

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL
MONDAY - APRIL 11, 2011
6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

The Council met in Budget Session on Monday, April 11, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Burke and roll call was answered by Commissioners Blackburn, Bridgeman, Contreras, Coffey and Mayor Burke.

AUTHORIZE CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS
AERIAL PLATFORM FIRE TRUCK PURCHASE

Commissioner Blackburn moved that the Clerk be authorized to advertise for bids for the purchase of an aerial platform fire truck. Discussion followed. Commissioner Blackburn advised a \$400,000 grant was received to upgrade the 1979 snorkel that was purchased in 1995 and is experiencing mechanical problems. He advised the time window with this grant would be explained later by Chief Shipman. For the benefit of the three Commissioners-elect in the audience, Commissioner Blackburn then explained the intergovernmental agreement between the City and Rural Fire whereby the Dixon Rural Trustees will take action on April 12th. He further added this agreement allows both entities to work more closely together and Rural will upgrade their paramedic status. He advised this agreement breaks down the monies to be received to the City, which is \$120,000 by April 30, 2011; \$150,000 by September, 2011 and \$150,000 by December, 2013. At this time, Chief Shipman refuted the Letter to the Editor on the City's aerial truck being used only once. Chief explained this type of truck would be used for all of the downtown area, the hospital, both courthouses, schools, the prison, high-rise dwellings, etc. He explained that a snorkel is like a boom truck but an aerial is a ladder truck with a bucket. Chief advised this grant is for a 12-month performance period with a possible 3-month extension. Chief Shipman stated the grant was received on January 20, 2011; therefore, the clock is ticking. Commissioner Blackburn advised the timeframe would be to have the bids received by April 28, placed on file at the May 2 meeting and then award the bid on May 16. After no further discussion, the Mayor called for the vote. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Bridgeman, Contreras, Coffey and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Mayor Burke turned the meeting over to Commissioner Bridgeman. Commissioner Bridgeman gave an overview of the budget for the media and audience. He added that the new Council would be balancing the budget. He spoke on the serious problems the City is facing, such as no income tax monies from the State, the exorbitant medical claims being paid by the City and major expenses incurred by departments to keep operating. Commissioner Bridgeman stated that fund accounting means monies cannot be moved from department to department. He advised there have been employee cuts in departments and negotiations with all unions have not been finalized. He stated the current deficit is \$254,350. Commissioner Bridgeman commended the City's workforce and stated Dixon provides quality services. He thanked both Mayor Burke and Mayor James Dixon

At this time, Shawn Ortgiesen advised his recommendation on cost sharing regarding the Street Department fuel pump bids and added that the accounting will remain in-house.

Mayor Burke thanked Commissioner Bridgeman for his service to the City of Dixon and a round of applause was given to him.

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ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Blackburn moved that the Special Council Meeting of Monday, April 11, 2011 be adjourned to meet in Regular Session on Monday, April 18, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Bridgeman, Contreras, Coffey and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Kathe A. Swanson, City Clerk