah's Sign Ordinance and creates Chapter 15.20 of the Decorah Municipal Code with the addition of allowing the electronic portion of an electric sign to be 50% of the total size of the sign referenced in Chapter 15.20.60. Neal seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Zittergruen, Neal, Miculinich, Hadley, Parker, Olson. Nays: Schissel. Motion carried.

Schissel made a motion to approve the first reading of an ordinance to amend Chapter 9.30 Liquor and Intoxication of the Decorah Municipal Code with the council to have authorization, by resolution, to approve the consumption and the possession of alcohol on public streets and public property. Parker seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Schissel, Parker, Hadley, Miculinich, Zittergruen, Neal. Nays: Olson. Motion carried.

Olson made a motion to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 5.26 Special Events of the Decorah Municipal Code, Neal seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Olson made a motion to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 6.20 Dogs-Control and Licensing of the Decorah Municipal Code, Parker seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Olson, Parker, Neal, Zittergruen, Miculinich, Hadley. Nays: Schissel. Motion carried.

City Clerk, Keri Sand, spoke to council regarding one of the messaging tools that staff use to communicate with the community. The current number signed up for this service through Group Cast is 147 people with the cost being \$2,100.00 annually. Sand explained that they would like to continue looking for a more appropriate tool but something with less cost. After council discussion it was determined that it would be wise to look for an alternative communication tool.

City Manager Goedken discussed with the council Chapter 2.22 Board of Park Commissioners. Goedken will be interviewing to replace Park and Recreation Department Head, Andy Nimrod, with his retirement being April 30, 2024. Goedken is requesting clarification on the process of interviewing for the park and Recreation Department Head. After council discussion it was decided that Goedken will have five on the interviewing committee. This would include someone from the park board and one from the city council, along with Goedken and two other staff members.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Keri Sand  
City Clerk-Finance Officer

