

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL
MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2009
6:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Burke. Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke answered the Roll Call. The Pledge of Allegiance was cited. Reverend Rachel Coca of the First Baptist Church gave the Invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Contreras moved that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, August 3, 2009 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 City of Dixon's Total Labor & Outside Claims in the amount of \$1,036,822.22 be approved and ordered paid. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Commissioner Bridgeman thanked the Riverfront Commission members and Shawn Ortgiesen for all their hard work on the dedication. He then spoke regarding the boulders that the Park District placed on the high school grounds. Commissioner Bridgeman emphasized that this is not the City's doing and possibly the City should dissolve the Park District and turn over the duties to one of the Commissioners. He stated the Park District's actions are hurting a lot of people—high school kids, citizens who attend school functions and the Petunia Festival. He further added that the Park District has been making bad decisions of late. Commissioner Bridgeman then stated these boulders would make snowplowing an issue in that area. He advised the people of Dixon to contact the Park District on this issue and possibly get a petition up to dissolve the Park District.

Commissioner Contreras stated how impressed he was with the new Heritage Plaza.

Commissioner Kelly concurred with Commissioner Bridgeman on his Park District comments.

Commissioner Blackburn thanked Larry Reed for his hard work and dedication to the new Riverfront.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS REPORTS

Mayor Burke reported the Budget & Treasurer's Report of July, 2009, the Library Board Minutes and Treasurer's Report of July 13, 2009, the Tourism Board Minutes of August 10, 2009 and the Plan Commission Minutes of August 13, 2009 were on file with the Clerk and available for inspection.

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AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR AGREEMENT
CITY OF DIXON RIVERFRONT COMMISSION/JOHN GROSHANS

Commission Kelly moved that the Mayor be authorized to execute the Maintenance Coordinator Agreement between the City of Dixon Riverfront Commission and John Groshans. Discussion followed. Commissioner Bridgeman stated that John Groshans is an excellent choice. He then asked where the dollars are coming from to pay him. Larry Reed, 810 Fourth Avenue, Chairman of the Riverfront Commission, advised this is a one-year contract funded through pledges whereby 10% in the total fund was placed separately into an Operations Fund. He advised there is \$30,000 in this Fund due to the Committee earmarking 10% of all fundraising monies for this Operations Fund. Larry then advised that John will be coordinating volunteers to help with all projects. Commissioner Contreras asked about hiring guards. Larry explained that the two tents held expensive equipment in them this past weekend and John Groshans spent two nights in the area keeping watch. Commissioner Contreras then asked about this plaza in the wintertime. Larry explained this project is all a trial run, but he felt the plaza would not need to be opened up as a plowed area. After no further questions or comments, the Mayor called for the vote. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

PET. - SPECIAL USE - 222 NORTH PEORIA AVENUE

Commissioner Blackburn moved that a Petition for Special Use pursuant to the request of Trahraeg Holding Corporation, for property located at 222 North Peoria Avenue, be referred to the City Attorney for proper action. Discussion followed. John Niklas, Wendy's Restaurants Representative, gave the Council a handout showing the layout of the building and drive-up windows. Commissioner Bridgeman suggested this item be tabled, as the Council needs a site plan beforehand on a Special Use petition. Mayor Burke explained he would be abstaining from the vote as his real estate office is involved in this sale but advised that he was told that a preliminary site plan would suffice for the Special Plan Commission meeting. Paul Shiaras advised if this petitioner meets normal B-2 requirements, it would not have to go back to the Plan Commission. Mayor Burke stated this confusion sends a terrible message to the petitioners and there is something wrong with the ordinance. Commissioner Bridgeman advised the Council needs to change the ordinance, if this is so. Paul stated the Plan Commission was okay with the plan as long as the petitioner meets B-2 standards. Commissioner Blackburn stated the problem is with having no provisions for landscaping, water retention, etc., and he does not want to see anybody misled. Paul advised if the Council approves tonight and no further conditions needed by the Plan Commission, he would approve as a B-2. Attorney Branson stated the City does not want anyone to walk away disappointed. Commissioner Contreras added that this has happened in the past whereby we make it hard for businesses to come to Dixon due to our laws. Commissioner Kelly asked if Wendy's had a site plan developed yet and Mr. Niklas advised an engineering firm has not yet been retained. Commissioner Blackburn asked when this restaurant is expected to open, and Mr. Niklas stated next summer. Commissioner Bridgeman lastly added that he will go ahead and vote tonight but stressed that proper procedures need to be given to developers. After no further discussion, the Mayor called for the vote. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly and Blackburn. Voting Nay: None. Abstaining: Mayor Burke. Motion carried.

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RES. #2279-09 – RESCINDING ALL PLANNED STATE
EMPLOYEE LAYOFFS

Commissioner Bridgeman moved that a Resolution rescinding all planned State employee layoffs be adopted. Discussion followed. Ms. Kathy Lane, AFSCME Local 44 President, 1302 Institute Boulevard, addressed the Council and gave information on state budget cuts. She advised currently there are 2,600 layoffs and highlighted on the lesser services being provided through DCFS, Sinnissippi Centers and other support services being affected, such as counseling. Kathy stressed how important it is to get and keep the services in Dixon to benefit children, the mentally handicapped and senior citizens. Mayor Burke added there should be direct pressure placed on Legislators to work with the Governor. After no further discussion or comments, the Mayor called for the vote. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

PLACE ON FILE – ORD. – AMENDING CODE TITLE X, CHAP. 12, SEC. 10-12-1

Commissioner Kelly moved that an Ordinance amending the Dixon City Code Title X, Chapter 12, Section 10-12-1 be placed on file until the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting of Tuesday, September 8, 2009. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

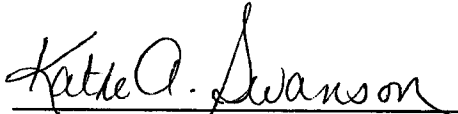
Commissioner Blackburn moved that the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, August 17, 2009 adjourn into Executive Session to discuss personnel. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

RECONVENE MEETING

Commissioner Blackburn moved that the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, August 17, 2009 reconvene into Open Session. Voting Yea: Commissioners Bridgeman, Contreras, Kelly, Blackburn and Mayor Burke. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Contreras moved that the Regular Council Meeting of Monday, August 17, 2009 be adjourned to meet in Regular Session on Tuesday, September 8, 2009 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 7:40 p.m.


Kathe A. Swanson, City Clerk