

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL
MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2008
6:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Burke. Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke answered Roll Call. The Pledge of Allegiance was cited. Pastor Jim Lemberg from the Sauk Valley Community Church gave the Invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Blackburn moved that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of Tuesday, February 19, 2008 be accepted and placed on file. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF TOTAL LABOR & OUTSIDE CLAIMS

Commissioner Bridgeman moved that the Total Labor & Outside Claims in the amount of \$566,808.72 be approved and ordered paid. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Commissioner Bridgeman advised the budget sheets have been handed out and asked they be returned to Rita Crundwell by March 14th. He further advised the first budget session would be Monday, March 31st at 6:30 p.m. He then reminded everyone there is to be no additional spending and requested that the budget figures remain as last year's amounts.

Commissioner Blackburn advised that March 2-8 is Disaster Preparedness Week. He further announced that two Dixon police officers, Scott Heller and Tony Quadraro, have been honored as "heart saver heroes" by Lt. Governor Pat Quinn for saving a woman's life in January, 2004.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS REPORTS

Mayor Burke reported the Monthly Building Permit Report of February, 2008 and the Dixon Plan Commission Minutes of February 28, 2008 were on file with the Clerk and available for inspection.

VISITORS

Luke Dixon, Rock River Shamrock Club, advised they have 12 new Irish flags to be displayed along the parade route on March 15th.

Gary Swart, Box 681, Sterling, addressed the Council with a problem with sewer and water utilities for his properties in Dixon. He questioned why it falls back on the owner when a tenant becomes delinquent on the water bill. City Attorney Matt Keegan advised the Illinois Municipal Code permits the City to make the owner of the property liable. He further advised that the lien provision of the code went into effect prior to 1981. Mr. Swart suggested monthly billing instead of every three months because it creates a high bill, which the renter cannot afford; therefore, the onus falls back on the landlord. Commissioner Bridgeman advised the City is in the process of changing over to monthly billing once the new meters are all in place. Mayor Burke suggested that Mr. Swart meet with Rusty Cox, Water Superintendent, after the meeting to discuss one bill in question that Mr. Swart made copies of for the Council.

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AWARD BID – CUSTER AVENUE/4TH STREET
SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Commissioner Kelly moved that the bid for the Custer Avenue/Fourth Street sanitary sewer replacement project be awarded to Go Excavating, Inc., Freeport, Illinois for their low bid in the amount of \$161,596.50. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF JACKSON/8TH STREET
SEWER SEPARATION ENGINEERING AGREEMENT

Commissioner Contreras moved that the Mayor be authorized to execute the Jackson/8th Street sewer separation engineering agreement between the City of Dixon and Willett, Hofmann & Associates. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

PET. – ANNEXATION – 2115 WEST FIRST STREET

Commissioner Blackburn moved that the Petition for Annexation & Zoning pursuant to the request of Caroline Costello, for property located at 2115 West First Street, be referred to the City Attorney for proper action. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

ORD. #2682 – OAKWOOD CEMETERY RULES & REGULATIONS

Commissioner Bridgeman moved that an Ordinance adopting rules and regulations for Oakwood Cemetery be passed. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION – REQUEST FOR COUNCIL TO CHANGE
FIRE CHIEF HIRING PROCESS

Mayor Burke asked for the Council's input. Commissioner Bridgeman stated in the past there have been very good Chiefs selected. He stated input to Commissioner Blackburn would be a good idea but no change is needed in how the City is currently following the ordinance. Commissioner Kelly advised the process is a good one and he thinks there is no need to change it. Commissioner Contreras advised the process has always worked. Mayor Burke read his prepared memo that was distributed to the Council prior to tonight's meeting. He commented that the selection process could be narrowed by having fire personnel on said committee. Commissioner Blackburn advised this was done in 1998 and this committee came back with the same advice—you have all good candidates. Commissioner Blackburn lastly stated this is a management decision.

