

Dawson City Council Meeting  
January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023  
5:30 p.m.

Councilpersons present: Jake Bothun, David Hansen, Jeff Olson, Vince Adelman, Charlie Prestholdt and JT Schacherer. Others present: Mayor Randy Tensen, City Manager Jill Kemen, City Clerk Kristin Daline, Public Works Supervisor Colin Lee, City Attorney Rick Stulz, Fire Chief Brian Hersom, Dave Hickey and Ben Bothun.

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

New Councilmen JT Schacherer, Jake Bothun and David Hansen were sworn in by Attorney Rick Stulz.

Councilman Prestholdt motioned to approve the agenda with a second from Councilman Olson. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson, Councilman Schacherer and Councilman Bothun. Absent: none. Against: none. Motion passed.

Councilman Olson motioned to approve consent agenda item 4, December 6<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting Minutes and consent agenda item 12, December financials. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson, Councilman Schacherer and Councilman Bothun. Absent: none. Against: none. Motion passed.

10 Minute Public Forum

Mayor Tensen opened the 10 minute public forum at 5:32 p.m. Hearing nothing, Mayor Tensen closed the 10 minute public forum at 5:33 p.m.

The Council Meeting was closed for the Public Hearing on the Olson Sanitation garbage rate increase. Hearing nothing, the Public Hearing was closed at 5:36 p.m.

Reports of officers, boards, and committees.

The Water/Wastewater committee met and discussed well meters for the water treatment plant. Collins is receiving three quotes, one meter alone was \$9,945. A pre-construction meeting with DSG will be scheduled. The City sent letters to homeowners making them aware of the upcoming project and to coordinate with a plumber if there are any sump pump issues and to insure each home has proper working valves. The letter was included in the packet. DSG is also sending out a letter to homeowners. Jill has reached out to Rebecca with Ehlers about funding the water meters. Ehlers would like to have a years worth of new numbers before new increases to the base and usage charge can be applied. For now, an inflationary rate will be applied, March at the earliest. The city will call for the sale of an equipment certificate at the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting for the water meters. DSG could start installing as early as March. They are still waiting on some of the larger meters. There will be an extra cost for checking sump pumps and will check for lead pipes. VFD and pumps at water treatment plant came in significantly higher, Widseth is looking for more options. Jill has reached out to Madison regarding their permit levels for chloride and phosphorous, but they are not aware of their new limits, still waiting to hear back. Have not talked to LPRW yet.

Public Works Superintendents Kurt Collin's Report

The crew has been staying very busy moving snow over the holidays. Most of the equipment is doing okay, there has been a few maintenance issues. The crew has been doing their best to keep the skating

rink clear on the river. The conditions haven't been great, moving a lot of slush and the conditions on the edge of the banks are poor. Warming house seems fine where it is, eliminates steps. There has been a lot of pushback with people that want to fish. Timing was an issue this year, will be better prepared next year. Streets are a priority. Check on lighting situation at the river near the rink.

There was a water service leak on 15th Street from an old valve service that should have been taken out during construction. Ryan Construction was notified and was able to fix the problem Saturday morning.

Dawson was selected to do sampling for PFAS, which has to do with plastics. This is an added sampling test required by the state. The state will pay for first two samples and the City will work on getting the next two paid for with state funding. Testing is still to be determined by the state as to how often.

#### Interim City Manager Jill Kemen's Report

EDA update. Heritage Courts will be getting new carpet and paint in the hallways, as well as paint in one apartment. Blackjack Babies put in a fund request of \$5,000 that was approved. A quote from Larson Brothers was provided for replacing the surface at the tennis and basketball courts. Tony Aafdet was at the meeting and presented to the board regarding LqPV no longer wanting to maintain their tennis courts and looking at either Madison or Dawson taking over. Tony will be working on getting more information as far as cost and the number of courts needed. Joe Maffit updated the group on the Blandin foundation grant. Joe is looking at the TMobile grant as well.

Six Commercial fix up grants were given out with four left, but haven't received any more interest. There is no expiration as to when the application needs to be applied for, it's just when the money runs out.

Jill and Kristin met with Prairie 5 and the Upper Minnesota Regional Development Coalition (UMRDC) regarding the Small Cities Development Program (SCDP). Some issues that they have run in to is not finding contractors to bid. Jill has spoke with a local contractor about the process and with this project, the contractor needs to front the materials. Councilman Prestholdt mentioned that Dawson Development could cover the interest for the contractor. Kemen said there is a small amount of funds left over from a prior project that could help cover some of the contractor costs as well. There is a lot of red tape with the grant. Prairie 5 isn't taking any more applications and won't go through more until March or April. Councilman Prestholdt would like to set a meeting with the local contractors to see if they would agree to take two projects on to better the community. Jill spoke with the representatives when they were here. The Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) is not changing the grant or extending deadlines. Ben Bothun mentioned that Canby was able to get their timeline extended for the applications that were received.

