

Dawson City Council Minutes
February 4, 2020
5:30 PM

The Dawson City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 5:30 PM in the City Council Chambers.

Councilpersons present: Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Jeff Fish, Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilwoman Chessa Frahm, and Councilman Al Tufto.

Councilperson absent: Councilman Charlie Prestholdt.

Others present: Mayor Randy Tensen, City Attorney Rick Stulz, City Manager Tami Schuelke-Sampson, City Clerk/Treasurer Jill Kemen, Maintenance Superintendent Brent Powers, Police Chief Andrew Stock, Fire Chief Brian Hersom, Burt Faehn and Dave Hickey.

Declaring a quorum present, Mayor Tensen called the meeting to order and the group repeated the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Tensen asked for approval of the agenda with addition to 9A. – Election judge resolution. On a motion by Councilwoman Frahm with a second from Councilman A. Tufto to approve the agenda with the addition of 9A. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Frahm and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: Prestholdt. Motion carries.

On motion by Olson with a second from Councilman S. Tufto to approve Consent Agenda items #4 and #15, approval of the January 7, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes and January bills paid and 4th Quarter Financial information. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Frahm and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: Prestholdt. Motion carries.

Chief Andrew Stock addressed council. With the hiring of Officer Nick Vorvick, to replace Officer Brandon Gosson, he would like to see the council support Officer Vorvick by allowing him to remain with the West Central SWAT unit. This is an additional cost to the department of \$1,500 per year. Officer Vorvick will be the only police officer from Dawson with the SWAT unit. On motion from Councilman Olson to approve Officer Vorvick to continue with his SWAT duties and a second by Councilman S. Tufto. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Frahm and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: Prestholdt. Motion carries.

Jim Lehman with Dawson Bowl has applied for a full on-sale intoxicating liquor license. He has chosen to go this route because 3.2 products are harder to get and variety is limited. He wants to be able to sell beer at the bowling alley. He will cancel his 3.2 license and his set-up license. All needed information has been turned in. Discussion. On motion from Councilman Fish with a second from Councilman Olson to approve the strong liquor license. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Frahm and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: Prestholdt. Motion carries.

Casey's liquor renewal application has been received. All appropriate paperwork is in order. Motion made by Councilman Olson to renew Casey's 3.2 liquor license with a second by Councilman A. Tufto. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Frahm and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: Prestholdt. Motion carries.

Lac qui Parle County has an updated mitigation plan. The original one was from 2011. This is countywide. The council supported this plan in the past. On motion from Councilman Fish with a second by

Councilwoman Frahm to continue to support the new Lac qui Parle County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Frahm and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: Prestholdt. Motion carries.

A resolution was brought to council to approve elections judges for the Presidential Nomination Primary – March 3, 2020, Primary Election – August 11, 2020, and General Election November 3, 2020. This list includes those available to work and alternate judges. Motion made by Councilman Fish with a second by Councilman S. Tufto to approve the election judges list. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Frahm and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: Prestholdt. Motion carries.

Councilman Prestholdt was approached about starting a community garden. His thought was possibly having it inside the skating rink. There is water close by and the boards would serve as protection. Maintenance Superintendent Powers stated that there has been chemical sprayed to help keep weeds from growing. The soil in that area would need to be tested first. With the absence of Councilman Prestholdt, motion made by Councilman Fish with a second by Councilman S. Tufto to table the community garden subject until next council meeting. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Frahm and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: Prestholdt. Motion carries.

EDA minutes were included in the council packets. The Dawson EDA is looking for a letter of support from the city council to apply for grant dollars from the USDA Rural Business Development Fund to establish a revolving loan fund. Councilman Fish motioned to sign a letter of support to the USDA with a second by Councilman A. Tufto. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Frahm and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: Prestholdt. Motion carries.

Computer Commuter update is for information only.

Maintenance Superintendent Brent Powers' Report

Powers gave an update of the upcoming infrastructure project. It is his understanding that all streets in Dawson currently gravel, will need to have residents petition the council to have these streets paved during the new project. These streets would include but are not limited to North 4th, North 5th, Viking, Riverview Estates project area etc....

Because of the school's upcoming construction, it was recommended by the city engineer to work with the school to place underground infrastructure during their construction project and finish with street tarring once their construction is complete.

Councilman Olson asked about the water problem on North 4th & 5th Streets and what was going to be done to alleviate that. Discussion.

Included with the infrastructure will be a new water tower. The city water tower is currently located within the AGP complex. Different areas were discussed with the engineer. The most feasible area would be to locate the new tower on the gravel lot next to the ambulance garage. This is a city owned lot and if need be the road will be narrowed a little to accommodate the tower. The closest home owner to the

tower would be Carol Phillips. The tower would be centrally located and have a main running each direction underground to the tower. The current tower has one main.

Sidewalks around the city were discussed again. The city engineer felt that having sidewalks on both side of each street was too costly. 5th and 6th streets need sidewalks because they are considered county roads. All council reviewed the safe routes to school maps provided by Schuelke-Sampson and asked many questions. Suggestions were made that the city keep one side of the sidewalks clean in the winter and spread the cost of this to the entire community. This would help ensure there was open sidewalks for walkers and children alike. A motion was made by Councilman Fish to adopt the Linden Street priority sidewalk route with a second from Councilman A. Tufto. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Frahm and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: Prestholdt. Motion carries.

City Manager Tami Schuelke-Sampson Report

A. With the Presidential Nomination Primary on Tuesday, March 3rd, 2020 the council meeting will have to be moved to the second Tuesday of the month. The new date will be Tuesday, March 10th, 2020. A motion was made by Councilman Fish to move the March meeting with a second by Councilman A. Tufto. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Frahm and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: Prestholdt. Motion carries.

With nothing else on the agenda, on a motion by Councilman A. Tufto with a second by Councilman Olson to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

City Clerk/Treasurer

Mayor