

## DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT

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## Up At Columbia City

Columbia City, our neighbor to the north in Whitley county, will have a \$7.20 tax rate next year. This will include a levy of \$1.65 for the civil city, 19 cents per \$100 valuation more than in Decatur.

While Decatur has about 2,000 more people than Columbia City, it will have a lower tax rate next year. Also, Columbia City is behind Decatur in building a sewage treatment plant. They have just authorized bonds, at up to 5%, for a \$800,000 loan to build a \$1,050,000 plant.

In case you are fast at figures, you have already figured that at 5%, the \$800,000 loan will cost Columbia City \$40,000 a year just for interest, not counting the operating cost of the plant, or the repayments of the principal over 31 years. It represents about 41 cents on their city tax levy.

It is also the reason why Columbia City's sewage disposal rate must range from \$2.20 to \$120 minimum per month, while Decatur's ranges from \$1.75 to \$8.40 a month. Our rates here encourage individuals, corporations and businesses which use water, while higher rates would discourage them.

While Decatur's rate is low in comparison, they could be much lower. Half the cost of the sewage disposal rate goes to interest and repayment of borrowed money. If the bonds were paid, or the money placed in escrow, then the rate could be lowered.

Decatur's citizens should think about this seriously. It should be considered before they decide how to vote on the sale of the electric utility. The mayor and council have already promised to set the money aside, using only the interest from the sale, for the repayment of the bonds.

We can pay off our present debts, and still receive a substantial amount annually from interest by investing the remainder of the money in government securities.

Decatur voters have a choice. They can choose doing that, and really encouraging business here, as well as the individual taxpayer and utility user, or they can choose to go further into debt, risk losing the rural trade and good will that provides us with two-thirds of our business, risk discouraging the growth of manufacturing here, and stagnation of the city.

Every voter must make up his own mind. The facts have been presented over and over. Enough time has passed for each voter to tell which facts are correct.

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**  
Sealed bids will be received in the office of the Clerk-Treasurer of the City of Decatur, Indiana, by the Board of Public Works, and for sale of City, until the hour of 2 o'clock P.M. on the 14th day of September, 1959, at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read for the following described work:

The furnishing of all labor and materials for the installation of the 10" (14" and 16" inch) Water Main from the present Water Main at the intersection of First and Jackson Streets, to a point One hundred eighty-one (181) feet east of the St. Mary's River Bridge.

Proposals of sealed bids for the personal and completely executed on State Board of Accounts Form No. 96, with Non-Confidential affidavit as required by the Statute, shall be accompanied by questionnaire Form No. 96A, State Board of Accounts, for all bids of Five Dollars (\$5.00) or \$60.00 or more, as required by law.

Every bid or proposal shall be accompanied by an acceptable certificate of cash on hand payment.

Cities of Decatur, Indiana, in an amount not less than 5% of the bid submitted as a guarantee that if the contract is not performed to the satisfaction of the Township Trustee's residence.

These schoolhouses and property are located in the following areas:

Lucky School, 1/4 mile north of State Road 224 on State Road 101; Shapp School, 2 miles East of Lucky School.

Terms will be cash upon delivery of 50% of bid, and 50% upon completion of work, bid and/or bidders.

Buildings and personal property must be removed in six (6) months from date of sale, and all bidders are bound to bid and/or bidders are parties now conditional owner of real estate.

Successful bidders will be required to furnish a properly executed performance bond with acceptable surety thereon, in the amount of 100% of the contract awarded, and to be accompanied in all respects with the requirement of the statutes of the State of Indiana, governing bonds to be furnished for contracts let to municipal corporations.

Wages on this work shall not be less than the prescribed scale of wages as determined by the City of Decatur, Indiana, in accordance with the Chapter 319 of the Acts of 1933 of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, a copy of the wage scale for the work being a part of the specifications.

The contract document consists of this notice and includes the general conditions of the contract, including plans and drawings and for this project will be referred to as a part hereof and all bidders shall be deemed advised of the plans, drawings and specifications.

Copy of the contract documents, including plans and specifications may be obtained from the Clerk-Treasurer in the City Hall, in Decatur, Indiana upon the deposit of \$10.00 for each set, which deposit will be refundable upon return of the contract documents in good condition within thirty days after the date of the opening of the bids.

The Board of Public Works and Safety reserves the right to reject any and all bids, not obligated to accept the terms and conditions, and to waive informities in bidding.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of thirty days after the date of receiving bids, without the consent of the Board of Public Works and Safety.

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