

Dawson City Council Minutes
Work Session Council Meeting
July 26, 2023
5:30 p.m.

Councilpersons present: JT Schacherer, Vince Adelman, Jeff Olson, David Hansen, Jake Bothun, and Charlie Prestholdt. Other present: Mayor Randy Tensen, City Manager Jill Kemen, Municipal Advisor Rebecca Kurtz with Ehlers via Teams.

Mayor Tensen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and everyone repeated the Pledge of Allegiance.

On motion by Councilman Schacherer to approve the agenda as written with a second from Councilman Prestholdt. Voting in favor; Councilman Schacherer, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Olson, Councilman Bothun, Councilman Hansen, and Councilman Prestholdt. Against: non. Motion passed.

No one present to speak at the 10-minute public forum.

Rebecca Kurtz, Municipal Advisor with Ehlers, was present via Teams to present Dawson's Financial Management Plan. This is a multi-year, fluid plan, used for budgeting purposes to help incorporate expenses into the budget. New City needs can be incorporated into this interactive model for future needs. This plan focuses on community. It helps budget upcoming expenses for roads, facilities, services, while accomplishing long-term objectives.

Kurtz spoke about key general assumptions that were in this report. LGA will see an increase in 2024 and then stay the same throughout the report for the years to come. Dawson depends on LGA contributions to help balance the budget. 64% of the City budget is supported by LGA for operating and special levies less debt service funds. Values in tax base included an increase of 13.5% for pay 2023. This number was provided with help from the County. This plan also shows no residential or commercial development over the years. When developments happen, this will only improve the plan. Ehlers took the approach of cautious increased revenue and over projected expenses to try to address worst case scenarios. Council was asked about major projects that should be included in the plan. Suggestions by Kurtz were, ball fields, pool, courts, and daycare help. \$360,000 average per year has been used for a placeholder for capital expense and new staffing in 2025.

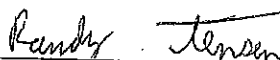
Kurtz provided possible property tax levy percentages using this plan for the coming years as documented with expenses provided. Also provided were property tax impacts on homes with a value of \$100,000. Discussion with Council was to try to even out the ups and downs of the levy and stay more consistent. This discussion will need to be continued by Council. Kurtz asked what is considered "affordable" for tax impact in Dawson. She also asked Council to think about any changes that need to be made to the plan.

After hearing Kurtz presentation, Council will vote to adopt the use of the Financial Management Plan at the regular council meeting on August 1, 2023.

Hearing nothing else, motion from Councilman Schacherer to adjourn with a second from Councilman Olson. Voting in favor; Councilman Schacherer, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Olson, Councilman Bothun, Councilman Hansen, and Councilman Prestholdt. Against: non. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.



Jill Kemen, City Manager



Randy Tensen, Mayor