COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2008
6:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Burke. Commissioners Blackburn, Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly and Mayor Burke answered the Roll Call. The Pledge of Allegiance was cited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Kelly moved that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, October 6, 2008 be accepted and placed on file. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF TOTAL LABOR & OUTSIDE CLAIMS

Commissioner Bridgeman moved that the City of Dixon’s Total Labor & Outside Claims in the amount of $1,075,028.21 be approved and ordered paid. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Burke advised that he met with Shawn Ortgiesen, John Thompson, Josh Albrecht and representatives from T6 Broadband today. Mayor Burke advised this company will WiFi our downtown at no cost, and they will be working with John Thompson for service at the Lee County Industrial Park. Mayor Burke then advised this company would have representatives at the November 3rd Council Meeting to give a presentation. Mayor Burke then read a letter from KSB Hospital requesting 2 parking signs be removed on East Second Street. Mayor Burke advised each Council member and the Police Chief would receive a copy of this letter and this item will be on the next meeting’s agenda.

Commissioner Blackburn advised that of the 42 homes involved in the smoke detector program, 23 had working smoke alarms on each floor. He advised that the Dixon Fire Department urges all citizens to check their smoke detectors.

Commissioner Bridgeman advised that sales and incomes are down and budgets are very tight. He requested that each Commissioner review all large expenditures in their departments and all spending should be kept at a minimum.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS REPORTS

Mayor Burke reported the Budget & Treasurer’s Report of September, 2008, the Library Board Minutes and Treasurer’s Report of September 8, 2008 and the Tourism Board Minutes of October 6, 2008 and October 13, 2008 were all on file with the Clerk and available for inspection.

VISITORS

Chris Jones, 1890 Paulson Road, addressed the Council regarding the City’s property located on Hancock Avenue, on the east side of Garrison Field, where the Girls’ Fast-Pitch Softball League has a 20-year lease with the Dixon Park District. Mr. Jones was present to ask for approval of his request to use this portion of Hancock Avenue for parking. Commissioner Blackburn advised this arrangement should be between the City and the Park District. Mayor Burke requested Mr. Jones speak with Deb Carey and then the Council would take a look at the property in question.
Carol Chandler, Chairperson of the Dixon Tree Commission, made a request to plant the grassy median from Wal-Mart to the railroad overpass on Route 26. She advised it would be salt-resistant trees planted only, and that she will submit a plan to George Ryan at IDOT as she would like to do this next spring.

ORD. #2713 – AMENDING CODE TITLE V, CHAPTER 13

Commissioner Contreras moved that an Ordinance amending the Dixon City Code Title V, Chapter 13 be passed. Discussion followed. Attorney Branson advised the owner would not need dram shop insurance, as they are not selling the alcohol. He also advised he changed the ordinance to include beer cans along with beer bottles. He lastly reminded the Council that the number of licenses to be issued and the fee needs to be inserted into the ordinance. Mayor Burke advised he spoke to the owner of Baker Street and she advised if the fee is more than $25.00, she is not interested. Commissioner Kelly stated the City currently has 46 liquor licenses and he feels we will be “opening up a can of worms” with this ordinance. He lastly stated he would be voting no. Commissioner Blackburn suggested we plug in “1” license with a “$25.00” fee for one year only and review this arrangement next year. After no further comments, the Mayor called for the vote. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Bridgeman and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: Commissioners Contreras and Kelly. Motion carried 3-2.

ORD. #2714 – CITY OF DIXON IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION PROGRAM POLICY

Commissioner Blackburn moved that an Ordinance adopting the City of Dixon Identity Theft Prevention Program Policy be passed. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION – MAINSTREET AND RIVERFRONT COMMISSION STREETSCAPE

Josh Albrecht, Main Street Director, presented the Council with a Downtown Dixon Streetscape Design Report. He advised this report highlights the beautification of our Central Business District and Riverfront area. Josh advised the first phase is the Hennepin Avenue and First Street area, with the emphasis on revitalization. He requested the Council take immediate action on this report and with the help of the motor fuel tax monies, grants and the two TIF’s, we can get this project accomplished. Mayor Burke advised that the Council would review this report and it would be placed on the November 3rd agenda for adoption.

PLACE ON FILE – EAST RIVER ROAD WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT ENGINEERING AGREEMENT

Commissioner Kelly moved that the East River Road Watermain Replacement Project Engineering Agreement be placed on file until the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting of Monday, November 3, 2008. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.
Commissioner Blackburn moved that on behalf of the City of Dixon, the City Engineer be authorized to execute the letter to build a multi-use trail/park on a portion of ComEd's easement area located in Section 5, Township 21 North, Range 9, East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Lee County, Illinois. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Bridgeman moved that the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, October 20, 2008 be adjourned to meet in Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

RECONVENE MEETING

Commissioner Bridgeman moved that the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, October 20, 2008 reconvene into Open Session. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Contreras moved that the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, October 20, 2008 be adjourned to meet in Regular Session on Monday, November 3, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Voting Yea: Commissioners Blackburn, Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Kathe A. Swanson, City Clerk