

Dixon City Commission
Regular Session
Monday, March 14, 2022, 6pm

Dixon City Commission met in session Monday, March 14, 2022, 6 p.m. Attending were Mayor Carolyn Townsend (via Zoom), Commissioners Terry Webb, Randy Norman, Dorris Crowley, and Jeff Graham, City Attorney Ben Leonard, City Clerk Barbara Goff, and Code Enforcement Officer Mary Mayes.

Minutes were approved on a motion by Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Norman, all ayes.

Bills were approved on a motion by Commissioner Webb, seconded by Commissioner Crowley, all ayes.

Water loss is up this month. Public Works is looking for a new leak. Streets need to be reviewed soon to assess any damage that may have resulted from winter weather.

Commissioner Crowley gave an update regarding Baker Park. ARPA funds have financed a remodel of the restrooms, and those opened to the public today for the season. He also stated the railroad ties that encompass several playground areas are in terrible condition, and made a motion to remove the railroad ties at Baker Park, seconded by Commissioner Webb, all ayes. Commissioner Crowley has noticed the merry-go-round is extremely un-level and poses a danger to those who use it. It was decided to place caution tape around the piece of equipment until it can be repaired. Commissioner Crowley will be speaking with Public Works tomorrow to update them on the work needed at Baker Park.

Commissioner Crowley will be gathering three price quotes on an edger to be used near sidewalks. Since the City plans to use ARPA funds to repair sidewalks, it is possible this equipment may be purchased with those funds as well. The City Clerk will check with the ARPA contact at GRADD.

Newly-hired Code Enforcement Officer Mary Mayes was present at the meeting. Several commissioners had prepared a list of properties of highest concern for her to begin reviewing. Mayor Townsend plans to speak with Mrs. Mayes tomorrow to ensure Mrs. Mayes is informed of the duties and procedures of her new position.

A portion of the Water Leak Adjustment ordinance was reviewed. Currently, one of the qualifications for a customer to receive an adjustment to their water bill is the requirement the bill must be at least \$30 above their average bill. A motion to approve an amendment to the ordinance to raise that amount to \$40 was made by Commissioner Crowley, seconded by Commissioner Norman. This serves as the first reading of the ordinance amendment.

Commissioner Crowley presented the case of a customer who has approached him recently regarding a leak at one of his properties, 123 Bourland Ave. There was an adjustment for a leak at the same location in June 2021, less than 12 months ago. The customer has already paid the due bill for the property, but approached Commissioner Crowley requesting a refund for the sewer part of the bill due to the leak not going through the sewer. The difference between the base rate for a sewer charge and the billed sewer charge for the time of the leak is \$75.55. Commissioner Crowley made a motion to refund \$75.55 to the customer, seconded by Commissioner Webb, all ayes.

Commissioner Crowley presented an updated, prioritized list of sidewalks in need of repair.

A motion to increase the salary of Mayor to \$250 monthly and Commissioners to \$150 monthly was made by Commissioner Crowley, seconded by Commissioner Webb, all ayes. The increases will take effect January 1, 2023. This is the first reading of the ordinance.

The sewer project was briefly discussed. A bid opening is scheduled for March 17, followed by a scheduled special session to award the bid. However, Mayor Townsend noted there is new information regarding some of the properties, and the bid may not be awarded at that time, but instead more discussion may be necessary. Commissioner Webb expressed concern that if the City pays for the sewer connection at some homes, others may request the same. Mayor Townsend noted there is a required application and certain criteria must be met in order to qualify for the connection to be paid for by the City's ARPA funds.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Webb, seconded by Commissioner Norman, all ayes.

Signed: _____



Terry Webb, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Dixon



Barbara Goff, City Clerk, City of Dixon