

TOWN OF DECATURVILLE  
BOARD MEETING  
JULY 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2025

THE TOWN OF DECATURVILLE BOARD MEMBERS MET ON TUESDAY, JULY 8TH, 2025, IN THE DECATURVILLE CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM FOR THE REGULAR SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING.

MAYOR GRACE STARTED THE MEETING WITH PUBLIC INPUT. MAYOR GRACE APPRIATES ALL OF THE ALDERMAN DECIDING TO RUN AND BE A PART OF THE CITY. HE STATED ALDERMAN HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT CITY ACTIVITY NOT PERSONAL INFORMATION REGARDING EMPLOYEES. MAYOR GRACE APPRECIATES THE EMPLOYEES AND THE BOARD FOR GETTING THINGS HEADING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. ALDERMAN PHELPS ASKED IF THE CONTRACT WITH SCOTTS HILL IS STILL IN AFFECT. JUDGE ROSS AND MAYOR GRACE CONFIRMED IT IS STILL IN AFFECT. ALDERMAN PHELPS ASKED ABOUT A DIFFERENT PROJECT THAT PARSONS IS DOING.

ALDERMAN PRESENT FOR THE MEETING WERE:

PRESENT

BLANKENSHIP  
MCELRATH  
PHELPS  
TAYLOR  
WILLIAMS

ABSENT

CAMPER

ALSO PRESENT FOR THE MEETING WERE CITY RECORDER, CHRISTIAN ANGLIN; POLICE CHIEF, DAVID COKER; CITY EMPLOYEES, ROBERT KELLEY, GARRETT HAYS, ALISON BROWN, CHIEF COKER, OFFICER INMAN AND THE NEWS LEADER.

MAYOR GRACE MADE THE MOTION TO PASS THE JUNE MINUTES AND THE VOTES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

AYE

BLANKENSHIP  
MCELRATH  
PHELPS  
TAYLOR  
WILLIAMS

NAY

MAYOR TIME GRACE DECLARED MOTION PASSED TO PASS THE JUNE MINUTES.

MAYOR GRACE MADE THE MOTION TO PASS THE JUNE SPECIAL CALL MEETING MINUTES AND THE VOTES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

AYE

BLANKENSHIP  
MCELRATH  
PHELPS  
TAYLOR  
WILLIAMS

NAY

MAYOR TIME GRACE DECLARED MOTION PASSED TO PASS THE JUNE SPECIAL CALL MEETING MINUTES.

ALDERMAN TAYLOR MADE THE MOTION TO PASS THE JUNE LEAK ADJUSTMENTS. ALDERMAN MCELRATH SECONDED THIS MOTION AND THE VOTES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

AYE  
BLANKENSHIP  
MCELRATH  
PHELPS  
TAYLOR  
WILLIAMS

NAY

MAYOR GRACE DECLARED MOTION PASSED TO PASS THE JUNE LEAK ADJUSTMENTS.

MAYOR GRACE MADE ASKED THE CHIEF OF POLICE FOR AN UPDATE.

