

**DIXON CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**  
**Jessie E. McCully Memorial Library**  
**200 South Pine Street**

**April 21, 2017**

**6:00 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

A quorum being present the council meeting of the Dixon City Council was called to order at 6:00P.M. By Shawn Wethington, Mayor

**2. ROLL CALL:**

Shawn Wethington, Paul Watson, Betty Thilges, Wayne Brandt, Jimmy Doyle, Marilyn Timmons and Effie Higginbotham

**Old Business**

- Cemetery Association
- Members of the Dixon Cemetery Associations are asking the city to assume ownership of the Dixon cemetery which was once city-owned. Brian Stumpe explained that it's legally required to notify all the owners of plots, either by mail or by public newspaper notice.
- Mayor: "Even if we did take over the maintenance responsibility this evening, he would still be paid to mow it through Memorial Day and train up our guys...there are idiosyncrasies that are involved and he obviously will know more about it than our guys now."
- Resident Quentin Davis. "Your mowing is your big expense. Could you guys continue to exist if the city took over the ownership?"
- Cemetery board member said the immediate problem is maintenance, but about half of the cemetery is already city-owned and "if someone is sue-happy" they could already sue the city.
- Davis: "I was mayor when they took it over and they were pretty confident they could handle it; they had \$70,000, \$80,000, in the bank at the time."
- Board members: said interest rates have dramatically dropped, and also the bear has purchased two additional sections of land.
- Aldermen voted unanimously to begin the process of the city taking over the cemetery.

**A. NEW BUSINESS :**

- Elsie Glosser would like to address the Council reference Classics car.
- Elsie Glosser spoke to the council regarding a car club which began last June. The current property is too small, she said, for a car cruise; she's proposing on the third Sunday of the month, people would park on Main Street by the Shelter Insurance agency. Glosser said she's discussed with Marshal Brankel the details of an event from 2 to 6 p.m. to avoid impacting church traffic.
- "Businesses there are closed on Sundays and that's why we picked that area."
- New Business License
- Council approved two business licenses, one for an internet service provider and the other for a cafe.

#### •ORDINANCE FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SEWERS

City Engine John Doyle is presenting a recommended Missouri Department of Natural Resources ordinance to address sewer issues. The Mayor asked if the ordinance takes out the ability of people to have septic systems or holding tanks.

Doyle: "I don't think it does. My interpretation of this is if they have sewer available to their property, yes they should connect... but if sewer is not available to them and it is property inside the city, they would have to have an alternate method because we could not connect to them via a traditional gravity line."

The Mayor said the ordinance "puts teeth behind it."

Doyle said the "teeth" are not financially driven. "When you see a faulty sewer connection on private property the city would contact them by letter... we would set a timeline by which it would get fixed." Doyle recommended a 30-day time allowance which would permit them to attend a council meeting. "Say they choose to not correct the action...if we provide them with water we are allowed to shut the water off regardless of payment... (Turning the water off) eliminates the environmental hazard on their property and once it is fixed we can turn it back on."

Watson said some problems may not be fixable with 30 days.

Doyle: "As long as we have an understanding that, they then, we're going to hold you to this, albeit it's been freezing for the last 30 days we understand that."

Mayor: "We are going to be reasonable."

Doyle: "When these spells occur off city right-of-ways we have no way, currently, to encourage action...this has been six months. It's a three-hour fix, probably." Doyle said the property owners are "grouchy" and see the sewer problem as a city issue,

even though the city has no authorization to work on private property. Doyle said passage of the ordinance would already have been required by the Missouri DNR if the city had ever used state revolving funds, and passing the ordinance opens an avenue to future funding options.

Mayor: "They are a great group of guys and gals, but they are passionate about their work...they are not the bogeyman...every conversation I have had with them is they understand we are a small town."

The mayor said that "since this is so new to you guys I wanted to give it to you to chew it over" and planned to defer a vote until the regular May city council meeting.

**Council went into closed session, Paul Watson made a motion to go into closed session, seconded by Betty Thilges. Time 6:54**

- Betty Thilges aye
- Paul Watson aye
- Wayne Brandt aye
- Jimmy Doyle aye
- Marilyn Timmons aye
- Effie Higginbotham aye

**Council came out of closed session, Betty Thilges made the motion to come out of closed session, and back into open session, seconded by Marilyn Timmons.**

- Betty Thilges aye
- Paul Watson aye
- Wayne Brandt aye
- Jimmy Doyle aye
- Marilyn Timmons aye
- Effie Higginbotham aye

**Paul Watson made the motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Betty Thilges, motion stood 6-0 8:53pm**

- **ADJOURNMENT:**

CLOSED SESSION AS PER RSMO 610.021 FOR LEGAL REALSTATE AND PERSONNEL MATTERS.

FOR ACCOMMODATION DUE TO DISABILITY, PLEASE CALL 759-6115 TWO WEEK DAYS IN ADVANCE, BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 4:30 P.M.

**Minutes approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.**

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**Shawn Wethington, Mayor**

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**Jessie Fleming, City Clerk**