

May 6, 2013

The regular meeting of the Decorah City Council was called to order by Mayor Don Arendt at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: John Franzen, Julie Fischer, Paul Wanless, Carolyn Corbin, Randy Schissel, Gary Rustad, and Rachel Vagts.

Mayor Arendt announced Councilmember Fischer has moved out of her elected ward and thanked her for her service. Attorney Zahasky reviewed options for filling the vacant position.

Councilmember Fischer left the meeting.

Motion by Schissel, second by Franzen to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Kyrl Henderson reviewed and submitted the annual Decorah Historic Preservation Report.

Andy Bonnet, owner – Rubiyat Restaurant, encouraged the council to not approve a request to close Water Street for the Open St. event. He stated last years' event was a disaster for his staff, customers and resulted in a significant loss of revenue for his business. Event organizers had promised special parking for customers and staff and a handicap access area roped off. None of that happened. Staff arriving before the event started, were barricaded in until its' conclusion.

He feels a better location would be behind Oneota Co-op where the fall event was held.

Motion by Rustad, second by Vagts, to approve items on the consent agenda as follows:

- a. Minutes of the April 15, 2013 meeting
- b. Claims
- c. Renewal Class B Beer permit for Pizza Hut including Sunday Sale
- d. Renewal Special Class C Beer/Wine Permit for Luther College including Sunday Sales
- e. Renewal Special Class C Beer/Wine Permit for Luther College Commons including Sunday Sales
- f. Renewal Class C Beer permit for Kwik Star including Sunday Sales
- g. Renewal Class C Liquor License for Elks including Outdoor Service Area
- h. Renewal Class B Beer Permit for Toppling Goliath Brewing Co. including Outdoor Service Area and Sunday Sales
- i. Change Order #3, Short St. Imp, \$55,761.77
- j. Change Order #4, Short St. Imp. \$99,207.21

Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

City Manager Bird presented City Engineer Lindsay Erdman and Engineer John Hjelle with a transportation award received for their contribution to the Trout Run Trail Bridge Project across Hwy 9.

This being the time and place for a public hearing regarding the FY'13 budget amendment the hearing was opened. City Clerk, Tr. Hemesath reviewed the proposed amendment. No public comment. The hearing was closed.

Motion by Wanless, second by Schissel, to adopt Resolution 2559 approving the FY'13 budget amendment. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Schissel, second by Rustad, to accept the settlement agreement and penalty for Quillins Food Center tobacco violation. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Vagts, second by Corbin, to approve Resolution 2560 supporting the submission of the Community Wide Blueprint for Decorah Blue Zone Certification. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Schissel, second by Franzen, to approve Resolution 2561 authorizing the submission of applications for Iowa Airport Improvement Programs and certifying eligibility requirements. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Consideration of a street closing request for Decorah Open Streets was opened for discussion. Event Organizer David Paquette, explained all business owners within the event area, and some outside, had been contacted and everyone is supportive. He is trying to create an event to benefit the community and instill Blue Zone Project values.

Andy Bonnet responded saying no one asked him. He believes everyone should be notified who may be affected by the street closing – not just those in the event area.

Councilperson Wanless stated his business is in the event area and no one had contacted him.

Councilperson Rustad suggested use of the area between lower Co-op parking lot and the Water Street Park be utilized. Believes this type of event needs to be workable for everyone. Paquette explained several people have requested the event be brought back to Water St.

Councilmember Schissel noted he has been observing Water Street for numerous Sundays at Noon, 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm. Parking stalls through the event area have been 80% full.

Short discussion was held on approving the street closure from Court to Mechanic. No formal action taken.

Motion by Schissel, second by Rustad, to deny the street closing request. Roll call vote. Voting aye: Schissel, Rustad, Franzen, Wanless, Corbin. Voting nay: Vagts. Motion carried.

City Manager Bird to contact organizers to see if they want to make an alternative request.

Motion by Schissel, second by Wanless, to approve Resolution 2562 amending a 28E Agreement between the City of Decorah and the Decorah Rural Fire Protective Association. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Vagts, second by Franzen, to approve submission of a Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Grant to the U.S. Department of Justice. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Rustad, second by Franzen, to approve financial participation, from the tree maintenance budget, for tree replacement on the east side of JC Penny – street dept to remove existing tree. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned on motion.



Wanda Hemesath, MMC
City Clerk, Tr.