CHIEF COKER STATED THE GREY TAHOE IS IN THE SHOP, BRAKES LOCKING UP, WINDOWS AND AC NOT WORKING. HE HAD QUOTES FOR THE LIGHT BAR, RADAR AND STICKERS. ALDERMAN TAYLOR MENTIONED WE HAVE JUST BOUGHT THE CAR 3 MONTHS AGO. ALDERMAN BLANKENSHIP WANT TO KNOW WHY THE CAR IS NOT MARKED. ALDERMAN PHELPS ASKED IF ANYONE OF THE CITY EMPLOYEES ARE ABLE TO FIX THE VEHICLE THEIR SELVES TO SAVE THE CITY MONEY. ALDERMAN WILLIAMS ASKED ABOUT MILITARY SURPLUS AND LESO MONEY AND WE ARE NOT CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN LESO. CHIEF COKER SAID IT IS A PROCESS BUT WE CAN GET BACK IN LESO. ALDERMAN TAYLOR IS DISHEARTENED ABOUT THE CONTINUOS EXPENSES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. THE DEPARTMENT ALSO NEEDS AMUNITION FOR TRAINING. LESO WILL REQUIRE THE EQUIPMENT TO AUDIT THE BOOKS OF WHAT HAS BEEN SURPLUSSED BACK TO LYNN PERRY. THE WHITE TAHOE IS BURNING OIL. THE REPAIRS TO GET THE VEHICLES BACK WORKING VERSUS BUYING NEW ONES. OFFICER GRACE STATED THERE IS MONEY IN THE BANK FOR RAINY DAYS AND HE THINKS WE NEED TO SELL THE COUPLE OF TRUCKS AND BUY DECENT POLICE PICK UP AND 2 WORK TRUCKS. ALDERMAN WILLIAMS SAYS WE HAVE TO COME UP WITH A SOLUTION. IF WE BUY A NEW POLICE VEHICLE SHE WANTS TO SEE IT BE USED BY BOTH OFFICERS. MAYOR GRACE EXPLAINED THAT THE OFFICERS NEED TO DRIVE THEIR VEHICLE HOME. ALDERMAN BLANKENSHIP SAID THE CALL DOESN'T GO STRAIGHT TO THE OFFICER THAT SHE CALL CHIEF COKER WHEN HE WAS OFF DUTY AND HE SAID SHE HAD TO CALL DISPATCH AND THAT IT HAS TO GO THROUGH DISPATCH FIRST. THEY HAVE SPECIFIC EQUIPMENT EACH OFFICER NEEDS TO CARRY WITH THEM. MAYOR GRACE SAID THE OFFICERS VEHICLE IS THEIR OFFICE. ALDERMAN PHELPS MENTIONED THAT NOW WE HAVE 3 VEHICLES WE NEED TO MAINTAIN FOR 2 OFFICERS AND WE DON'T NEED A SPARE. ALDERMAN WILLIAMS SAID WHY DON'T WE SURPLUS THE 3 VEHICLES AND BUY BRAND NEW. ALDERMAN TAYLOR WANTS A DETAILED LIST OF EXACT AMOUNTS NUMBERS AND PROPOSALS FOR WHAT IS NEEDED AND NO ESTIMATES. ALSO HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE UNMARKED CAR JUST NEEDS 1 DECAL WITH DECATURVILLE ON IT. MAYOR GRACE SAID TO GET WATER TRUCKS STATE BID PROPOSAL AND PROPOSAL ON THE POLICE CAR. ALDERMAN BLANKENSHIP ASKED FOR AN ARREST REPORT OF WHAT EXACTLY THE OFFICERS ARE PULLING PEOPLE OVER FOR. ALDERMAN WILLIAMS SAID A REPORT WILL TAKE THE QUESTIONS OUT OF BEING QUESTIONED ABOUT WHERE THE POLICE ARE BECAUSE THEY NEVER SEE THEM. SHE WANTS TO KNOW WHAT THE OFFICERS HAVE BEEN DOING.

MAYOR GRACE ASKED FOR THE UTILITY MANAGER GARRET HAYS TO GIVE AN UPDATE:

GARRET HAYS STATED THAT THE SEWER PLANT PROJECT IS SET TO START IN OCTOBER.  
THERE HAVE BEEN SOME LIFT STATION ISSUES THE PAST 2 WEEKENDS.  
THE WATER LINE WORK THAT IS BEING DONE OFF THE HIGHWAY 641 IS A 6 INCH TIE IN THE SECOND ENTRANCE TO BROOKSIE THOMPSON FOR THE SCOTTS HILL PROJECT.  
CURN CONSTRUCTION IS WORKING ON GETTING A START DATE FOR THE SMALL TANK PROJECT.  
MID SOUTH TANK IS PLANNING TO START THE 2<sup>ND</sup> OR 3<sup>RD</sup> WEEK IN AUGUST TO INSPECT THE BIG TANK ON MIDDLEBURG ROAD.  
THE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH PROJECT RAN INTO A LITTLE PROBLEM WHERE THE CASING FOR A 6 INCH LINE UNDER THE ROAD. WE DID GET THE PERMIT TO BOAR THE ROAD. THEY ARE WAITING ON THE CASING TO COME IN.

