

The City Council of the City of Du Quoin  
Minutes of the November 9, 2015 Meeting

**Minutes:**

The Minutes of the City Council of the City of Du Quoin, County of Perry, held on this 9th day of November in the year 2015, said meeting held in the Council Chambers of the Du Quoin City Hall.

**Invocation:**

City Attorney Aaron Atkins gave the invocation.

**Call to Order:**

Mayor Alongi called the meeting to order at 6 pm with the following individuals present: Commissioners Michael Ward, Dale Spencer, Charles Genesisio, and Gerald Whitley. City staff included City Attorney Aaron Atkins, City Treasurer Stephanie Cravens and City Clerk Andrew Croessman.

**Previous Meeting Minutes:**

The Council reviewed the minutes of the meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of October. Commissioner Genesisio moved, Commissioner Ward seconded a motion to approve the minutes. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Approval of Bills:**

Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion to approve the bill list for November 9, 2015. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Ordinances:**

A. 2015-O10-01: An Ordinance Authorizing Water Contract with Dowell. Commissioner Whitley moved, Commissioner Spencer seconded a motion that Ordinance 2015-O10-01 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

B. 2015-O10-02: An Ordinance Amending Section 7-1-7 of the Ordinances of the City of Du Quoin. Commissioner Ward moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion that Ordinance 2015-O10-02 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

C. 2015-O11-01: Corporate Tax Levy. City Clerk Croessman said that the City levied \$567,039 in property taxes for fire, police, and municipal employee pension contributions in the past year. He said that the City's total levy request for pensions is \$594,800 for 2016. The total levy increase is just under 4.9%. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Ward seconded a motion to put 2015-O11-01 on public display. Motion passed; all ayes.

D. 2015-O11-02: Library Tax Levy. City Clerk Croessman said that the City levied \$69,335 for Library operations and pensions in the past year. He said that the City's levy request for Library operations and pensions is \$74,250 for 2016. Mayor Alongi added that the City was gambling by not levying additional property taxes due to the possibility that the State may freeze property taxes. He said that if the State did freeze property taxes and there was a bad stock market, then, the City may not be able to meet pension obligations. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion to put 2015-O11-02 on public display. Motion passed; all ayes.

E. 2015-O11-03: An Ordinance Amending Tax Exempt Properties. City Clerk Croessman said that Ameren wrote the City and said that the City's Municipal Utility Tax Ordinance does not support tax exempt properties. This amends the City's Municipal Utility Tax Ordinance to include language that exempts municipal accounts. Commissioner Genesisio moved, Commissioner Ward seconded a motion that 2015-O11-03 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

F. 2015-O11-04: An Ordinance Authorizing Contract with Clearwave. Commissioner Whitley moved, Commissioner Spencer seconded a motion that 2015-O11-05 be tabled. Motion passed; all ayes.

G. 2015-O11-05: An Ordinance Creating 30 Minute Parking Zone. Mayor Alongi said that this alleviate parking problems at Green Mountain Meat Market. He said that the 30 minute parking signs would be on the west side of the building. Commissioner Spencer questioned if 30 minute parking could be extended to other businesses. City Attorney Atkins affirmed that it could with the discretion of the Council. Commissioner Whitley moved, Commissioner Ward seconded a motion to put 2015-O11-05 on public display. Motion passed; all ayes.

H. 2015-O11-06: An Ordinance Establishing Schedule of Raises for Full Time, Non-Union Employees. Mayor Alongi said that this gives all full time non-union workers a \$0.65 raise per hour for a 40 hour work week, or a \$0.49 raise per hour for a 53 hour work week for 2016. For 2017 and 2018, this gives all full time non-union workers a \$0.60 for a 40 hour work week, or a \$0.45 raise per hour for a 53 hour work week. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion to put 2015-O11-06 on public display. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Resolutions:**

A. 2015-R11-01: A Resolution Condemning 339 N. Chestnut Street. Commissioner Ward moved, Commissioner Spencer seconded a motion to table 2015-R11-01. Motion passed; all ayes.

