

Decatur County Council Meeting

Tuesday, June 18th, 2024

Present: Danny Peters, Bill Metz, Melanie Nobbe, Ashley Hungate and Kenny Hooten

President Peters welcomed everyone to the Council's June 18th meeting; he then asked Mrs Nobbe to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

(Meeting minutes and agendas are emailed to Council members the Friday before their Tuesday meeting)

Mrs Hungate made a motion to approve the May 21st minutes and Mr Metz seconded the motion. Motion passes, 6 – 0.

Marcia Hausman shared some stories about the huge impact on the kids who are selected to go on the **Youth to Yellowstone** trips; 140 Decatur County students have been to Yellowstone since 2014 through this program. The Youth to Yellowstone group is requesting \$ 7,500 in funding for 2025. Council will this request at their 2025 Budget Workshop in August.

Animal Control Manager Minde Myers told Council members she is concerned about the after-hours coverage as callers are expecting her department to go out to pick up strays 24/7. Mrs Myers and her staff cannot cover picking up strays while also caring for the animals in the Shelter plus emergency calls requiring removal of neglected animals from owner(s) property and caring for those. There are more people surrendering and dumping their unwanted pets than calls for pick-up so Mrs Myers would rather have a part-time kennel tech instead of a part-time animal control officer. Mrs Hungate doesn't believe Mrs Myers would get a good applicant due to the low pay at \$16 an hour. Council asked Mrs Myers to add the position to her 2025 Budget request.

Heather Durnil, Thrive Alliance – Agency on Aging – asked Council for continued funding in 2025. These funds are part of the required local match monies for Federal Grants and she is asking for \$15,000. There were 800 home delivered meals in 2023-2024 in Decatur County.

New Directions Domestic Shelter Director Kelly Wampler also asked Council for \$10,000 for 2025 funding to help cover the mortgage payments.

IT Director Josh Tressler told Council there will be a new lease for servers as it is more cost effective to replace the current 6 servers to meet licensing requirements and warranties than to renew the current lease. The increase for the lease would be \$29,800 to each the County and City of Greensburg for the 5-year plan.

Mr Metz moved to approve the transfer requests submitted by Prosecutor's 4-D for \$1,300; Health Department for \$2,000, Soil and Water for \$139.75 and Community Corrections for \$90,000. Mrs Nobbe seconded the motion. Motion passes, 4 – 0.

Council adopted **Ordinance 2024-8** at their May 21st meeting setting the 'job classification system and maintenance plan for County positions, development compensation schedules and conduct a Fair Labor Standards Act reviews. Ordinance 2008-4 is in conflict with that ordinance since it set out compensation for new hires. Mr Hooten moved to pass **Ordinance 2024-10** repealing Ordinance 2008-4 and Mrs Hungate seconded the motion. Mr Peters asked for a 'roll call vote': Mr Hooten- yea, Mrs Hungate – yea, Mr Metz – yea, Mrs Nobbe – yea and Mr Peters – yea. Motion passes, 5 – 0, Mr Hooten moved to make this ordinance effective July 1, 2024 and Mr Metz seconded the motion. Motion passes, 4 – 0.

Economic Development Commission Director Bryan Robbins will meet with the State on READI 2.0 and hopes to close the outstanding Fletcher Power agreements.

Mr Peters said **RWE** wants to meet with Council members, 3 at a time, and Mr Robbins to share information on solar farms.

The next Council meeting will be July 16th, 2024 at 9:00 am at the Courthouse, Room 106.

With nothing else to come before the Council, Mr Hooten made a motion to adjourn and Mr Metz seconded the motion. Council's regular meeting is adjourned.

Danny Peters, President

Attest: _____

Date: _____