

The City Council of the City of Du Quoin  
Minutes of the November 23, 2015 Meeting

**Minutes:**

The Minutes of the City Council of the City of Du Quoin, County of Perry, held on this 23rd 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. Following the invocation, Boy Scout Troop 128 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**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 9<sup>th</sup> day of November. 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 23, 2015. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Guests:**

A. Gates Blodgett from Arthur J. Gallagher Insurance presented the City's insurance bid for 2016. He said that the City would realize steep reductions in premiums for 2016. The reduction in premiums was attributable to control of workers' compensation claims. There was an increase in property insurance. In sum, the City's insurance premiums fell from \$421,000 to \$330,000.

B. Jason Henton, Superintendent of the Du Quoin Impact Incarceration Program, presented a recycling plan for the City. He said that the City could purchase recycling trailers from the State for \$5,000 each. Once the trailers are purchased, the inmates from the boot camp will empty the trailers when they get full at no cost to the City. Commissioner Spencer stated that the City could use grant money from the landfill and sell existing roll off bins to absorb the initial investment. No action was taken.

**Ordinances:**

A. 2015-O11-01: Corporate Tax Levy. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion that 2015-O11-01 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

B. 2015-O11-02: Library Tax Levy. Commissioner Ward moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion that 2015-O11-02 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

C. 2015-O11-05: An Ordinance Creating 30 Minute Parking Zone. Commissioner Whitley moved, Commissioner Ward seconded a motion that 2015-O11-05 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

D. 2015-O11-06: An Ordinance Establishing Schedule of Raises for Full Time, Non-Union Employees. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Ward seconded a motion that 2015-O11-06 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

E. 2015-O11-07: An Ordinance Authorizing Entering into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Community Unit District 300. Mayor Alongi said that District 300 will repay the City \$585,435.88 over the span of 14 years. District 300 will pay \$39,029.06 within 14 days of final approval of this ordinance. Thereafter, District 300 will pay the City \$39,029.06 on an annual basis until 2029. Commissioner Genesio had issue with taxpayers footing the District's bill for another 15 years. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion to put 2015-O11-05 on public display. Motion passed; all ayes.

F. 2015-O11-08: An Ordinance Authorizing sale of surplus real estate on North Chestnut Street by Sealed Bids. Mayor Alongi said that the City has five surplus real estate lots on North Chestnut Street. Furthermore, he said that the lots were appraised and they are worth more than originally thought. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Ward seconded a motion to put 2015-O11-08 on public display. Motion passed; all ayes.

G. 2015-O11-09: An Ordinance Authorizing 4-year Contract with Arthur J. Gallagher. Commissioner Whitley moved, Commissioner Spencer seconded a motion to put 2015-O11-09 on public display. Motion passed; all ayes.

H. 2015-O11-10: An Ordinance Approving renewal of Insurance package for 2016. Commissioner Genesio moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion to put 2015-O11-10 on public display. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Resolutions:**

A. 2015-R11-01: A Resolution Condemning 339 N. Chestnut Street. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion that 2015-R11-01 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

B. 2015-R11-03: A Resolution Authorizing sale of surplus real estate at 130 South Division Street to Alan Porter for 80% of Appraised Value. Commissioner Genesio moved, Commissioner Ward seconded a motion that 2015-R11-03 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

C. 2015-R11-04: A Resolution Authorizing a \$10,000 stipend to the Pinckneyville - Du Quoin Airport. Currently, the Pinckneyville - Du Quoin Airport receives an annual \$5,000 stipend from Pinckneyville and Du Quoin. Mayor Alongi said that the Airport Board asked for \$15,000 from Pinckneyville and Du Quoin. Pinckneyville's Mayor Spencer and Mayor Alongi tentatively agreed to a \$10,000 stipend beginning in 2016. Thereafter, the stipend would increase by \$1,000 each year until it reached \$15,000. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion that 2015-R11-04 be approved. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Public Agenda:**

A. Discussion of sale of 537 S. Jefferson Street. City Attorney Atkins said that the City is having trouble contacting the highest bidder, Mr. Ron Kujawa. City Attorney Atkins suggested that the City Health Officer Ron Darnell attempt to contact him one more time before proceeding with advertising the lot for sale again.

B. Review of Executive Session Minutes for public release. Mayor Alongi suggested that the executive session minutes not be released due to them pertaining to a personnel issue.

C. Motion and Vote on recommendation that the executive session minutes not be released. Commissioner Spencer moved, Commissioner Whitley seconded a motion to not release executive session minutes. Motion passed; all ayes.

D. Discussion of need to change meeting time for the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in December from December 28<sup>th</sup> to another date. The consensus of the Council was to move the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in December to December 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

E. Motion and Vote to change December 28<sup>th</sup> meeting date to December 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Ward moved, Commissioner Spencer seconded to move meeting to December 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Motion passed; all ayes.

F. Discussion of Jackson Street fence. Mayor Alongi said that the City's fence on Jackson Street has decades of growth on it and in turn has deteriorated. It is now a liability issue. The Council agreed that the fence was in poor condition and needs to be remedied.

G. Motion and Vote to authorize purchase and installation of new fence. The City received two quotes from Terrace Fencing and Home Lumber Co. Terrace Fencing was cheaper than Home Lumber Co. However, the Council agreed on purchasing a 580 ft. commercial fence from Home Lumber Co. to support a local business. Commissioner

Spencer moved, Commissioner Ward seconded a motion to purchase fence from Home Lumber Co. for an amount not to exceed \$8,800. Motion passed; all ayes.

H. City Health Officer Ron Darnell presented a summary of property maintenance. He said that he wrote 52 tickets and maintained 19 properties. The cost to the City was \$2,635, but \$1,200 was collected. Commissioner Spencer added that the City should file liens against the properties to collect more money.

I. Presentation of proposed 2016 Council Meeting Schedule. The Council reviewed the 2016 Council Meeting Schedule. There were no objections.

J. Motion and Vote to accept 2016 Council Meeting Schedule. Commissioner Whitley moved, Commissioner Ward seconded a motion to accept 2016 Council Meeting Schedule. Motion passed; all ayes.

**Commissioners' Comments:**

Commissioners Ward, Spencer, and Genesio had no comment.

Commissioner Whitley said that the City negotiated the price of the 6 inch trash pump down by \$6,000 and that it was being ordered.

Mayor Alongi promoted the City Christmas tree lighting on November 30. He also said that he has not heard from Blanca Kuberski about her building on East Main Street. He said that she has till December 21 to get her building in a safe and sanitary state.

**Public Comment:**

City Tourism Director Judy Smid promoted the Holiday Lights Fair. She said that it will open on Thanksgiving night. Every year, around 20,000 to 25,000 people go through the Holiday Lights Fair.

**Adjournment:**

The City Council adjourned at 7:20 pm, motion by Commissioner Spencer, seconded by Commissioner Genesio; all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

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Andrew Croessman, City Clerk