

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2009**

On Monday, June 1, 2009, the City Council of the City of Decatur, Illinois, met in Regular Meeting and Study Session at 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, One Gary K. Anderson Plaza, Decatur, Illinois. Mayor Michael T. McElroy presided; together with him being Councilmen Adam Brown, Larry W. Foster, Patrick S. Laegeler, Julie Moore Wolfe, and Dana Ray. Councilman Jerry J. Dawson was absent. Six members were present and one was absent. Mayor McElroy declared a quorum present.

City Manager Ryan P. McCrady attended the meeting.

Mayor McElroy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Invocation was given by Major Robert Gauthier from The Salvation Army.

The minutes of the meeting of May 18, 2009, were presented. Councilman Foster moved the minutes be approved as written; seconded by Councilman Brown. Councilman Laegeler stated that he will abstain since he was absent that evening. Upon call of the roll, Councilmen Foster, Moore, Ray, Brown, and Mayor McElroy voted aye. Councilman Laegeler abstained. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Mayor McElroy called for New Business.

This being the time set for Proclamations and Recognitions, proclamations were read declaring June 2009 as "Decatur Race for the Cure in Pink Month" and June 1 to June 5, 2009 as "Small Business Week in Decatur".

Mayor McElroy and Police Chief Jim Anderson introduced the newest members of the Decatur Police Auxiliary, thanked them for their willingness to serve their community, and informed the public of the Auxiliary purpose and benefit to the community for parades and other events. City Clerk Celeste Harris administered the Oath of Office.

Former City Councilman Shad Edwards was presented a plaque from the Decatur Police Auxiliary for his support and assistance over the past several years.

Ordinance No. 2009-40, amending City Code Chapter 67, Building Code, Section 6 and Section 9, was presented.

Councilman Laegeler moved the ordinance do pass; seconded by Councilman Foster.

Councilman Brown stated he cannot support this item because of its burden on the property owner.

City Manager McCrady responded to Council's question stating that the \$100.00 fee is currently in the code and not a new fee and is only charged at the discretion of the department director.

Upon call of the roll, Councilmen Foster, Laegeler, Moore, Ray, and Mayor McElroy voted aye. Councilman Brown voted nay. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2009-41, amending City Code Chapter 67.2, Residential Building Code, and Adopting the 2006 International Residential Code, was presented.

Councilman Laegeler moved the ordinance do pass; seconded by Councilman Brown.

Randy Johner, Building Inspections Manager, responded to Council's questions stating that city staff conducted a survey of other central Illinois communities (Champaign, Peoria, Bloomington, and Normal) and found that these communities all charged \$50.00 for interior renovation permits, which is an all encompassing fee to include electrical, carpentry, etc. and the city issues approximately 100 to 150 permits annually.

Following discussion, Councilmen Foster, Laegeler, Moore, Ray, and Mayor McElroy voted aye. Councilman Brown voted nay. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2009-42, authorizing Consumption of Alcoholic Liquor on Public Right-of-Way for annual Lakeside Music and Arts Festival, was presented.

Councilman Foster moved the ordinance do pass; seconded by Councilwoman Moore, and on call of the roll, Councilmen Foster, Laegeler, Moore, Ray, Brown, and Mayor McElroy voted aye. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Resolution R2009-79, accepting Proposal and authorizing Contract with McDonald Transit Associates, Inc. for Management of Decatur Public Transit System, was presented.

Councilman Foster moved the resolution do pass; seconded by Councilwoman Ray.

Nanette Ruffin, President of Amalgamated Transit Union, read a prepared statement expressing her support of keeping First Transit as the management company of the Transit System. Ms. Ruffin commented on the serious problems experienced by transit employees prior to First Transit assuming management. The history with First Transit has been very positive with regard to labor relations, there have been no arbitrations, and three successful contracts. First Transit's General Manager, Dick Foiles, has an open door policy which has helped with regard to employee problems and concerns. Since 1999, transit has seen a steady recovery of the system with improvements in scheduled service, operations, equipment, facilities and, most importantly, an increase in ridership. Ms. Ruffin questioned why the City Council would consider the McDonald Transit proposal when their cost is \$15,000.00 more than that of First Transit. Ms. Ruffin also expressed a concern that reports she received about McDonald Transit were not very positive.

