

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL
MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2015
5:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL/INVOCATION

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Arellano. Councilmen Marx, Tucker, Venier, Bishop and Mayor Arellano answered Roll Call. The Pledge of Allegiance was cited. Rev. Mary Ann Rhodes from St. Luke Episcopal Church gave the Invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Bishop moved that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, December 7, 2015 be accepted and placed on file. Seconded by Councilman Tucker. Voting Yea: Councilmen Marx, Tucker, Venier, Bishop and Mayor Arellano. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF TOTAL LABOR & OUTSIDE CLAIMS

Councilman Marx moved that the Total Labor & Outside Claims in the amount of \$813,333.69 be approved and ordered paid. Seconded by Councilman Venier. Voting Yea: Councilmen Marx, Tucker, Venier, Bishop and Mayor Arellano. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

ACCEPTANCE OF YTD FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Councilman Tucker moved that the YTD Financial Summary through November 30, 2015 be accepted. Seconded by Councilman Bishop. Voting Yea: Councilmen Marx, Tucker, Venier, Bishop and Mayor Arellano. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Due to David Nord being ill and unable to attend tonight's meeting, Mayor Arellano read from a prepared statement from David. It advised the following topics: (1) the application for the Brownfields Grant has been submitted and a final decision will be made in the summer; (2) the Building Department advised 2 buildings in the downtown area will soon be occupied—319 West 1st Street and 117 North Galena Avenue; (3) HIPAA testing/training for all department heads and other supervisory staff will be done shortly; (4) city-owned vehicles being taken home needs a written policy created and (5) complaints from residents regarding phone calls from people claiming to either be with the City or ComEd. David encourages residents not to give out their electrical supplier account number to anyone.

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COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Arellano thanked Councilman Venier for heading up discussions with a property cleanup on First Street. He then highlighted on the Shop Smart campaign; Motor Fuel Tax funds being received in full; waiving interest owed on a lien whereby the City would settle for the original amount of said lien. The property owner should submit a proposal to the Council for it to be an action item, per Attorney LeSage; the I-39 quarterly meeting and asking if Dixon should get more involved; taking a stronger look at tourism in 2016 and comments he has received regarding the Dixon High School.

Councilman Marx appreciated Sauk Valley Media recognizing this Council on their efforts thus far. He also commented that the sound system on First Street is a great idea.

Councilman Tucker wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Councilman Venier advised there are still parking problems in the downtown area. He stated there needs to be a solution to this. Chief Langloss advised Mike Wilcox would be meeting with key people to discuss the habitual offenders. Councilman Venier also stated the City could maybe look at leasing parking stalls. Chief Langloss suggested giving out window placards and charging a fee. Councilman Tucker advised he would like to think about this further. Councilman Venier then spoke regarding the safety hazard of the alley between Waterfront Gifts and the Snow White Bakery building, missing flag holders in the downtown; congratulations to the Police Department for securing \$5000 for the Safe Passage Program; earmarking recovery monies for beneficial things for the residents and lastly stated Merry Christmas to all.

Councilman Bishop advised the City does need a written policy regarding City vehicles being taken home by employees; the Dixon Park District is looking for a new member for their Board and Happy Holidays to all.

BOARD & COMMISSIONS REPORTS

Mayor Arellano reported that Library Board Minutes of November 9, 2015 and the Airport Board Minutes of October 17, 2015 are on file with the Clerk and available for inspection.

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DISCUSSION – WATER/SEWER RATES

Paula Meyer highlighted again on the average water/sewer rates, minimum rates, overview of water and sewer infrastructure, infrastructure concerns such as EPA compliances, financial projection assumptions, cash balance projections and utility financial projections. Councilman Marx questioned revenue versus expenses or cash fund balances. Councilman Tucker advised this is a “tax” and should be looked at further during budget session. He questioned raising prices versus cutting expenses. Public Works Director Tim Ridder stated there would be an analysis done on all items under capital improvements. Mayor Arellano recognized Dixon is below average on their fees versus other surrounding communities. Councilman Bishop agreed with Councilman Tucker and also stated he understood what the Mayor was talking about future inflation adjustments. After Paula showed the Council several scenarios of different yearly increases and future percentage increases, it was decided that the City Manager would review and approach the Council with his recommendation in the form of an Ordinance. Lastly, Attorney LeSage asked Paula if the minimum charge would also be raised, and she advised yes.

