

DIXON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Dixon Senior Center
301 Old Y Rd
May 2, 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

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. Adopt the Agenda

The council voted to adopt the agenda

A.APPROVE AND RATIFY BILLS RECEIVED:

Betty Thilges moved to approve the Bills. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wayne Brandt and approved by a vote of 3 to 1 with Councilman Paul Watson voting no.

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

B.APPROVE MINUTES:

Paul Watson moved to approve the minutes of the April 11th meeting of the City Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wayne Brandt and approved by a vote of 4 to 0 with Councilman Paul Watson voting no.

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

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

2nd Reading of TNR Bill (Only if Mr. Stumpe has it done)

The second reading of a TNR (Trap, Neuter and Release) Bill regarding feral cats

was postponed. City Attorney Brian Stumpe reported that there have been several incidents of feral animals being trapped, neutered and released and later contracting rabies and attacking smaller children. Waynesville is currently involved in a lawsuit due to a dog which was re-homed after being released and attacked a child. Councilman Watson moved not to read the TNR Bill for the second time. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Thilges and passed by a roll call vote, 4 to 0. A committee consisting of LT Gary Brankel of the Dixon Police Department, a council member (to be named later) and a member of the public will be formed to study this matter and bring their findings to the next council meeting.

Update on the Library Shawn Wethington reported that significant asbestos problems have been found in the flooring of the city library, along with extensive termite damage to the substructure. There are guidelines which must be followed in the removal of asbestos and removal is extremely expensive. Wethington stated that he had met with the Department of Agriculture regarding a grant to either remove the asbestos and termite damage, or relocate the library and turn it into a media center. Appropriate paperwork has been sent to begin the grant process. Internet and Wi-Fi are still available, so the computers and E-readers will work if and when a decision is made as to what the process for the library will be.

Report from Standing Committee(s):

Sheppard Park Presentation; Mr. Elijah Spurgeon from Kansas City gave a presentation about what the committee has found out, what has been done and what is planned and how to go about it. Spurgeon attended a council meeting approximately eight months ago and at that time discussed an overall plan for the improvement of Dixon. Some of the things his committee found were that sidewalks are not up to par and there is a strategic plan to connect the three Dixon schools with safe walks for students and to connect them to places within the city of Dixon. The plans that have been developed would ensure that there is a park within close proximity of all residents of Dixon. There are plans to make areas with native plants along a trail system. There would also be an intensive update to the Sheppard Park basketball, tennis and volleyball courts, stream restoration, erosion mitigation, security measures put in place, cameras, and environmental education. There would be a trail network through the park and parking would be restructured. The Missouri Department of Conservation can provide seeds and seedlings for native plants that require less care. These developments would promote public health, improve youth athletics, and help manage storm run-off among other benefits. An in-depth analysis was done, meetings with citizens were held and individuals from Fort Leonard Wood did a site visit and survey of the area to help with the plan. There was a booth at Cow Days last fall for community outreach and to gauge interest in these improvements. Mayor Wethington asked about lighting in the park. Spurgeon said that additional lighting is not an option right now, but that as resources become available, more lighting will be provided. There is a great deal of community interest in this project and many professionals have already committed support; i.e. construction workers, heavy equipment operators and many others. Volunteers to help with gardening, building, a and many other facets of the plan will be needed, as will donations of funding and materials. Focus groups will be formed to handle planning for each of the areas. When asked by Diane Shultz how long this plan would take, Spurgeon said that it is a 5-year plan, but can be accomplished in a shorter time if volunteers step forward-maybe three years. Shultz also asked about cost and was told that the sidewalks alone would be approximately \$60K.

Big Truck Ordinance Committee

Councilwoman Betty Thilges was asked about the Big Truck Ordinance Committee. Thilges stated that there will be a meeting on Thursday, the 19th of May, at 6:00 p.m. at Dixon City Hall to discuss this matter. The meeting is open to the public.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

Nomination of Alderman, Due to the earlier resignation of Marilyn Timmons and Lynn Whitten declining to be sworn in after winning reelection, it was necessary to nominate two members to fill those council positions. Mayor Wethington stated that after much deliberation, he would like to nominate Jimmy Doyle to fill one position since he had shown an interest in the betterment of the city. Doyle had run against Whiten in Ward 2 in the April election and lost by just one vote. Councilman Watson moved to accept the nomination of Jimmy Doyle to the City Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brandt and passed by a roll call vote of 4 to 0.

