

**From:** Gregory, Lisa M  
**Sent:** Friday, August 16, 2019 7:11 AM  
**To:** Moore-Wolfe, Julie; Kuhle, Chuck A; Horn, David J (Council); Walker, Rodney W  
**Subject:** Fwd: LIBRARY

That's my story and I'm sticking to it!

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Gregory, Lisa M" <[LGregory@decaturil.gov](mailto:LGregory@decaturil.gov)>  
**Date:** August 15, 2019 at 2:34:00 PM CDT  
**To:** Jeanne Curry <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: LIBRARY

Jeanne,

Thank you for your effort in communication. I wish my response was as simple as saying sure, the city would be happy to add an additional 50 parking spaces to the new parking lot, but it isn't.

As you know, the City is responsible for all the maintenance of the library. This occurred in 2015-2016 after the library board entered into discussions with the County and Decatur Public Building Commission. At that time, the previous city manager believed that was the appropriate action to take. It is my understanding that he had not briefed his city council on these conversations. (I can only repeat what other councils members have told me as I was not on the council at that time.) All the while that was occurring, the city still owed approximately \$650 K on the library building. Additionally, prior to that the Library Board removed its facility maintenance line from their budget and very little facility maintenance was occurring. I'm not sure why this occurred but it certainly was not a prudent decision. That is why the conversation with the Public Building Commission was so important because under that agreement they would have completely relinquished their responsibility to maintain the building. Right or wrong those conversations were put to a stop when the sitting city council made the decision that it would not give up a city owned asset and still make the final three payments of approximately \$650 K and have nothing to show for it.

I won't even get into the decision the library board made to evict the tenants in the small building behind the library that the city paid to demolish, even though it was revenue to the library.

Because no maintenance had been occurring on the library facility, the city was required to balance the cost of a new HVAC system for the library at the same time the parking lot needed to be redone.

The library went out on their own and had a design completed for the parking lot, that if used would have had a construction cost of over \$1 M. The city council took that design and had 3 smaller designs completed based off the design the library had done with each design costing