Matthew Wood, Vice President with First Transit, informed Council that First Transit is a national firm located in Cincinnati, Ohio, with 65 contracts nationwide and commented on the many accomplishments here during the past 10 years. Mr. Wood remarked on the firm's on-time performance, their low maintenance and cost per mile, and expressed pride in their working relationship with the local union. Mr. Wood urged Council consider remaining with First Transit citing not only the cost factor but, during the difficult economy, his belief that First Transit can save the city more money relative to purchase.

Robert T. Babbit, President of McDonald Transit Associates, Inc., expressed pride in submitting their proposal and commented on how proud the firm is with regard to their labor relations track record over the past 37 years noting that there have been only two strikes. Mr. Babbit mentioned that their General Manager candidate, Jim Bender, is here this evening.

Councilman Laegeler, a member of the evaluation committee, mentioned that he felt the McDonald Transit proposal was better because the firm agreed to conduct a yearly customer satisfaction survey, their approach to maintenance will see a savings, and their high retention rate of customers. Councilman Laegeler remarked that the First Transit purchase program doesn't realize a savings because of the City's overall savings through a guaranteed vendor. Councilman Laegeler believes that the area of maintenance is one area where the City could show improvements.

Former Councilwoman Betsy Stockard, a member of the evaluation committee, stated that there was a matter of \$300,000.00 which was discussed during the interview and mentioned her request to receive more in-depth responses.

Paul McChancy, Mass Transit Administrator, explained that during the McDonald Transit interview, the firm used an example of the \$300,000.00 savings in the maintenance department at one of their properties. Mr. McChancy informed the Council that he has not found problems with First Transit where he believed a change should be made and he recommends remaining with First Transit.

James Gillen, a transit employee, remarked that he's not certain how McDonald Transit can save significant dollars.

City Manager McCrady responded to Council's questions stating that the new management company would assume the collective bargaining agreement until its expiration and was not informed the committee vote was not unanimous.

Following discussion, Councilman Foster moved the resolution be amended to accept the Proposal and Contract of First Transit; seconded by Councilwoman Ray, and on call of the roll, Councilmen Foster, Moore, Ray, Brown, and Mayor McElroy voted aye. Councilman Laegeler voted nay. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Upon call of the roll to approve Resolution R2009-79 as amended, Councilmen Foster, Laegeler, Moore, Ray, Brown, and Mayor McElroy voted aye. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Resolution R2009-80, authorizing Intergovernmental Agreement with the County of Macon for Costs Related to Improvement of County Highway 50 (Lost Bridge Road) between Lake Shore Drive and South Country Club Road, was presented.

Councilman Brown moved the resolution do pass; seconded by Councilwoman Moore.

Rick Marley, Public Works Director, responded to Council's questions stating that the County is prepared to start the road improvements on the Monday following the July 4 holiday; city staff doesn't know whether this project was included on the County's economic stimulus list; and there are plans to apply for a safe grant for the guardrails.

Upon call of the roll, Councilmen Foster, Laegeler, Moore, Ray, Brown, and Mayor McElroy voted aye. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Resolution R2009-81, appropriating Motor Fuel Tax Funds for Agreement with County of Macon for Macon County Highway 50 (Lost Bridge Road) Improvements between Lake Shore Drive and South Country Club Road, was presented.

Councilman Brown moved the resolution do pass; seconded by Councilman Laegeler, and on call of the roll, Councilmen Foster, Laegeler, Moore, Ray, Brown, and Mayor McElroy voted aye. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Resolution R2009-82, authorizing and approving Jurisdictional Transfer of Lost Bridge Road between Lake Shore Drive and South Country Club Road with the County of Macon, was presented.

Councilman Laegeler moved the resolution do pass; seconded by Councilwoman Moore.

Rick Marley, Public Works Director, informed the Council that the bridge itself will not be included in the jurisdictional transfer because the County has better access to federal funds.

Upon call of the roll, Councilmen Foster, Laegeler, Moore, Ray, Brown, and Mayor McElroy voted aye. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Resolution R2009-83, authorizing Agreement with URS Corporation for Change Order for Street Lighting Design, Eldorado Streetscape Enhancement Project (CP 06-25), was presented.