Rebecca with Ehlers is reviewing a proposal regarding the apartment complex. Jill shared her concerns with the representatives about funding the MN Housing program to help rural construction projects get the funding to grow their communities. Senator Dahms and Swedzinski said they would be willing to write letters on the city's behalf.

Larry with Widseth drafted a response letter to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

which was sent to Ashley Wahl at the State. Ashley is now asking when the variance for the chloride will be submitted. Kurt and Jill will look at the application.

A public hearing will take place at the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding the street vacation on N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street East between Livestock Systems and LqP Co-op Oil. Vehicles will still be able to pass through there, and after speaking with the School, they didn't feel it would be an issue. LqP is planning to build a new shop in the Spring of next year and will follow with a new store.

Old Business Discussion on the Fire Hall lights upgrade was tabled from the last meeting. Brian Hersom was present and provided quotes from Gruwell Electric and Bret Johnson. Councilman Olson motioned to approve the lighting upgrade with the quote from Johnson with a second from Councilman Schacherer. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson, Councilman Schacherer and Councilman Bothun. Absent: none. Against: none. Motion passed.

#### New Business

A letter was included in the packet from the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. The City was awarded \$10,615.09 from a FEMA grant for storm damage over the summer.

A gambling permit for the United Wrestling Club was submitted. On motion by Councilman Prestholdt with a second from Councilman Olson to approve the gambling request. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson, Councilman Schacherer and Councilman Bothun. Absent: none. Against: none. Motion passed.

The Council Committee Assignments for 2023 were presented. Kemen has condensed the committees into six, instead of individual committees. The rotation will happen yearly. One member will remain on the committee and one will move to a different committee. Committee lengths will be 2 year maximum. The assignments were determined by one council member previously serving on a committee and one incoming new council member. Assignments as follows:

Enterprise: Vince Adelman, David Hansen

This includes water/wastewater, liquor store and garbage

Above Ground Construction: Jeff Olson, J.T. Schacherer

This includes road and bridge, planning and zoning and trees

Funding: Vince Adelman, Jake Bothun

This includes finance, bond refunding and charter and code

Employee/Volunteer: Charlie Prestholdt, Jake Bothun

This includes police, personnel and fire relief/department

Recreation and Growth: Charlie Prestholdt, JT Schacherer

This includes park, EDA, housing and insurance

Arts and Education: Jeff Olson, David Hansen

This includes library, training, compliance and Pioneerland Board

Zoning Official: Andy Stock, Kurt Collins

On motion from Councilman Schacherer with a second from Councilman Adelman to accept the assignments as presented. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson, Councilman Schacherer and Councilman Bothun. Absent: none. Against: none. Motion passed.

Councilman Prestholdt motioned to leave Councilman Jeff Olson remain as Council President with a second from Councilman Hansen. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson, Councilman Schacherer and Councilman Bothun. Absent: none. Against: none. Motion passed.

Councilman Schacherer motioned to approve to designate Minnwest Bank, Dawson Co-op Credit Union and Pershing as the official depository for the City of Dawson funds with a second from Councilman Olson. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson, Councilman Schacherer and Councilman Bothun. Absent: none. Abstained: Councilman Hansen. Against: none. Motion passed.

Councilman Prestholdt motioned to approve Ehlers Investment Partners as the agency for managing the City of Dawson investment accounts as well as the City's financial advisors with a second from Councilman Schacherer. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson, Councilman Schacherer and Councilman Bothun. Absent: none. Abstained: Councilman Hansen. Against: none. Motion passed.

Councilman Prestholdt motioned to designate the Dawson Sentinel as the official newspaper with a second from Councilman Hansen. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson, Councilman Schacherer and Councilman Bothun. Absent: none. Against: none. Motion passed.

Councilman Schacherer motioned to approve the 2023 Fee schedule with no changes from 2022 with a second from Councilman Bothun. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson, Councilman Schacherer and Councilman Bothun. Absent: none. Against: none. Motion passed.

Kemen spoke briefly about the Police Union Contract that needs to be ratified. The Police Department and Police Commission settled on a 1 year contract at 5.5% cost of living (COLA) for 2023 for Gosson and Reyes, an increase in on call pay, an increase of uniform allowance, and the option to purchase a load bearing vest with uniform allowance if they want. On motion from Councilman Prestholdt with a second from Councilman Olson to approved the contract. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson, Councilman Schacherer and Councilman Bothun. Absent: none. Against: none. Motion passed.

Miscellaneous Announcements

The next Council Meeting is Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

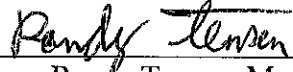
Adjourn Meeting

Hearing nothing else, on motion by Councilman Adelman with a second from Councilman Olson to adjourn the meeting. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson and Councilman Bothun. Absent: none. Against: none. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.



Kristin Daline, City Clerk



Randy Tensen, Mayor