

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

March 24, 2017

6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

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

3. ROLL CALL:

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

A. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Culverts for Country Club DR.**

Rob Forthman, City Maintenance Chief, reported on culverts on Country Club Drive. This is an item costing \$8,734.00 for materials to replace 440 feet of plastic culvert pipe with metal culverts and install shouldering material. This project was not in the budget and will take City Maintenance workers away from regular jobs to complete this project. Labor is not included in the \$8,734.00 as work will be performed by City employees. This will also require the procurement of 440T of gravel for shouldering work. One lady has been informed by the Post Office that mail will no longer be delivered to her. Her mailbox, is 20' off the street and Postal workers cannot get their vehicles in there to deliver mail the way things are now. The Mayor asked if Willard Asphalt could be asked to create a change order to the streets project. Betty Thilges said she thought this option should be looked into, but was told this was really not within the parameters of the street project. After much discussion, it was stated that this project had been approved at a previous council meeting and asked Forthman how long the project would take. Forthman stated that after all materials re received, and if the weather cooperates, about 30 days would be required. Forthman then presented to the Mayor a document he wished to have signed to cover him in the event he exceeds his budget due to the work on this project.

- **Septic Tanks within the City**

- Mayor Shawn Wethington stated that he had been given a letter dated May 17, 1999 regarding septic tanks within the City. The directive is a previously unwritten policy which states that if no sewer connection is available and no septic tank is in good condition, the septic tank will be maintained by the City at no charge to the resident. The Mayor asked if this was a practice that should be changed. Paula Balzar, City Clerk, stated that this came to light when a second family moved into a

location and were using the same holding tank, (not a septic tank) that was discussed at the last Council meeting. This is not in accordance with any City Ordinance. The Mayor stated that no decision made by a City Council binds future councils: therefore, the City Business Practice as delineated in the 1999 letter can be change.

- Dixon resident Dan Nagele asked why he had to pay for sewer if these people get their holding tank pumped out for free. It was explained to him that previously, the holding tank only needed to be pumped out about three times per year. Since the second family with several members is now using the same tank, it is pumped out once or twice per week. It was noted that the families concerned are aware of the problem and are willing to pay for sewer if they can be connected to City sewer. What they have is a holding tank, not a septic tank. It was decided that this is a matter for Paul Watson and the Sewer, Water and Street (SWS) Committee and directed Paul Watson to speak with the homeowners concerned. One of the homeowners offered to put in his own septic tank for his family's use.

B. NEW BUSINESS :

- **City Collector requested to update Council on Mr. Towler's Deposit**

City Collector Paula Balzar spoke concerning Mr. Towler's water deposit. Mr. Towler want his water deposit back that he paid 10 years ago. Paula Balzar stated that she went through several books and his record of payment from 10 years ago could not be located and he had no copy. She said that long hours have been spent trying to get all the records in order and many older deposit records were not recorded by number, they were not in any kind of order. NOTE: Presently, water deposits are \$150 for renters and \$75 for homeowners. The deposit is normally applied to the last bill, less \$5 for administrative cost. Ten years ago, the deposit was \$50. Oftentimes renters move in and turn on their own water and have paid no deposit. Mr. Towler could not produce a receipt for his deposit and was to have appeared at this meeting, but he was working and could not be present. To preclude this problems in the future, if a resident cannot produce a receipt for the payment of the deposit, or has questions about a water bill, he/she must appear before the Council to plead their case.