B. 2015-R11-02: A Resolution Amending Resolution 2015-R01-01 Titled "Resolution Authorizing a Redevelopment Agreement Between the City of Du Quoin, Perry County, Illinois, and the Du Quoin Community Development Corporation for the

Benefit of Baked by Gene". City Economic Developer Jeff Ashauer said that the Baked by Gene development was a \$62,000 project, where \$30,000 was tax increment financing (TIF). He said that this amends the agreement to increase the amount of TIF to \$32,000 for an awning. Commissioner Genesio moved, Commissioner Ward seconded a motion that 2015-R11-02 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes except Commissioner Whitley who abstained.

**Public Agenda:**

A. Mayor Alongi introduced discussion regarding the emergency purchase of two trash pumps. He said that these pumps would serve as reserves in case of lift station failure. Commissioner Whitley said that the six inch trailered trash pump is a necessity and is required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). City Clerk Croessman stated that the six inch trailered trash pump would cost between \$32,000 and \$34,000. Mayor Alongi questioned the lifespan of the pump and said that if it is financed, the financing period should be less than the lifespan of the pump.

B. Motion and Vote to consider the purchase of the pumps as an emergency measure provided in Chapter 1-2-43 (B) and 1-2-43 (L). Commissioner Whitley moved, Commissioner Genesio seconded a motion to consider the purchase of the pumps as an emergency measure. Motion passed; all ayes.

C. Motion and Vote to purchase pumps. Commissioner Whitley moved, Commissioner Spencer seconded a motion to purchase pumps for an amount less than \$36,000. Motion passed; all ayes.

D. Motion and Vote to amend the list of bills to be paid to include the purchase of the above mentioned pumps and authorize payment therefor. Commissioner Whitley moved, Commissioner Spencer seconded a motion to amend the bill list. Motion passed; all ayes.

E. Motion and Vote to accept most responsible acceptable bid from Air Cleaning Technologies, Inc., for \$39,601 for diesel vehicle exhaust system. City Assistant Fire Chief said that the City received a grant for the diesel vehicle exhaust system for Fire Station #1. He said the grant covers 95% of the cost. The City is responsible for the remaining \$1,980.05. Commissioner Ward moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion to accept bid from Air Cleaning Technologies, Inc.

F. Motion and Vote to amend the list of bills to be paid to include the purchase of the diesel vehicle exhaust system. Commissioner Whitley moved, Commissioner Spencer seconded a motion to amend the bill list. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Commissioners' Comments:**

Commissioners Genesio and Whitley had no comment.

Commissioner Ward promoted the Shop with a Cop fundraiser on November 14, 2015 at the American Legion.

Commissioner Spencer mentioned that Veterans' Day was coming up and thanked fellow Commissioner Whitley for his service.

Mayor Alongi announced that the Du Quoin State Bank purchased an 18 foot tall Christmas tree to be placed at Central Plaza. He said that the State Fairgrounds has three upcoming events, but is out of diesel fuel. He announced that the City would purchase 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel for State Fairgrounds so events will not be cancelled. He stated that if the State will not promote economic development, the City will. Commissioner Genesio agreed with Mayor Alongi that if the City allows these events to be cancelled, then, they would never come back in the future. Commissioner Spencer also agreed and thought it was the right move. Lastly, Mayor Alongi discussed an apartment building adjacent to Mark's Bakery on East Main Street that is an eyesore. He said that the building is infested with pigeons, and either wants it fixed up or wants the City to buy it.

**Public Comment:**

City Economic Developer Jeff Ashauer said that he came back from vacation and noticed that Downtown Du Quoin was beautiful with green lights in the lanterns for Veterans' Day.

**Adjournment:**

The City Council adjourned at 6:44 pm, motion by Commissioner Spencer, seconded by Commissioner Whitley; all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

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Andrew Croessman, City Clerk