MAYOR GRACE ASKED FOR AN UPDATE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF, JEREMY INMAN

TRUCKS DOING GREAT. GRANTS ARE ON HOLD RIGHT NOW. HE HOPES THE GRANTS WILL OPEN UP NEXT YEAR TO REPLACE ALL THE TURN OUT GEAR INSTEAD OF THE CITY REPLACING 2 SETS A YEAR.

MAYOR GRACE MENTIONS A PICKLEBALL COURT AND HAS TALKED WITH ALDERMAN TAYLOR ABOUT SOMETHING FOR THE KIDS AND THE ADULTS OF DECATURVILLE. GRAVES AND GRAVES HAS PUT A PICKLEBALL COURT WITH THE CITY OF MILAN. ALDERMAN TAYLOR IS PROPOSING 2 COURTS, NOT TO EXCEED THE \$225, 000. LIGHTS AND SIDEWALKS INCLUDED. ALDERMAN PHELPS ASKED ABOUT THE SPLASH PAD POSSIBILITY. CITY RECORDER CHRISTIAN ANGLIN MENTIONED THE MONEY FOR ENGINEERING THAT WE PAID YEARS PAST THAT NEEDS TO BE USED IN 3 YEARS MIGHT COULD BE USED TO HELP WITH THE COST. ALDERMAN WILLIAMS ASKED ABOUT THE LIABILITY AND IT WOULDN'T BE CHANGED WHEN IT COMES TO INSURANCE. ALDERMAN ASKED ABOUT BASKETBALL COURTS. ALDERMAN PHELPS WANTS THE PARK CLEANED OFF.

MAYOR GRACE MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE ALDERMAN TAYLOR TO MOVE FORWARD IN GETTING SPECS FOR PICKLEBALL COURT.

ALDERMAN WILLIAMS MADE THE MOTION TO PASS AND ALDERMAN BLANKENSHIP SECONDED THIS MOTION AND THE VOTES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

AYE  
BLANKENSHIP  
MCELRATH  
TAYLOR  
WILLIAMS

NAY  
PHELPS

MAYOR GRACE DECLARED MOTION PASSED FOR ALDERMAN TAYLOR TO MOVE FORWARD IN GETTING SPECS FOR PICKLEBALL COURT.

MAYOR GRACE MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE POLICE VEHICLE DECALS.

ALDERMAN BLANKENSHIP MADE THE MOTION TO PASS AND ALDERMAN PHELPS SECONDED THAT MOTION AND THE VOTES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

AYE  
BLANKENSHIP  
MCELRATH  
PHELPS  
TAYLOR  
WILLIAMS

NAY

MAYOR GRACE DECLARED MOTION PASSED TO APPROVE THE POLICE VEHICLE DECALS.

FIRE CHIEF JEREMY INMAN SPOKE ON GRANTS FOR TURN OUT GEAR AND IT GOES OUT IN 1 YEAR. TWO TURN OUTS A YEAR ARE BUDGETED FOR TURN OUT GEARS.

MAYOR GRACE MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE \$1800.00 OF AMUNITION FOR THE POLICE TRAINING CLASSES.

ALDERMAN TAYLOR ASKED HOW MANY TRAINING CLASSES ARE MANDATORY. FIRE ARMS, DRIVING, SEX CRIMES, OFFICER WELLNESS. CHIEF COKER IS HAVING THEM TAKE CLASSES TO NOT BE DEPENDENT ON OTHER TRAINING DEPARTMENTS. MAYOR GRACE MADE THE STATEMENT THAT ONCE WE ARE TRAINED WE CAN CHARGE OTHER OFFICERS TO TRAIN THEM. ALDERMAN TAYLOR WANTS TO KNOW WHEN THE STATE IS GOING TO STOP REQUIRING SO MUCH OF SMALL TOWNS.

ALDERMAN PHELPTS MADE THE MOTION TO PASS AND ALDERMAN MCELRATH SECONDED THAT MOTION AND THE VOTES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

AYE  
BLANKENSHIP  
MCELRATH  
PHELPS  
TAYLOR  
WILLIAMS

NAY

MAYOR GRACE DECLARED MOTION PASSED APPROVE \$1800.00 OF AMUNITION FOR THE POLICE TRAINING CLASSES.

MAYOR GRACE ASKED FOR CITY RECORDER CHRISTIAN ANGLIN TO GO TO A GRANT WRITING CLASS FOR THE POLICE.