DISCUSSION OF DIXON ONE ADVISORY TASK FORCE AND MOTION TO
INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PUBLIC MEMBERS FROM 5 TO 7

Mayor Arellano explained his reason for wanting to increase the public members by 2; therefore making 9 persons sitting on this Advisory Task Force. Mayor Arellano then asked for the motion to be read. Councilman Bishop moved to increase the number of Public Members from 5 to 7 on the Dixon One Advisory Task Force. Seconded by Councilman Marx. Voting Yea: Councilmen Marx, Tucker, Venier, Bishop and Mayor Arellano. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

RES. #2536-15 – CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS
DIXON ONE ADVISORY TASK FORCE

Councilman Marx moved that a Resolution confirming the appointments to the Dixon One Advisory Task Force for six months, or until their successors are duly appointed and qualified, be adopted. Seconded by Councilman Venier. Mayor Arellano read the organizations that these members come from. After no further comments, the Mayor called for the vote. Voting Yea: Councilmen Marx, Tucker, Venier, Bishop and Mayor Arellano. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

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RES. #2537-15 – CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS
HOSPITAL BOARD

Councilman Tucker moved that a Resolution confirming the appointment of Chad Weigle and the re-appointments of Joseph Welty and Ray Neisewander, III to the Hospital Board for terms commencing January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2018, or until their successors are duly appointed and qualified, be adopted. Seconded by Councilman Bishop. Councilman Marx advised he would be abstaining due to a conflict. The Mayor then called for the vote. Voting Yea: Councilmen Tucker, Venier, Bishop and Mayor Arellano. Voting Nay: None. Abstaining: Councilman Marx. Motion carried 4-1.

APPROVAL OF SB FRIEDMAN SERVICE PROPOSAL
(BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT STUDY)

Councilman Venier moved that the SB Friedman Service Proposal (Business Development District Study) be approved. Seconded by Councilman Tucker. Discussion followed. Mayor Arellano gave a brief overview of this study for future development near I-88 and advised the total cost is \$99,575.00. Councilman Marx asked where these monies would come from, and the Mayor advised possibly capital recovery funds. Councilman Marx added that he fully supports this effort. After no further comments, the Mayor called for the vote. Voting Yea: Councilmen Marx, Tucker, Venier, Bishop and Mayor Arellano. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

ORD. #2986 – AMENDING CODE TITLE V, CHAPTER 13, SECTION 5-13-25

Councilman Bishop moved that an Ordinance amending the Dixon City Code Title V, Chapter 13, Section 5-13-25 be passed. Seconded by Councilman Marx. Discussion followed. Mayor Arellano asked that this Ordinance be amended from \$1 being charged to \$5 or \$10. The Council discussed this briefly and decided on \$5. City Attorney LeSage advised the motion would have to be re-read with this change. Councilman Bishop moved that an Ordinance amending the Dixon City Code Title V, Chapter 13, Section 5-13-25 be passed and substituting \$5 for \$1 in the Ordinance. Seconded by Councilman Venier. Voting Yea: Councilmen Marx, Tucker, Venier, Bishop and Mayor Arellano. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

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DISCUSSION – CITY OF DIXON EMPLOYEE CLASSIFICATION
AND COMPENSATION STUDY

There was no discussion held on this topic tonight as the full Council was okay with the results of the study.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Marx moved that the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, December 21, 2015 be adjourned to meet in Executive Session to discuss collective negotiating matters between public employers and their employees or representatives and to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees. Seconded by Councilman Tucker. Voting Yea: Councilman Marx, Tucker, Venier, Bishop and Mayor Arellano. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

RECONVENE MEETING

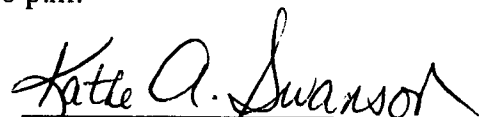
Councilman Tucker moved that the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, December 21, 2015 reconvene into Open Session. Seconded by Councilman Marx. Voting Yea: Councilman Marx, Tucker, Venier, Bishop and Mayor Arellano. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

Before adjourning, Councilman Venier thanked Tom Suits for his service on the Hospital Board.

Mayor Arellano then asked Chief Langloss to explain the Intergovernmental Agreement with Lee County and if it benefits his staffing.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Venier moved that the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, December 21, 2015 be adjourned to meet in Regular Session on Monday, January 4, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Seconded by Councilman Marx. Voting Yea: Councilmen Marx, Tucker, Venier, Bishop and Mayor Arellano. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.


Kathe A. Swanson, City Clerk