

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL
MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2011
6:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Burke. Commissioners Blackburn, Contreras, Coffey and Mayor Burke answered the Roll Call. Absent was Commissioner Bridgeman. The Pledge of Allegiance was cited. Pastor Marilyn Nolan from the Grace United Methodist Church gave the Invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Contreras moved that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, March 7, 2011 be accepted and placed on file. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Contreras, Coffey and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF TOTAL LABOR & OUTSIDE CLAIMS

Commissioner Blackburn moved that the City of Dixon's Total Labor & Outside Claims in the amount of \$900,906.16 be approved and ordered paid. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Contreras, Coffey and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Commissioner Blackburn advised that the Dixon Fire Department has been awarded a \$400,000 grant from the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters to purchase an aerial truck. He advised the current 1979 aerial truck was purchased used in 1995. He cited two options of either keeping with the current outdated truck and making the needed repairs or investigate the possibility of purchasing a new one by going out for bids. Commissioner Blackburn also advised that the Dixon Fire Department has received a "4" rating from the ISO, effective March 1, 2011. He advised this is a major undertaking for the department as they have had a "5" rating for many years. He congratulated all City departments who were involved in this classification survey.

Commissioner Coffey advised that the Oakwood Cemetery cleanup is from March 21st to April 8th and that all ground items need to be picked up.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS REPORTS

Mayor Burke reported the Budget & Treasurer's Report of February, 2011 and the Library Board Minutes of February 14, 2011 were on file with the Clerk and available for inspection.

VISITORS

Craig Sheets, Southern California, addressed the Council with a petition being circulated on transformers over schools and gas stations. He also shared his concerns on heroin being imported on submarines, Geiger counters and hazards with school busses.

Bob Gibler, Dixon, Illinois, addressed the Council on the electrical referendum and questioned why information is not readily available at City Hall for the public. Attorney Branson advised that the Mayor cannot use City funds to advocate a position on this matter, but as a citizen of Dixon, he can take a position and use his own funds to have information available to the public. Mr. Gibler then questioned the \$300,000 the City will be receiving from the State's emergency repair program for use at Tollway Drive to Walton Drive.

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VISITORS (CONT'D.)

He expressed his opinion that the City should change this funding from what it is currently earmarked for and use it to repair City streets. Mayor Burke advised the new street being built is to encourage retail development in that area by the Tollway.

Gene Biggerstaff, Eastern Avenue, Dixon, waved easements at the Council regarding Fargo Creek. Commissioner Blackburn read from a prepared statement on what he knew to be fact that Mr. Biggerstaff lives next to the Fargo Creek retention area and that the creek flows south of his residence. Commissioner Blackburn then stated his opinions as to why Mr. Biggerstaff is angry with the Council, citing one fact that this area is not mowed any more by the Public Properties Department. At the end of Commissioner Blackburn's statements, Gene called the Council "a bunch of schoolyard bullies".

Josie Whaley, 605 Marclare, addressed the Council on her concerns about the City's website. She advised tonight's agenda was not posted and the meeting minutes are not updated. City Clerk Kathe Swanson advised she does post these items but she is not the authorized personnel at the City to okay these postings. Mayor Burke advised he would speak to Shawn and get this problem corrected by adding the City Clerk as an authorized person for updates.

Dean Rhodes, 314 West 9th Street, advised he served the City for 22 years with the Dixon Fire Department and gave his congratulations on their exceptional ISO rating.

PLACE ON FILE – RES. – APPROVING LOAN FOR
FACADE IMPROVEMENTS – SCOTT/LINDA BURKITT

Commissioner Coffey moved that a Resolution approving a loan for facade improvements per the request of Scott and Linda Burkitt be placed on file until the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting of Monday, April 4, 2011. Attorney Branson advised this loan is up to \$25,000 and the Burkitts will have to show their expenditures before bills are paid. After no further comments, the Mayor called for the vote. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Contreras, Coffey and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

PLACE ON FILE – INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
CITY OF DIXON/DIXON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT-LEE/OGLE CO.

Commissioner Coffey moved that the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Dixon and the Dixon Community Fire Protection District of Lee and Ogle Counties be placed on file until the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting of Monday, April 4, 2011. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Contreras, Coffey and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Blackburn moved that the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, March 21, 2011 be adjourned to meet in Regular Session on Monday, April 4, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Contreras, Coffey and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Kathe A. Swanson, City Clerk