

September 3, 2024

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Lorraine 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, Brent Parker, Steve Zittergruen, Mayor Lorraine Borowski, City Manager Travis Goedken, and City Clerk Keri Sand

Tom Hansen, 3469 Locust Road, Decorah IA spoke during public comment. Hansen stated that he has been a staunch defender of everyone's First Amendment Rights. This includes the LGBTQ Communities right to have their parade and fly their flags during it. Club 45 had Democratic Candidate for the 2nd Congressional District, Sarah Corkery, speak at Club 45 to allow her to have her First Amendment Rights. Hansen feels that when he comes to this council and asks to express his First Amendment Rights, during his events, instead of council acting the way they speak about equality, inclusion, tolerance, diversity, they treat Hansen like an enemy. Hansen stated that council went so far last year as to take him to court to try to fine him \$750.00 and ask the court to prohibit him from speaking his mind on city property without council permission. Hansen stated he will continue to point out the hypocrisy between council's words and actions. This includes the hypocrisy if what had happened up at Chattahoochie Park on June 6th, had happened to a Republican, both members of this board and Hanson would be calling for their resignation. But because it happened to one of council's own, council sits up here and defends him. Hanson asked for Mr. Zittergruen resignation.

Lisa Zittergruen, 501 Leif Erikson Drive, Decorah IA- Zittergruen stated that she reassures the council that Tom Hansen's concerns are both inappropriate and irrelevant. She maintains full confidence in her husband's ability to serve the City of Decorah as a city leader and as a council person. Zittergruen fully believes that we all should as well. Zittergruen asks that Tom, and the community please respect her family's privacy going forward.

Consent agenda was presented.

- a. Minutes of the August 19, 2024, Council Meeting
- b. Claims
- c. Tax Abatement for Christopher Winters-543 Massman Drive-New Construction
- d. Approving Official Newspaper of the City of Decorah-Decorah Leader
- e. Amendment Class C Retail Alcohol License with Outdoor Service-Impact Coffee
- f. Renewal Special Class C Retail Alcohol License-Luther College-The Center for the Arts
- g. New Class C Retail Alcohol License-Blazing Star
- h. Resolution 3488 Setting Public Hearing on Wood Chip Disposal
- i. Reappointment of Aaron Dahlen on Board of Appeals
- j. Reappointment of Paul Mattson and Lydia Anderson to the Telecommunications

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

Schissel made a motion to approve Resolution 3489 to fill the council vacancy by special election December 10, 2024. Olson seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Schissel, Olson, Neal, Miculinich, Parker, Zittergruen. Motion carried.

Schissel made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 1334 amending section 2.22.030 of the Decorah Municipal Code regarding Board of Park Commissioners powers and duties. Olson seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All voting ayes. Motion carried. Schissel made a motion to waive the third reading and adopt Ordinance 1334. Zittergruen seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Schissel, Zittergruen, Parker, Neal, Miculinich, Olson. Motion carried.

Mayor Borowski announced that there is an opening on the Decorah Human Rights Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 PM

Keri Sand
City Clerk-Finance Officer

