

Dawson City Council Minutes
April 17, 2018
5:30 PM

The Dawson City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at 5:30 PM in the City Council Chambers.

Councilpersons present: Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Dave Lien, Councilman Steven Tufto, Councilman Charlie Prestholdt, Councilwoman Becky Bothun, and Councilman Al Tufto.

Others present: Mayor Randy Tensen, City Attorney Rick Stulz, Payroll/Utility Billing Clerk Jill Kemen, City Manager Tami Schuelke-Sampson, County Assessor Lori Schwendemann, City Assessor Beth Westby, Lannie Ashling, Claire Ashling, LQP County Fairboard Member Clair Anderson, United Way Sarah Kicmal, Max Kicmal, and Glenn Carlson.

Declaring a quorum, 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 of 11a. Shane Tappe demo property. On a motion by Councilman Lien with a second from Councilman Prestholdt to approve the agenda with the addition. Voting in favor Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Dave Lien, Councilman Al Tufto, Councilwoman Becky Bothun and Councilman Charlie Prestholdt. Motion passed.

Mayor Tensen asked for approval of the April 3, 2018 Council Meeting minutes. On a motion by Councilman S. Tufto with a second from Councilman Prestholdt to approve the council minutes. Voting in favor Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Dave Lien, Councilman Al Tufto, Councilwoman Becky Bothun and Councilman Charlie Prestholdt. Motion passed.

Mayor Tensen then opened the 10 minute public forum. Hearing nothing, Mayor Tensen closed the public forum.

The Born Learning Trails in Southwest Minnesota was presented by Sarah Kicmal. Bringing with her replica signage and photos, she addressed the Council. Born Learning Trails are comprised of 10 signs with corresponding activities along with signage designed to engage adults with their children during park play. To date, United Way has 9 trails already in place but none in Lac qui Parle County. These trails are geared towards early childhood ages, but any age can find them enjoyable. It is a visual reminder to encourage and learn together without the use of technology. The total cost for the Born Learning Trail kit is \$1,450, which will all be covered by United Way. Kicmal will ask for hardware, quick-crete and posts to be donated and in return the signs will acknowledge the donations. Volunteers will be needed to help with the installation and paint. The City would have to commit to support and upkeep such as mowing around the posts. The City will also replace the sidewalk at Veterans Park to accommodate this new trail. On a motion made by Councilman Prestholdt with a second by Councilman Olson to bring the Born Learning Trail to town at Veterans Park and replace the existing sidewalk to accommodate the trail. Voting in favor Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Dave Lien, Councilman Al Tufto, Councilwoman Becky Bothun and Councilman Charlie Prestholdt. Motion passed.

Clair Anderson with the Lac qui Parle County Fairboard was present to request a yearly donation from the City of Dawson for \$2,000.00. Up until recently, the fair has been self-sufficient. Several issues have come

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up recently for the fairboard to address. There is mowing, building repair, maintenance, and a new carnival to name a few. Because of these items and others, the fair is struggling to break even. They are also gearing up for the 150 county fair and would like to use additional funds to make this a fantastic event. Glenn Carlson asked about the non-profit status of the fair to be eligible for pull-tab money. Anderson responded by saying they are not a 501(c)3. Councilman Prestholdt commented that the midway is the best they have had in a long time. Anderson stated that the carnival was returning in 2018. He also is requesting funds from all cities in Lac qui Parle County as well as townships. Anderson left an official donation request with the City office and asked for consideration on this matter. The council tabled a decision until next meeting.