Mayor Wethington then nominated Marilyn Timmons to return to the council and fill the second vacant council seat. Mrs. Timmons had resigned her position a month ago for health reasons, but doctors have now given her a clean bill of health and she is ready and able to serve in this position. Councilwoman Thilges moved to accept the nomination of Marilyn Timmons to the City Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Paul Watson and passed by a roll call vote of 4 to 0.

Timmons and Doyle were then sworn in as council members in Ward 2 by City Clerk Jessie Fleming and took their seats on the council.

Council to nominate and Approve (Mayor Pro Tem)

The full council selected a President of the Board/Mayor Pro-Tem to replace Lynn Whitten who held that position until his resignation. Councilman Watson nominated Councilwoman Thilges to serve in this capacity. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brandt. Councilwoman Thilges accepted the nomination and was approved by a vote of 5 to 0. (Thilges abstained from this vote).

Street and Water Committee

A Street and Water Committee has been established with Councilman Paul Watson as Chairman. This committee will consist of Councilman Watson, LT Brankel of the DPD, Maintenance Supervisor Rob Forthman, and a member of the public, not yet selected. This committee will meet each month on the day after the regular City Council meeting, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall with the meetings open to the public. (The first meeting will be held at a date to be announced in May as there was not sufficient time to give public notice of a Tuesday meeting.) Concerns from the public regarding streets and water will be addressed by this committee and brought before the full council at its next regular meeting.

Dangerous Animal Committee

When the Dixon Police Department picks up an animal believed to be dangerous, it will be held for 10 days then euthanized. The DAC will contact the owner if possible. The owner can petition the city to euthanize the animal or return it to that owner. Members of this committee are LT Brankel, Israel Doba and a not-as- yet named Dixon citizen. The membership on this committee will be for two years, in accordance with City Ordinances.

E. Police Report: Lt. Gary Brankel

LT Brankel reported that he had been out of town due to a family emergency and did not have a written report at this time. He did, however, state that he wanted to apprise the council of recent crimes within the city. There was a vehicle theft of a Postal Service vehicle. Due to DNA found in the vehicle when it was recovered, three suspects have been detained.

Further, a theft at Bleeding Edge resulted in \$25K of copper wiring being stolen. Gascosage Electric Cooperative reported vandalism of some of its lines. It was someone that was knowledgeable in electrical work as the lines were cut without shutting down the grid. It has not been confirmed at this time whether the Bleeding Edge incident and the vandalism to Gascosage lines are related.

Brankel reported that he lost one officer and another is on administrative leave. The DPD is down to three officers and it is costing \$2500-\$3000 per month in overtime. He has sent 16 drug related cases to the crime lab and has 12 more ready to go to the crime lab. He asked to be permitted to solicit applications to hire two DPD officers. Councilwoman Thilges moved to allow LT Brankel to solicit applications for employment for two new officers. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brandt and passed by a vote of 6 to 0.

F. CITY ENGINEER REPORT: Mr. John Doyle

John Doyle reported that the sewer line to the Country Club easements have been prepared and should be in City Hall this week to be notarized by Jessie Fleming, City Clerk, who is a Notary. Camera work has been completed and will be reviewed to see how to proceed.

Phase II of the Street Project is completed. Additional streets may be paved. Phase III focuses on streets near schools and will be on hold until school is out on may 20th. At this time, the total street project is about six months ahead of schedule. Doyle expressed his thanks to all residents who were quick to cooperate with pavers by moving their vehicles off the street and into driveways so that paving could be done. He had a special thanks to Quentin Davis who volunteered to move one vehicle into a driveway to allow for paving. He contacted the owners who were out of town and obtained permission to relocate their vehicle. More of the streets being looked at for paving are cemetery road, the Sheppard Park area and B Street. These additional roads can be paved by change orders so solicitation of additional bids will not be necessary. Doyle invited residents to contact their council members with recommendations on paving of streets. The overall project will be a 5- to 7- year project, doing 10-15 % each year.

Mayor Wethington encouraged all drivers to be aware and mindful of speed limits within the city.

G. ADJOURNMENT: 7:15 p.m.

A motion was made by Paul Watson and seconded by Effie Higginbotham to adjourn the meeting. All Alderman present voting aye, the motion carried Time 7:15pm

Minutes approved this _____ day of _____, 2015.

Shawn Wethington, Mayor

Jessie Fleming, City Clerk