

DIXON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Dixon Senior Center
301 Old Y Rd
June 6, 2016
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 6:05P.M. By Shawn Wethington, Mayor

2. ROLL CALL:

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

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. PLEASE REMAIN STANDING FOR THE INVOCATION BY PASTER TOM CROMWELL:

5. Adopt the Agenda

A. APPROVE AND RATIFY BILLS RECEIVED:

Marilyn Timmons, Wayne Brandt and Paul Watson asked for clarification on several items. After clarification, the bills were approved for payment by a vote of 6 to 0. Betty Thilges moved to approve the Bills. The motion was seconded by Wayne Brandt and approved by a vote of 6 to 0

<u>Betty Thilges</u>	aye
<u>Effie Higginbotham</u>	aye
<u>Paul Watson</u>	aye
<u>Wayne Brandt</u>	aye
<u>Jimmy Doyle</u>	aye
<u>Marilyn Timmons</u>	aye

B. APPROVE MINUTES:

Paul Watson requested a correction to those minutes stating that he had voted 'no' regarding their approval. The minutes of the May 2nd meeting will be modified to show the correct vote. Wayne Brandt then moved to approve the May 2nd minutes with modification and the motion passed by a vote of 6 to 0.

<u>Betty Thilges</u>	aye
<u>Effie Higginbotham</u>	aye
<u>Paul Watson</u>	aye
<u>Wayne Brandt</u>	aye

Jimmy Doyle aye

Marilyn Timmons aye

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Paul Watson addressed the council concerning speed limit signs around the Dixon Elementary School (DES). He reported that some of the signs were not specified by City Ordinance and that he had been working with LT Brankel of the DPD on this matter and asked LT Brankel to pick up the matter at this point. Brankel reported that the area around DES is not designated as a school zone by ordinance and presented to the council a large city map with various colored lines denoting streets, speed limits and streets with no speed limit signs. Several streets have designated speed limits of 15 or 20 mph, not covered by ordinance. LT Brankel also stated that there is a sign on Highway C directing traffic as to the previous location of the Dixon Rural Fire Department. This sign needs to be moved to the end of High School Drive on Highway 28 indicating the new location of the Dixon Rural Fire Protection District. Mayor Shawn Wethington stated that signs in conflict with City Ordinances should be removed and the removals put on record that those signs are being removed. The Purple Heart signs should also be moved/removed as appropriate and a log kept as to who took down the signs and when, and where the signs are being stored.

Report from Standing Committee(s):

- **Big Truck Ordinance Review-Councilwoman Thilges,**

LT Brankel reported that due to thefts and break-ins at the Bleeding Ede facility (located in the old Paramount/Brown Shoe Company Building), the owners will be fencing that lot and no big trucks or other vehicles will be permitted to park there. Bleeding Edge will also be placing security cameras around their lot and facility to deter vandalism. Mayor Wethington stated that the Big Truck Ordinance Committee meetings should be advertised at least two weeks in advance so that truck drivers can arrange their schedules in order to attend these meetings.

- **SWS Committee-Council Watson**

Josh Lackowicz addressed the council concerning a water leak problem on West 6 the Street. In January while working on a ditch, City Maintenance workers hooked a waterline twice with the backhoe. Mayor Wethington stated that residents on that street knew there was a problem, but even though their water bills were extremely high, they have continued to pay them. Residents have had plumbers and others on their properties to try and rectify the problems. He asked Lackowicz if this was the city's fault and was told that it was. Lackowicz reported that it will require a new water line and meter to resolve it. Councilman Watson moved to adjust bills of the affected residents since January and give residents a credit on their bills. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Thilges and the measure passed by a vote of 6 to 0. Mayor Wethington asked when the work could start and was told that it could begin as early as June 7 th . The Mayor then stated that as soon as the necessary work is completed, these residents' bills will be reviewed to determine their average bill prior to January and adjustments given as appropriate.