DISCUSSION – FIRE PENSION BOARD REQUEST
OF SUPPORT FROM COUNCIL

Commissioner Bridgeman read from a prepared statement highlighting what the City's pension funds are funded at currently. He also distributed packets to the Council showing unfunded liability of the pension funds. Commissioner Bridgeman advised the IML does not want the State to take over the pension funds. Commissioner Blackburn commended Commissioner Bridgeman for his summary of the City's pension funds. Mayor Burke advised he spoke to State Representative Jerry Mitchell, who is looking into this pension reform.

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DISCUSSION – HABITAT FOR HUMANITY/CROPSEY AVENUE

Jim Dixon addressed the Council, advising that adjustments were made and asked the City to allow Habitat for Humanity the opportunity to bid on this property. He advised that time is of the essence and they must proceed soon. Shawn Ortgiesen advised that other homes could tie in to the sewer line on Cropsey. Shawn also advised that Habitat is requesting a waiver of the hook-on fees. Jim Dixon requested the City Attorney prepare the paperwork for the bidding process and Mayor Burke advised the City would proceed on this.

ORD. #2683 – AUTHORIZING SALE OF CERTAIN CITY-OWNED PROPERTY

Commissioner Kelly moved that an Ordinance authorizing the sale of certain property owned by the City of Dixon be passed. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

PLACE ON FILE – ORD. – AMENDING CODE TITLE III, CHAP. 3, SEC. 3-3-5(B)

Commissioner Contreras moved that an Ordinance amending the Dixon City Code Title III, Chapter 3, Section 3-3-5(B) be placed on file until the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting of Monday, March 17, 2008. Discussion followed. Commissioner Blackburn advised he agrees with Commissioner Contreras that the snow and ice must be removed from the sidewalks but suggested it should also be the residential areas as well as the business district. He stressed the ordinance should read “any public right-of-way within the City” and requested Council consider including this. After no further comments, the Mayor called for the vote. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

ACCEPT & PLACE ON FILE – INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
CITY/IDOT – RIVERFRONT

Commissioner Blackburn moved that the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Dixon and IDOT regarding the Riverfront be accepted and placed on file until the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting of Monday, March 17, 2008. Discussion followed. Larry Reed, Riverfront Chairman, 810 4th Avenue, addressed the Council and read from a prepared statement on this changing event for the City. Larry gave a breakdown of the funding of this project, inclusive of grant monies, pledges, etc. After no further comments, the Mayor called for the vote. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

ACCEPT & PLACE ON FILE – INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
CITY/IDOT – BOYD STREET

Commissioner Bridgeman moved that the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Dixon and IDOT regarding Boyd Street be accepted and placed on file until the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting of Monday, March 17, 2008. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

PLACE ON FILE – AGREEMENT – CITY/NIMEC

Commissioner Kelly moved that the Agreement between the City of Dixon and NIMEC be placed on file until the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting of Monday, March

17, 2008. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.
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PLACE ON FILE – MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT – CITY/ENGEL ELECTRIC CO.

Commissioner Contreras moved that the Maintenance Agreement between the City of Dixon and Engel Electric Co. be placed on file until the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting of Monday, March 17, 2008. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

PLACE ON FILE – AGREEMENT – CITY/CUMMINS

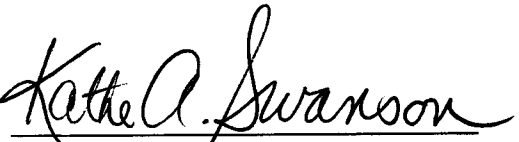
Commissioner Blackburn moved that the Agreement between the City of Dixon and Cummins be placed on file until the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting of Monday, March 17, 2008. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

PLACE ON FILE – FIRE DEPT. ANNUAL REPORT

Commissioner Bridgeman moved that the Annual Report for the City of Dixon Fire Department be placed on file. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Kelly moved that the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, March 3, 2008 be adjourned to meet in Regular Session on Monday, March 17, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.


Kathe A. Swanson, City Clerk