

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2020  
2:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Arellano at 2:04pm.

ROLL CALL

Councilman Venier, Considine, Marshall, Oros, and Mayor Arellano answered roll call.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was cited.

COMMENTS

Mayor Arellano opened the meeting and explained there will be discussion on the ordinance.

David Schreiner, CEO KSB Hospital, presented to the council regarding the capability of KSB Hospital and the south west region, COVID care logistics and surge capacity.

Cathy Ferguson-Allen, MPH, Administrator Lee County Health Department, answered questions that the Mayor had sent to her: family gatherings, blackout Wednesday, 4-5 days before exhibit symptoms, 48 hours before symptoms most infectious, the staffing and contact tracing and discussion ensued.

Discussion ensued throughout the Council regarding the holidays, ways to prevent the spread, laid out options for enforcement, and voluntary compliance.

VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Arellano read email comments sent prior to the meeting and noted that each of the emails have been forwarded to the full council. Emails received were from: Ann Nordan, Liz Hall, Julia Kibble, Sarah Bodzioch, Corrie Miller, Sandra Copeland, Rebecca Sofolo, Amber Kuster, Lisa Diveley, Ken Nordan, Peter Knudson, C Smith, Erin Wolford, Aaron Chandler, Dori Coffey, Bryan Monk, Andrea Summers, Carolyn Sweeney, Jaselyn Cavanaugh, Eric Brown, No name, Mark Swarbrick. The general gist of all emails were not supportive to variant degrees of the ordinance as written and in most cases to the ordinance at all. He read a few samples of the emails, if there would happen to be a vote, prior to the vote, he would read all emails into the record.

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2020  
2:00 P.M.

Read Emails:

Ann Nordan: “I am writing this letter of concern as to why you are having thought of executive order in shutting things down and limiting sales! This is clearly a state of government overreach! It is NOT your place or job to tell (me) a tax paying citizen what to do with my time, money or my life! It is your JOB to make sure our community is thriving, gaining revenue and helping it succeed! YOU, are all elected officials and will find out sooner than later on where everyone stands with your governmental overreach in power! You, will find yourself not being on another ballot or reelected! It's not your job to worry about one's health it's your job to worry about our community becoming financially Strong! People die everyday! This isn't just about Covid because now you're talking about businesses shutting down again and limiting sales. You, are killing people slowly by your decision making without the public's knowledge. My folks who are 80 years old who rarely get on social media had no idea this was even happening! Way to keep the city tax payers who line your pockets kept in the dark! You've failed us in more ways than one! Don't talk about your river front and things you want for the city of Dixon because there will be Nothing left. People are already leaving this city and this State! The generations to come will want Nothing to do with this place! Our hospitals are there and life will be what it will be, with or without Covid. This is not a State of emergency, all you want to do is talk about Covid scare tactics, but the reality of it is we have more survival rate than deaths!!! How about we talk about well being not filling our heads with fear! Do you ever say or promote things to benefit someone's everyday life! You are playing with individuals mental states, financial situation and their families! It's becoming clear what you are really going for and WE AREN'T HAVING IT ANYMORE!!! FREEDOM OVER FEAR! SINCERELY, ANN NORDAN”

Julia Slagter: “Hello, I would like to express that I do not agree with the proposed ordinance to give the mayor executive authority in case of a "state of emergency". Thank you. Julia slagter”

Sarah Bodzioch: “Good Evening, I am writing as a concerned citizen of Dixon. I have seen about the special council meeting coming up and the desire to pass an ordinance related to a local designation of emergency. After reading what the council would like to put in this ordinance, it concerns me greatly. Giving executive powers to implement curfews, stop gun and ammo sales, and fine people for not complying, seems quite extreme. What is the rush to hold this meeting, and get something like this passed so quickly without even giving a lot of the citizens in this town a chance to know about what is happening? Please listen to many of your concerned citizens who are aware of this and vote no on rushing this ordinance through. Sincerely, Sarah Bodzioch”

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2020  
2:00 P.M.

In-Person Comments –

Dee Martinez: addressed the council on how alarmed she is with the city considering passing the ordinance, alarmed with government outreach on virus that is only killing 1%-3% low amount. She compared this to statistics on 2019 causes of deaths. Passing would codify for future events to impose rules on people. We should not have to give up our civil liberties for a minuscule amount of death.

Chris Bishop: originally came to talk about his displeasure, but after hearing the council talk through it hopefully the people see that only part of that is what the council is considering, much clearer for most of us. People have a choice to make to go to an establishment then go to family. My suggestion is the non-binding resolution and working with businesses. Ask citizens to talk with their family and make their choices. People are worried about the overreach of the government.

Mayor thanked who spoke and sent their comments. Councilmembers gave their comments and discussion ensued regarding the path they will move forward in.

PERTAINING TO LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY  
No Action Taken

VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments from Facebook that were in response to the original comment asking for public comment were as follows:

DeAnne White: DeAnne White  
Linda LeBlanc: Linda LeBlanc-Parks  
Suzanne Bollman: Suzanne Bollman  
Nikki Susie: Nikki Susie  
Lisa Jo Buccola: Lisa Jo Buccola  
Erica Villa: Erica Villa  
Camie Smith: Camie Smith  
Gabe Billiet: Gabe Billiet  
Matt Chandler: Matt Chandler

Mayor Arellano explained the public comment on facebook and in person

Dee Martinez: Asked the city to please do a better job at informing the public of meetings, discussion ensued regarding the meeting schedule and how special meetings are announced.

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2020  
2:00 P.M.

ADJOURMENT

Councilman Marshall moved that the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, November 19, 2020 be adjourned to meet in Regular Session on Monday, December 7, 2020, at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall by electronic means. Seconded by Councilman Venier. Voting Yea: Venier, Considine, Marshall, Oros, and Mayor Arellano. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 3:20pm.

---

CITY CLERK