MAYOR GRACE MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE BUYING A BUSHHOG FOR THE CITY.

ALDERMAN TAYLOR MADE THE MOTION TO PASS AND ALDERMAN PHELPS SECONDED THAT MOTION AND THE VOTES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

AYE

NAY

BLANKENSHIP

MCELRATH

PHELPS

TAYLOR

WILLIAMS

MAYOR GRACE DECLARED MOTION PASSED TO APPROVE BUYING A BUSHHOG FOR THE CITY.

MAYOR GRACE ASKED FOR EMPLOYEES TO REQUEST PRIOR MAYOR OR VICE MAYOR APPROVAL OF CLASSES FOR CITY EMPLOYEES.

MAYOR GRACE MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE 3% RAISES FOR ALL EMPLOYEES.

THE BOARD DISCUSSED THE OPTION OF PUTTING SOME POSITIONS ON SALARY. THE BOARD DISCUSSED THE AMOUNT OF OVERTIME AND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMP TIME.

ALDERMAN TAYLOR MADE THE MOTION TO PASS AND ALDERMAN MCELRATH SECONDED THAT MOTION AND THE VOTES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

AYE

NAY

BLANKENSHIP

MCELRATH

PHELPS

TAYLOR

WILLIAMS

MAYOR GRACE DECLARED MOTION PASSED TO APPROVE 3% RAISES FOR ALL EMPLOYEES.

SALARIES WERE TABLED.

#### OLD BUSINESS


ALDERMAN WILLIAMS STATED WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO GET SOMETHING DONE ABOUT THESE OLD BUILDINGS AND IT SEEMS LIKE THERE IS NOTHING THE CITY HAS BEEN ABLE TO DO TO ACCOMPLISH CLEAN UP. SHE LOOKED OVER THE ORDINANCES AND QUESTIONED IF WE HAVE ALREADY PUT A PROCEDURE IN PLACE. CITY LAWYER ROSS SAID THE CITY CAN APPOINT AN INSPECTOR FOR EXAMPLE A POLICE OFFICER WHO WILL BE IN CHARGE OF VIOLATION. ALDERMAN WILLIAMS HANDED OUT PICTURES OF THE BUILDINGS SHE IS TALKING ABOUT. ACCORDING TO WHAT OUR ORDINANCES SAY THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO GO ABOUT GETTING BUILDINGS CLEANED UP. CONDEMN THE BUILDINGS BUT THAT COSTS THE CITY MORE MONEY SOMETIMES. TICKET AND FINE THE OWNER THROUGH THE CITY COURT. THEN FINE THEM EVERY SINGLE DAY THAT THEY DON'T COMPLY. MAYOR GRACE STATED WE CANNOT PICK ON ANY FEW IT WOULD HAVE TO BE ALL. ALDERMAN WILLIAMS STATED THAT IF WE WANT TO PULL PEOPLE IN OR KEEP THEM HERE WE HAVE GOT TO CLEAN UP THESE BUILDINGS. ALDERMAN PHELPS WANTED TO KNOW WHAT STANDARD ARE WE HOLDING PEOPLE TO? ALDERMAN BLANKENSHIP STATED ABANDONED BUILDINGS. ALDERMAN TAYLOR SUGGESTS TO SEND LETTERS FIRST. CITY LAWYER ROSS SAYS WE CAN ADOPT AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THIS. ALDERMAN TAYLOR DOESN'T WANT TO OVERSTEP INTO PEOPLES PERSONAL RIGHTS. PARSONS GOT A GRANT AND AWARDED IT TO PEOPLE WHO NEEDED TO CLEAN THERE

HOUSES UP. MAYOR GRACE STATED 2 WEEKS FROM TODAY LETTERS WILL BE SENT AND A REPORT WILL BE GIVEN AT THE NEXT MEETING.

POLICE CELL PHONES WILL BE DONE NEXT WEEK.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO DISCUSS, THE MOTION WAS DULY MADE AND SECONDED TO ADJOURN. THEREFORE, MAYOR GRACE DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED.

  
CITY RECORDER, CHRISTIAN ANGLIN

  
MAYOR, TIM GRACE