

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2012
10:00 A.M.

ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Burke. Commissioners Blackburn, Brechon, Considine, Kuhn and Mayor Burke answered the Roll Call. Also present was City Attorney Robert Branson and Attorney Ron Coplan, Morrison, due to his expertise on employment issues.

HEARING – REF. RITA CRUNDWELL

Attorney Coplan stated this hearing was to consider the employment status of Rita Crundwell. He advised neither Mrs. Crundwell nor her attorney from Rockford was present. He further added Mrs. Crundwell was given a notice to appear. (copy attached and made a part hereof). Attorney Coplan advised this hearing was for the immediate dismissal or to accept the resignation of Mrs. Crundwell. He then read a list of assets acquired by Mrs. Crundwell through her RSCDA account as well as reading a list of her bond conditions.

Attorney Coplan gave a brief background on Mrs. Crundwell's employment history with the City of Dixon and stated she is an "at-will" employee. He then read her letter of resignation that she mailed to Mayor Burke. (copy attached and made a part hereof).

Attorney Coplan stated the City of Dixon's options were to either accept the resignation but the City did not have to act upon it or dismiss Mrs. Crundwell. Attorney Coplan's recommendation was to dismiss her for gross misconduct. It was the consensus of the entire City Council to following this recommendation. Attorney Coplan advised Mrs. Crundwell can go through a grievance procedure as the City must meet the standards of its personnel code.

Commissioner Blackburn moved that Rita A. Crundwell be terminated from her position as Comptroller for the City of Dixon effective the 17th day of April 2012 because of:

1. Her untruthfulness by falsifying City records;
2. Her misconduct in the performance of her duties;
3. Her misappropriation of City funds;
4. Her criminal conduct as more fully set out and contained in the charges brought against her; and
5. Because of her inability to perform her duties as Comptroller because of restrictions in the bond which was established in the cause entitled United States of America vs. Rita A. Crundwell, Case No. 12 CR 50027 in the United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois, Western Division.

Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Brechon, Considine, Kuhn and Mayor Burke.
Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

At this time, Mayor Burke advised \$200,000 was recovered by the FBI on the City's behalf and the City is paying its bills and running operations daily. He advised he would be meeting with representatives from WIPFLI on performing a forensic audit and the hiring of a City Comptroller. Mayor Burke also advised he will meet with the Lee County States Attorney to look at filing State charges against Mrs. Crundwell.

Lastly, Mayor Burke informed the public and media that the next regular Council Meeting is Monday, May 7th and there will be a time for public comments but no questions will be directed to the Council.

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ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Kuhn moved that the Special Council Meeting of Monday, April 23, 2012 be adjourned to meet in Special Session on Monday, April 30, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Brechon, Considine, Kuhn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Kathe A. Swanson, City Clerk