

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL  
TUESDAY - MAY 24, 2011  
6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

The Council met in Budget Session on Tuesday, May 24, 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, Brechon, Considine, Kuhn and Mayor Burke.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Mayor Burke turned the meeting over to Commissioner Blackburn. Commissioner Blackburn advised the deficit has decreased to \$128,454 with the help of cuts from 7 departments and income added in of \$150,000 for the Dixon Rural Fire payment and an insurance reimbursement. Commissioner Blackburn asked Water Superintendent Rusty Cox to explain his budget, as he was absent at the last session.

Rusty advised his budget is less than last year's. He went through his budget requests and advised that if the Water Department goes to monthly billing, it would require a total cost of \$722,172.23, which includes items such as the processing, software, hardware, additional personnel, equipment, etc.

Rusty then advised that Country Club Estates project of installing 2000 feet of water main and adding fire hydrants needs to be bid for materials. He explained that the City would be reimbursed for most of this project. Shawn added that our responsibility is just labor and equipment costs. Rusty advised that with a crew of four, this project could be completed in 2 to 3 weeks. He also advised that the owners, Keller and Yingling made a request for an ordinance change on the piping material and Rusty stated he had no problem with this change.

Commissioner Blackburn stated one-half of the deficit has been eliminated but the City is still working with 3 bargaining agreements. He advised that this current budget does not include any salary increases. Commissioner Kuhn asked if Commissioner Blackburn had an estimated guess on further increases. Commissioner Blackburn advised the City was looking into health insurance options but stated our current insurance will remain as is.

Mayor Burke then stated he will further research two items in his budget—eliminating some street lighting and possibly not having a City Attorney sit in on the Council meetings. Commissioner Blackburn stated that reviewing all fees periodically is a very good idea.

At this time, Mayor Burke asked John Thompson, LCIDA, to give a brief overview of his request in the Public Affairs budget (Enterprise Zone). He advised the City of Dixon has been a great financial partner to LCIDA in their endeavors of recruitment and retention of economic development. Commissioner Blackburn then had John explain the intermodal facility for the new Council. John, once again, gave an overview of the Union Pacific intermodal facility in Rochelle and spoke of the ethanol plant located there in the Enterprise Zone.

Commissioner Blackburn stated he just learned 2 part-time employees were hired without the knowledge of the Public Works Director or the Personnel Manager. He advised we are complicating matters, as unions want to see full-time employees hired.

Commissioner Blackburn then advised the next Budget Session would be Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL  
TUESDAY - MAY 24, 2011  
6:00 P.M.

Mayor Burke then advised he would investigate the electricity use and attorney fees under his budget.

Police Chief Langloss advised the police department is looking into leasing rather than buying new squads. He advised leasing for three cars with 3-year commitments each would take about 2 to 3 months for the processing. Commissioner Blackburn asked for a consensus from the Council on this matter. Commissioners Blackburn, Considine and Kuhn stated yes but Commissioner Brechon had reservations on equipment versus hiring part-time employees to get work done in the City. She advised she thought she had the authority to hire these 2 people to work to prepare for Memorial Day at the Cemetery.

Regarding the aerial truck for the Fire Department, Commissioner Blackburn advised that Jeff Lovett advised the Alexis financing was a good deal. Chief Tim Shipman stated that Alexis would give the City an additional 30 days on this matter.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Blackburn moved that the Special Council Meeting of Tuesday, May 24, 2011 be adjourned to meet in Regular Session on Monday, June 6, 2011 at 6:30 p.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 7:00 p.m.

---

Kathe A. Swanson, City Clerk