Councilman Laegeler moved the resolution do pass; seconded by Councilwoman Ray, and on call of the roll, Councilmen Foster, Laegeler, Moore, Ray, Brown, and Mayor McElroy voted aye. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Mayor McElroy called for Consent Calendar Items A through L and asked if any Member of Council wished to remove an item from Consent Calendar. Items A through L were approved by Omnibus Vote.

Councilman Laegeler moved that Consent Calendar Items A through L be approved by Omnibus Vote; seconded by Councilwoman Ray, and on call of the roll, Councilmen Foster, Laegeler, Moore, Ray, Brown, and Mayor McElroy voted aye. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

- A. Receiving and Filing Minutes of the Plan Commission meeting of April 2, 2009; the Historical and Architectural Sites Commission meetings of February 18 and April 15, 2009; the Civil Service Commission meetings of April 7 and April 14, 2009; the Human Relations Commission meeting of April 9, 2009; the Traffic and Parking Commission meeting of May 12, 2009; and the Decatur Civic Center Authority Board meeting of April 15, 2009.
- B. Resolution R2009-84 accepting Bid of Anderson Backhoe for Demolition of Property located at 1596 North Church Street.
- C. Resolution R2009-85 accepting Bid of Steve's Trucking for Demolition of Property located at 1204 North College Street.
- D. Resolution R2009-86 accepting Bid of Anderson Backhoe for Demolition of Property located at 962 North Van Dyke Street.
- E. Resolution R2009-87 accepting Bid of Don Roderick for Demolition of Property located at 1312 East Prairie Avenue.
- F. Resolution R2009-88 accepting Bid of Steve's Trucking for Demolition of Property located at 815-821 North Edward Street.
- G. Resolution R2009-89 accepting Bid of Bodine Electric for Repair of Gearbox, South Water Treatment Plant.
- H. Resolution R2009-90 accepting Bid of Arlington Computer Products for Server Infrastructure Upgrade, Management Information Services Division.
- I. Resolution R2009-91 authorizing Purchase of Surveillance Video Systems through the Department of Justice Weed and Seed Grant Program.
- J. Resolution R2009-92 accepting Bid and authorizing Purchase Order for Ammunition, Decatur Police Department.
- K. Resolution R2009-93 accepting Bid of Municipal Emergency Services Rapid Intervention Team Equipment, Decatur Fire Department.
- L. Resolution R2009-94 appropriating Funds for Software License Renewal with DLT Solutions, Inc.

This being the time set for Appearance of Citizens, Nanette Ruffin, Decatur Public Transit employee, thanked the Council for their consideration this evening. Holly Mowry, local landlord, expressed a concern regarding children playing basketball in the streets at night and also thanked the Police for a recent drug bust but informed the Council and staff that the drug house was back in operation.

This being the time set for Other Business, Chief Anderson remarked that Police Department staff personally delivers to both a tenant and landlord correspondence relative to a drug search warrant. Councilman Brown requested a study session to review a local preference ordinance with a percentage advantage policy.

Councilman Laegeler moved the Council recess to Study Session for the purpose of a Discussion regarding Electronic Imaging and Management System Proposal; seconded by Councilwoman Moore, and on call of the roll, Councilmen Foster, Laegeler, Moore, Ray, Brown, and Mayor McElroy voted aye. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

The only item of business was a discussion regarding Electronic Imaging and Management System Proposal. City Manager McCrady commented that city staff has been researching electronic document imaging and solicited and evaluated proposals from various vendors. Following the evaluation and interview process, city staff selected TKB Associates, Inc. to implement the LaserFiche system for the City.

Jerry Breitbarth of TKB Associates, Inc. gave a powerpoint presentation highlighting the LaserFiche product and detailing how LaserFiche document management can help organizations reduce storage space and paper costs. Mr. Breitbarth reviewed the suggested electronic document management solution for the City as well as highlighting the agenda manager feature.

City Manager McCrady responded to Council's questions stating that funds have been set aside in the city's Capital Budget, the product will be phased in, and a contract will be scheduled for Council approval at their next regular session.

No formal action was taken.

There being no further business, Councilwoman Moore moved the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Councilman Laegeler, and on call of the roll, Councilmen Foster, Laegeler, Moore, Ray, Brown, and Mayor McElroy voted aye. The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

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CITY CLERK

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_