Lori Schwendemann, LqP County Assessor and Beth Westby, Dawson City Assessor were present to continue with the Board of Appeal and Equalization that was recessed from April 3, 2018 meeting. Schwendemann explained that after viewing Tom Schutz's home, she felt his home was average instead of good. Explaining the projects that still need to be finished, she felt comfortable lowering his value to \$102,500 from \$106,800. The Ashling home, however, she felt no additional changes needed to be made. She and Westby have viewed the home and feel they are fair with the value. Vince Adelman home on 980 Ash Street was reviewed by Westby. After their visit, no change was made because Adelman didn't reach back out to Westby. Schwedemann also shared that a message from the State about storage pods would be forthcoming. When she has her answer, she will let the City office know. Appeals training was encouraged for all City Council members. Olson was reminded his license expires this year. The training is available for all on-line and opens July 1. Reminding the Council this is their meeting, they can choose to accept the recommendations of Schwendemann and Westby or motion to send the property to the county for the County Board of Equalization and Appeals process for those that attended the local board meeting. Councilman Prestholdt stated he feels bad for all parties and has empathy for the large jump in taxes for one year. Lannie Ashling said he realizes inflation happens but has an issue with the amount of increase in one year. He feels to tackle the house on Pine is a huge project especially with the tax burden already laid on it. He is just looking for some understanding. Councilman Prestholdt asked if he had any interest in working with the historical society. Ashling stated he has never looked into it and would be open to doing so. When asked what the 2019 projected taxes would be, Schwedemann answered that varies with the City levy and thus she has no way of knowing. Councilman Prestholdt would like to see this parcel go to the County Board. Ms. Claire Ashling spoke to the history of her home. She shared that her life savings was in that home and didn't find it fair to pass the tax burden on to the next generation by deferring her taxes. She just wants what's fair and this just isn't fair. On a motion made by Councilman Olson with a second by Councilman Prestholdt to approve the recommendation for the Tom Schutz's home on 1155 Walnut. Voting in favor Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Dave Lien, Councilman Al Tufto, Councilwoman Becky Bothun and Councilman Charlie Prestholdt. Motion passed. On a motion made by Councilman Olson with a second by Councilman Prestholdt to recommend sending the Ashling home on 1122 Pine Street to the County Board of Equalization and Appeal process. Voting in favor Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Dave Lien, Councilman Al Tufto, Councilwoman Becky Bothun and Councilman Charlie Prestholdt. Motion passed.

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Schommer's Concessions and Catering, LLC., applied for a peddler's permit to operate his food truck on public streets during various undecided times of the year. This food truck will be Countryside Public Health inspected and insured. The correct paperwork will be filed with the City once this is achieved. On a motion made by Councilman Lien and seconded by Councilman S. Tufto to approve the peddler's permit on conditions that all paperwork is filed with the City. Voting in favor Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Dave Lien, Councilman Al Tufto, Councilwoman Becky Bothun and Councilman Charlie Prestholdt. Motion passed.

Attorney Stulz said the Dawson-Boyd Schools have agreed to a long term lease for the football field during football season only. All liability will be assumed by the school and operation of the street as well on game nights. If this is okay with Council, Stulz will draft an agreement and bring it to the next meeting.

When initially voted upon, the Dawson Bank Museum was given 6 months of free water and sewer from the City to be revisited after that timeframe. After the Museum held their first meeting, Councilman Prestholdt reported to the Council that they are looking to possibly have \$200 at the end of the year. The museum currently has a renter in the building on a 5 year lease for \$400 per month. Mayor Tensen suggested putting in a donation box to help with expenses. Councilman Prestholdt answered that is looking to be done however the museum is not flush with money. He reminded the Council of what it would have cost the City if the City would have had to tear down the building. Councilman Lien said it bothers him that they can't budge on Ashling's taxes but are willing to give water away to the museum. He feels this is a double standard. Councilman Olson stated that Ms. Clair Ashling is no different than Mr. Dennis Anderson. Glenn Carlson asked what the board's name is making the bank museum decisions. Attorney Stulz said the name was Dawson Historical Group. On a motion made by Councilman Lien with a second by Councilman A. Tufto to start charging the City bill to the museum in April with the first bill coming in May. Voting in favor Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Dave Lien, and Councilman Al Tufto. Voting against Councilwoman Becky Bothun. Councilman Charlie Prestholdt abstained. Motion passed.