Paul Watson moved to return 45.00 back to Mr., Tower's for his deposit, the motion was seconded by Wayne Brandt and approved by a vote of 5 to 0

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

- **Connie Erisman has request to speak to the council hometown vintage.**

MS Connie Erisman of the Dixon Pilot and Dixon Chamber of Commerce addressed the Council concerning her idea for a Spring Activity in Dixon that she would like the City of Dixon to sponsor. It will be called Vintage Market Day and many local craftsmen/women are already excited about the prospects of showing their wares. She suggested a minimal fee, \$25, from vendors to offset expenses like porta potties because many businesses won't want a large number of visitors using their facilities all day long. Mayor Wethington stated fees will help with insurance expense as well. Erisman reported that a lot of the legwork has been already been done. Many local merchants are on board and are willing to remain open later than usual. The decision has been made not to have a food court without of town vendors as we have at Cow Days, at least for this first time. We would like to keep everything local if possible. Some Chamber of Commerce are on board and will assist with the planning, etc. There will possible be a Classic Care Cruise-In, probably on the street which runs in front of the Pilot office as there is little traffic there on Saturdays. We don't want to block off streets nor disrupt traffic flow, such as is done during Cow Days. We may, however, need some support from the Dixon Police Department on that day. It is recommended that the time be from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on May 20th.

Betty Thilges moved to approve the conducting of the Vintage Market Day in Dixon on May 20th. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Marilyn Timmons and passed by 5 to 0

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

- **Mike Brown has requested to speak reference sewage in his yard**
Mike Brown attended the meeting to discuss the sewage problem he has had in his yard. He commended the Maintenance Department for the work they did to fix his problem. It appears his problem is fixed for the time being, but he is concerned that it could happen again. The Mayor asked Rob Forthman to check this all out and bring results to the next meeting.
Jimmy Doyle moved to table this item until the next meeting in April. The motion was seconded by Wayne Brandt and passed by a vote of 5 to 0.
- **Donna Irvin has requested to speak about water in her back yard.**
Donna Irvin had requested to be placed on April Agenda.
- **Paul Sinden has requested to address the council reference his yard.**
Paul Sinden, 102 E. Country Club Road, reported that during repairs to his neighbor's yard, workers left a large rough area where he cannot mow. He had been told it would be fixed, but so far it has not. Forthman stated that he will send his guys to fix it this week.

- **Maintenance : Robert Forthman**

Forthman stated that the Maintenance Department is taking on the upkeep of the cemetery this year. He requested that an ad to hire two individuals to mow and weed eat be placed in the Dixon Pilot. Mayor Wethington stated that there are two vacant positions in the Maintenance Department at this time. One position can be used to hire two part time employees to do this work. The individual hired must be at least 18 years of age. It was moved to place an ad in the Dixon Pilot for three weeks for two summer hires for the Maintenance

The motion was seconded by Jimmy Doyle and passed by a vote of 5 to 0.
(Mayor directed City Clerk to place this ad in the Dixon Pilot.)

Rob Forthman also stated that the Maintenance Department began mowing and weed eating this week. He reported that they are still having vandalism problems at the Lions' Club Park and that he is still finding drug paraphernalia on a daily basis. Councilwoman Thilges stated that there was a lot of vandalism in town the last few days as well. Officer Sinden responded quickly when called.

Mayor Wethington commended the Maintenance Department for the remodel of the restroom at the Lions' Park and for their work in coordination with Gascoage to install the flagpole at the end of High School drive. He reported that Governor Greatens is preparing something for the City of Dixon to recognize the installation of the flagpole and the flag-raising.

Connie Erisman stated that she receives many positive comments pertaining to the work Rob Forthman and his Maintenance Crew do to improve the City.

- **Police Department : Chief Gary Brankel, not present**

- **City Engineer: John Doyle not present**

- **ADJOURNMENT:**

- Mayor Wethington said that we all have pride of Dixon and want to see our home better. He then asked for a motion to go into closed session,

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Paul Watson moved to go into closed session. The motion was seconded by Betty Thilges and passed 5 to 0. The meeting moved to closed session at 7:20 p.m.

Betty Thilges made the motion to go from closed session back to open session, seconded by Marilyn Timmons. Motion pass 5 to 0

Paul Watson made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Wayne Brandt, passed 5 to 0

Minutes approved this _____ day of _____, 2015.

Shawn Wethington, Mayor

Jessie Fleming, City Clerk