- **Dangerous Animal Committee: Wayne Brant**
Nothing to report.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

Mike Watson addressed the council concerning creek erosion at the North end of Plum Alley. The culvert there was installed in 1935 and is rusted out and stays ¼ to ½ full of gravel, dirt and debris. In addition, there are two Catalpa trees in the middle of the creek diverting the water in two directions. Over time, the creek has shifted to flow onto Sixth Street and this road is scheduled for repaving in July. The erosion problem needs to be addressed as soon as possible because the paving of the road will be a special paving project as it will be heavily paved due to school buses using it on a daily basis. In front of Caroline Alexander's home, the ditch is completely filled up and water runs down Sixth Street and across to Mr. Watson's shop. Watson must sandbag his office door each time it rains. He also provided several photos to illustrate the problems to which he is subjected each time it rains. The Mayor stated that he will have John Doyle and Rob Forthman look at this and see what needs to be done and they will get with Mr. Watson on solving the problem.

Diane Shultz addressed the council concerning mowing of ditches. She stated that she had been told that the City Maintenance Department is no longer mowing ditches and asked if that was true. Mayor Wethington replied that it was something that is being considered as the City workers are busy getting road edges ready for paving, mowing parks and that the mowing of ditches is essentially being left to property owners. Shultz stated that some military units at Fort Leonard Wood do volunteer work as community outreach and persons receiving community service as a punishment through the court systems could be used to mow ditches. Mayor Wethington stated that a volunteer committee could be discussed and formed and all these avenues explored and thanked Shultz for her input.

Mayor Wethington discussed the State Sunshine Law. He reported that his office has been reviewing current business practices in coordination with the Missouri Municipal League. The goal of the city is to be in compliance with the State Sunshine Law and applicable laws and to make City Government more transparent to the people. He said that if some business practices need to be changed, they will be changed.

Wethington then stated that he has three new Business License Applications. These will be read and voted on by the Council. These three companies have all paid the licensing fees and wish to do business within the city. The following licenses were approved unanimously:

*Donnie Ray Equipment, Cambridge Lane, Dixon. This is a construction equipment company.

*Josh's Camera Service, LLC (Josh Lachowicz).

*All Vets Bail Bonds Service, Phillipsburg, Christopher Omnei. This is a bail bond service for active duty military, veterans and civilians needing the service.

Mayor Wethington stated that City Ordinance 130.030 provides that a Budget Officer be appointed for the City. The duties require that the appointee prepare next year's budget and submit it to the Council no later than August to be effective October 1st, 2016, the beginning of fiscal year 2017.

Councilwoman Thilges nominated Mayor Wethington to be Budget Officer for the

City of Dixon. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brandt and passed by a vote of 6 to 0.

Betty Thilges _____ aye

Effie Higginbotham aye

Paul Watson _____ aye

Wayne Brandt _____ aye

Jimmy Doyle _____ aye

Marilyn Timmons _____ aye

E. Maintenance Report: Robert Forthman

Rob Forthman, Maintenance Supervisor, could not be present due to illness, but had submitted a written report. In addition to daily and monthly tasks, mowing of parks and around well houses and weed-eating around fire hydrants and well houses had been done. Maintenance personnel are being cross-trained in other areas. The high school water tower interior renovation began May 23rd. Security cameras were installed at the Lions' Park. Lift stations were washed down and painted. New Councilman Jimmy Doyle introduced himself to the Maintenance employees do in a day. Alleys and all gravel roadways were graded. Truck #6 has been repaired.

F. Police Report:

LT Gary Brankel reported on communications. The current hand-held radios are UHF/VHF and do not work inside some buildings (DHS, for example) and at certain distances from the dispatcher.

FCC regulations required more secure digital radios be in use by December 17th. The DPD has two digital radios, and must have two more. These radios cost \$2400 each. The Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) has built towers in Brink town and in St. Robert. Dixon can use the Brink town tower. Maries County has an excellent set-up and Brankel is working with the Maries County Sheriff on this matter. He is also working with the State to obtain grants for the two additional radios that are required in order to be In compliance with FCC (Federal Communications Commission).