Citywide Clean-up Day is May 21, 2018. Kemen stated that \$11,193.25 was collected by the City through the monthly clean up charge on the utility bill statements. The expenses to the City were \$11,663.40, of which \$9,768.40 was paid to Olson Sanitation and \$1,895.00 was paid to LqP County for television disposal. On a motion made by Councilman A. Tufto and a second by Councilman Prestholdt to leave the clean-up program the same for 2018. Voting in favor Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Dave Lien, Councilman Al Tufto, Councilwoman Becky Bothun and Councilman Charlie Prestholdt. Councilman Jeff Olson abstained. Motion passed.

Shane Tapped submitted two bids for clean-up of the house at 320 Oak Street purchased from the County. The lowest bid was Citrowske Excavating LLC. for \$6,779.00. The bids had previously been submitted on the County level with the Citrowske bid being pre-approved for the County Demolition Assistance Grant Program. The County agrees to reimburse Tappe \$2,459.25 once the work is completed. The City's share would be \$3,500.00 and Tappe's share would be \$819.75. On a motion made by Councilman Lien with a

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second by Councilman Olson to approve the Citrowske bid and agreeing to pay \$3,500.00 to Tappe after the work has been complete. Voting in favor Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Kemen and Vicky Dale, Part time Administrative Assistant, met with Ashlie Johnson from Countryside Public Health to prepare a budget for Dawson Bikes. Presented at Council was the preliminary plan to purchase two bike racks and two bikes along with paint and signage. One bike will be donated by Mayor Randy Tensen and additional in-kind donations will consist of storage, labor, assembly and welding. After reviewing the plan, Councilman S. Tufto will donate two 16" bikes, Councilman Olson will donate a bike and City Attorney Rick Stulz will also donate a bike to the fleet. Farmers for Dawson will donate \$500.00 towards the City in-kind share as well. On a motion made by Councilman Olson with a second by Councilman S. Tufto to go ahead with the presented SHIP plan. Voting in favor Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Dave Lien, Councilman Al Tufto, Councilwoman Becky Bothun and Councilman Charlie Prestholdt. Motion passed.

The Computer Commuter update was given for information only.

Maintenance Superintendent Brent Powers' Report

A. Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water contacted Powers to seek permission to move the building 30 to 35 feet to the North. There is an overhead wire that goes right over where the building was originally to be built. LPRW would like to see location updated in the lease agreement. On a motion made by Councilman A. Tufto and a second by Councilman Olson to approve moving the structure 35' and changing the lease agreement. Voting in favor Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Dave Lien, Councilman Al Tufto, Councilwoman Becky Bothun and Councilman Charlie Prestholdt. Motion passed.

City Manager Tami Schuelke-Sampson Report given by Jill Kemen

A. EDA Update. With Schuelke-Sampson being absent, Councilman Jeff Olson gave the EDA update. The EDA is looking for approval for the City of Dawson's commitment for the Hedgehog Grant. The proposal with this grant writing is the City agrees to pay \$2,000 and the other half will be funded by the grant. In a motion made by Councilman Prestholdt with a second by Councilman A. Tufto to approve the funds and sign the contract. Voting in favor Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Dave Lien, Councilman Al Tufto, Councilwoman Becky Bothun and Councilman Charlie Prestholdt. Motion passed.

B. Tokens for Tomatoes is a program made possible through Countryside Public Health. Tokens will be distributed for \$2.00 each to be used at the local farmer's market for produce. The vendors will then submit the tokens for reimbursement. These tokens will work at all the local farmer's markets.

C. The pool will open tentatively June 1 or 2 depending on weather. All current prices and hours will remain the same for 2018. Credit cards are now accepted at the City Office during regular business hours to pay for lessons and passes.

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The Lac qui Parle County 150 years 2021 meeting was given for information only. Please feel free to attend.

Hearing nothing else, on a motion made by Councilman Olson with a second by Councilman A. Tufto to adjourn the meeting. Voting in favor Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Dave Lien, Councilman Al Tufto, Councilwoman Becky Bothun and Councilman Charlie Prestholdt. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Payroll/Utility Billing Clerk

Mayor