

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2024  
4:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hughes at 4:00pm.

ROLL CALL

Councilman Bishop, Considine, Oros, Venier, and Mayor Hughes answered roll call.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was cited.

WORK SESSION  
FY 2024/2025 BUDGET

Finance Director Leslie explained the format of the meeting and who will be presenting.

LCIDA – Tom Demmer gave a year overview of LCIDA: Industrial Park; TIF Districts; growing businesses in the industrial park; TIF's, Lee Ogle Enterprise Zone; Edge credit applications; intersect Illinois' vetted sites program and site considerations; meetings with city employees, developers, and business owners; program and projects for the community; and hiring expo in conjunction with Dixon Public Schools. Budget request is the same as last year \$50,000. Discussion ensued.

SVCC Impact Program - Lori Cortez, VP of Advancement and Bill Wescott, President of the Foundation Board – Thanked Council for investment last year of \$25,000. Presented on: Impact program requirements, incentives, loan debt relief, and teachings of soft skills. When kids volunteer they are more likely to remain or return to the community. Impact the program has on the communities, Bureau, Lee, Whiteside, Carrol, Ogle, small part of Henry Counties, 1,147 freshman and sophomore students are enrolled in the program in the district. There are 14 Public Schools, 4 Private Schools and Home School, since June 1, 2022 students have done 28,019 hours of community service for 201 non-profit organizations. Dixon specific currently have 153 students enrolled, 5,176 volunteer hours completed in Dixon by other students from other districts, 3,806 volunteer hours by Dixon Students, 32 non-profit businesses. Nearly 50% of the Dixon freshman and sophomore students are participating in the Impact Program. Program not just for associate's degrees but also for certificates in the trades. Spoke on the organization's and student's experiences and impacts. Discussion ensued. Asking for \$25,000.

WACC CEO Program – Julie Jacobs explained the program, the curriculum. 33 Students this year. Current donation level from the City is \$1,000. There are 3 businesses in Dixon that are owned by former CEO students. MyKalah Kirby is a student in the class, she explained her

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experience as a student. WACC is the administrative body of the program, but it is part of the SVCC foundation. Discussion ensued.

The Next Picture Show – Letha Catalina, Executive Director of TNPS & Wes Monroe, Executive Assistant. Letha gave her background and involvement with TNPS. Spoke about the role of TNPS for the last 20 years. Budget request of \$30,000. Wes explained where the funding will be used and help for their future vision, what artists have said regarding the event space and programs. Renovation visions and youth drop in programs, including special needs programs. Julie Young, art class student spoke on her experience at TNPS, what she has been able to do since attending classes, and what the gallery means to her. Perry Paliga, Board Member retired to Dixon because of TNPS, he and his wife were very impressed and signed up to be a board member. Discussion ensued.

Blackhawk Hills/Lee Ogle Enterprise Zone – Andy Shaw, Administrator gave a summary of the history of the Lee Ogle Enterprise Zone (LOEZ) incentivizing discounting taxes. Explained the recent and current work being done in the zone. Reviewed the administrative fee structure for all entity members within the zone, this year's fee for Dixon is \$26,508.86. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Hughes explained the budget process and that decisions will be made within that process. Thanked everyone for their presentations.

#### ADJOURMENT

Mayor Hughes asked if there were any more discussion or business, hearing none he declared the meeting adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.

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CITY CLERK