During the month of May, there were 131 requests for service resulting in 36 reports, 27 arrests, 15 State and 12 City. There were 12 Felony Drug arrests, two Felony DWIs, and six overdoses.

There are scams going on right now that the public should be aware of: One says they are Wal-Mart looking for Secret Shoppers. The person targeted is sent a check and is told to cash it, keep a certain amount and return the rest. DO NOT BE TAKEN IN BY THIS. Another similar scam is a Dating Service.

One individual has been identified in Dixon for selling narcotics. This person is also a counterfeiter. Someone comes in with money to buy drugs and pays with real money. The individual says he is out of drugs and returns the money, but instead of returning the real money, he gives counterfeit money which is getting into our town. They are working with the Secret Service to shut this individual down.

Missouri's #5 Most Wanted Person, Vernon Phelps, is in the Dixon area and supplying drugs throughout Missouri. Phelps is armed and dangerous and has +100 individuals working for him. He manufactures methamphetamine and has 10 safe houses, one of which is on Highway O, another within the city limits of Dixon. Brankel reported that there is a very good working relationship between Maries County and Dixon and they are working together on several cases.

G. CITY ENGINEER REPORT:

John Doyle reported that Willard Asphalt will be back to begin Phase III of the Street Project after the 4th of July. Mayor Wethington stated that the original plan was to finish the Street Project by October/November, but that the project is months ahead of schedule. The work was stopped to allow school and summer school to get out. The weather was cooperative in early Spring which allowed the work to move more quickly than anticipated.

Doyle next stated that he had provided to the council a copy of the semi-annual abatement order required by DNR. This order contains a summary of all on-going projects and their progress.

The project at the Treatment plant will be done in July and August. The clarifier skirt will be replaced, the oxygen ditch will be switched from rotors to diffusers, and ultra violet light will be added as a secondary treatment for the water. When the project is completed, the plant will be made much more efficient. There is an addition to the project that was not in the original plan, however. A new transformer is needed and that will be an additional \$5,200. This transformer is required as a result of the new equipment being added. The electric bills are currently extremely high, but the new transformer will help to lower the electric costs by a large margin; it will save \$7,000-\$12,000/year.

Doyle said that to control mosquitoes within the city, the US Corps of Engineers (COE) controls some waters and to do work in a creek or ditch, requires COE determination. This is specifically a concern for the work needed on Plum Alley previously indicated by Mr. Mike Watson. Mayor Wethington asked Doyle to set up a meeting with the COE regarding this matter as soon as possible.

NOTE: Jurisdictional Waters

- Navigable waters- waters you can float a boat in
- Interstate waters- waters that cross state lines
- Territorial Seas- oceans
- Impoundments- water that has been dammed
- Tributaries- streams that have a bed, a bank, and an ordinary high water mark that flow into a traditionally navigable water
- Adjacent Wetlands/Waters- Wet-lands and other open waters such as ponds that are next to a jurisdictional water.
- Other Waters- Waters with a significant nexus within the 100-year floodplain of a traditional navigable water, interstate water, or the territorial seas, as well as waters with a significant nexus within 4,000 feet of jurisdictional waters. Prairie potholes, Carolina and Delmarva bays, pocosins, western vernal pools in California, and Texas Coastal prairie wetlands are to be considered as similarly situated when determining if they have a significant nexus.

The above is a provision of the Clean Water Act.

H. ADJOURNMENT:

Council went from open session into closed session at 8:03pm

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

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

RSMO 610.021. PERSONNAL MATTER.

Council went into closed session back to open session at 9:35pm

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

I. ADJOURNMENT: 9:35pm

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.

Shawn Wethington, Mayor

Jessie Fleming, City Clerk