

**DIXON CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
DIXON SENIOR CENTER  
301 Old Y  
January 4, 2016  
7:00 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

2. A quorum being present the council meeting of the Dixon City Council was called to order at 7:00P.M. By Shawn Wethington, Mayor

**3. ROLL CALL:**

4. Present: Shawn Wethington, Diane Shultz, Matthew York Marilyn Timmons, Betty Thilges (Lynn Whitten & Paul Watson absent))

**5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**4. Adopt the Agenda**

Prior to approval of the agenda, Mayor Shawn Wethington stated that he would like to add the Pulaski County Coalition Against Drugs. Diane Shultz requested to add Sara Veasman, an Environmental Specialist with DNR to speak on asbestos abatement, an Animal Controller, and Maintenance pre-trip inspections to the agenda. The additions to the agenda were approved.

**5. APPROVE AND RATIFY BILLS RECEIVED:**

Bills received since the last meeting were approved for payment, and the minutes of the December 21st meeting were briefly reviewed and approved, both by a vote of 4 to 0.

**6. APPROVE MINUTES:**

Minutes of the December 21st meeting were briefly reviewed and approved, both by a vote of 4 to 0.

**7. OLD BUSINESS:**

**Nuisance Ordinance Enforcement-Housing** The nuisance housing ordinance was discussed. There are still some abandoned houses that have not been taken care of although the owners have been notified previously of the need to clean up their properties. Brian Stumpe, City Attorney, stated there are steps that need to be taken in order to take action against property owners who do not comply with the ordinance. On Tuesday, January 5th, certified letters were to again be mailed to owners, giving them 30 days to comply with the provisions of the nuisance ordinance.

**8. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Ordinance for Marshal Pay**

**½ cent sales tax increase to fund Street Improvements:** The next agenda item concerned a ½ cent sales tax increase to help pay for the street project. Currently, the Mayor stated, 20-25% of needed funds are on hand. There is an ordinance from about 20+ years ago that provides from a ½ cent transportation tax, but there is no evidence that this tax is or has been collected. The City Attorney stated that the city cannot add tax for transportation at this time. The city needs to verify through the

Department of Revenue whether or not his is, or is not, being paid. Quentin Davis stated that when he was mayor, a monthly report (spread-sheet) from the state was provided which indicated how much tax had been paid by which businesses and to which areas that money should be designated. No one on the current council was aware of such a report. The Mayor stated that before going forward, we need to find out if it is being collected- if not, since it is already in an ordinance, we can enforce that ordinance. Mr. Stumpe and Jessie Fleming, City Clerk, will research the tax issue and provide information at the next meeting (January 19th). Charles Eads asked why this had not been found either by our regular auditors or the State Auditors. There was no answer available on this question at the meeting.

**B. New Business License Willard Asphalt Paving,**

**New Business License Jacks Wrecker & Recovery Service :** The Mayor next raised the issue of business licenses. Any business doing business inside the city limits must have a merchant's license. Five individuals who regularly do business within the city have completed applications for business licenses. After discussion, each of the five business licenses was voted upon by the council:

**B&N Tree Services and Excavating-** Motion by Thilges, 2nd by Shultz, passed 4-0

**Bottles to Bandits Daycare operated by Tara Doba-** Motion by Marilyn Timmons, 2nd by Councilman Matt York, approved 4 to 0.

**Jack's Wrecker & Recovery Service-** Motion by Shultz, 2nd by Timmons, passed 4 to 0.

**Willard Asphalt-** Motion by Shultz, 2nd by Thilges, approved 4 to 0.

**Bassett Excavating-** Motion by Thilges, 2nd by Shultz, approved 4 to 0.

Diane Shultz stated that some businesses are paying license fees late or not at all. Shultz believes they should either pay or close. Mayor Wethington urges Business owners to pay on time and reminds them that on top of the \$25 license fee, a late fee of \$25 per month can be assessed per the city ordinance Governing business licensure.

**9. POLICE REPORT: Lt. Gary Brankel**

Dixon Police present policy change: LT Gary Brankel gave the DPD report for calls since the last meeting. There were 42 traffic stops, 23 citations written and 28 calls regarding drugs, minor in possession, etc. He apologized for having to leave the meeting for a period of time earlier in the evening to assist in a stop which required the action of more than one officer. He reported that Diane Shultz had ridden on patrol with him New Year's Eve and one stop lasted 20 minutes and another 40 minutes. There is a great need for additional officer on night duty to respond if there is more than one incident at the same time. If one officer is responding in one part of town and an incident occurs across town, response time is greatly reduced when there is only one officer on duty. He expressed the need for an additional office on nights. Brankel reported that MULES should be coming online at any time now. There must be a trained, certified MULES operator for the system. Additional physical security measures, such as the addition of a metal door with magnetic lock is required and has been installed. Additionally, everyone who enters the Dispatch section must be fingerprinted and given a background check. It was suggested that all city employees come in to be fingerprinted and given a background check, such a Maintenance

**personnel in case they are needed inside the MULES area to repair something.**

**Brankel added that the Annual Traffic Safety Report is due to the state on February 1st.**

#### **10. CITY MAINTENANCE REPORT: Mr. Robbie Forthman**

Diane Shultz stated that she would like to see pre-trip vehicle inspections performed prior to each use of a city vehicles or item of equipment, something like the school bus drives are required to perform on their vehicles each day. Rob Forthman, Maintenance Chief, stated that he has no problems with that and would eventually like to have a computer with software that would allow all this information to be entered and when mileage/usage indicated that an oil change or other maintenance is due on a vehicle or item of equipment, it automatically indicated that for the operator. Forthman stated that during the recent flooding, Pat Porter, John Lachowicz and Donnie Beal went above and beyond what was expected to get people in a situation to where EMS personnel could get to them if needed or they could themselves get out to a hospital if the Need arose. Forthman said he would like to see some kind of commendation from the city for their efforts. The Mayor totally agreed with Forthman that Pat, Josh, and Donnie should be commended for their selfless service during the recent flooding situation. The sewer line at Davis Drive and Country Club Road has been repaired. On Friday evening, those individuals on 7th Street had no water. A hydrant had "blown its top" and water was gushing out the top. That was repaired and 7th street residents again had water. The former Dollar General building and the Lucky Dog Consignment buildings are both empty and could be used for a skating rink or community center as suggest by Councilwoman Shultz. The former Dollar General building could house both the City Hall and Library and would do away with the termite problem and all the necessary work at the current library. Due to all the effort and time expended on handling issues related to the recent flooding, not all meters were read on time. Some were read on Friday, and some as late as Monday (Jan.

4). As a result, Paula may not be able to get all bills out on time. He asked that they be shown some consideration as it is in no way her fault. Councilwoman Shultz asked for consideration by the community for Jessie and Paula in this matter. Finally, Forthman asked the residents do not place TVs, computer monitors, microwave ovens or tires out with your trash. If these items get into the truck, employees must crawl into the truck and dig them out; this is not only gross, but dangerous for those employees. Please check with the Dixon Area Caring Center to see if you can leave those types of items there.

After a 15-minute recess, called by the Mayor, the City Engineer Report was presented.

#### **11. CITY ENGINEER REPORT: Mr. John Doyle:**

John Doyle, City Engineer, stated that the DNR Semi-Annual report is due. He asked the Mayor to make himself available on Tuesday to sign the document for submission to DNR. On January 26th, 8:00 a.m., DNR will conduct a Control Class at Waynesville. Dixon can send employees to this class free of charge. It was recommended that Josh, Tony, and Pat attend this meeting. There was water in the basement of one home on Pearl Street. It was assumed that it came from the sewer due to all the rain. The responsibility for this may not fall only on the city's Shoulders. Doyle will continue to work this issue. This has been a very busy week due to the flooding from the rain. Doyle was not able to meet with Jim or Sandy Brown as planned, but did meet with their son. An itemized statement is needed concerning what was damaged on their property (due to equipment being parked there) and what was done to repair the damage. Tony reported that since the rain, 10 million plus gallons of water has been processed through the Treatment Plant. The plant is limited to 10.6 M gallons and they came close to that amount. Tony and John were commended for their work over the past several months. Doyle reported that the clarifier curtain and oxidation ditch are being repaired. The equipment is being shipped to us and the clarifier curtain will be installed- the goal is this month.

The oxidation ditch will be repaired after that.

The Council vote to go into closed session at 9:20 p.m.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Diane Shultz made the motion to go into closed session, was second by Paul Watson. All Alderman present voting aye, the motion carried 4 to 0\_

<u>Matthew York</u>	<u>absent</u>
<u>Betty Thilges</u>	<u>aye</u>
<u>Lynn Whitten</u>	<u>absent</u>
<u>Paul Watson</u>	<u>absent</u>
<u>Marilyn Timmons</u>	<u>aye</u>
<u>Diane Shultz</u>	<u>aye</u>

The City of Dixon Board of Aldermen will be in closed session for the following:

RSMO 610.021.1 (1) Privileged communication with legal counsel.

**13. ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN SESSION 10:30pm**

Diane Shultz made the motion from closed session back into open session, was second by Betty Thilges. All Alderman present voting aye, the motion carried 4 to 0\_

<u>Matthew York</u>	<u>aye</u>
<u>Betty Thilges</u>	<u>aye</u>
<u>Lynn Whitten</u>	<u>absent</u>
<u>Paul Watson</u>	<u>absent</u>
<u>Marilyn Timmons</u>	<u>aye</u>
<u>Diane Shultz</u>	<u>aye</u>

**14. ADJOURNMENT 10:30pm**

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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.**

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**Shawn Wethington, Mayor**

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**Jessie Fleming, City Clerk**