

Dawson City Council Meeting
October 4th, 2022
5:30 p.m.

The Dawson City Council met in regular session Tuesday, October 4th, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Dawson City Hall Council Chambers.

Councilpersons present: Councilman Jeff Fish, Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Prestholdt and Councilman Adelman. Councilman Petersen and Councilman Steve Tufto were absent. Others present: Mayor Randy Tensen, Interim City Manager Jill Kemen, Deputy City Clerk Kristin Daline, Public Works Superintendent Kurt Collins, Public Works Supervisor Colin Lee, City Attorney Rick Stulz, Alex Ourada with Minnwest Bank Insurance, Jeff Kuhn City Engineer, Dave Hickey, Dave Falness, Lowell Tyler and Lauren Olson.

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

Councilman Fish motioned to approve the agenda with addition of 9D, water meters, with a second from Councilman Prestholdt. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson and Councilman Prestholdt. Absent: Councilman Tufto and Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion passed.

Councilman Adelman motioned to approve the September 20th Council Minutes with a correction under Old Business, Olson Sanitation Contract. Councilman Adelman voting against the Olson Sanitation Contract terms. A second by Councilman Prestholdt to approve the September 20th Council Minutes with the correction. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson and Councilman Prestholdt. Absent: Councilman Tufto and Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion passed.

10 Minute Public Forum

Mayor Tensen opened the 10 minute public forum at 5:33 p.m. Dave Hickey suggested residents fill out a form before the Council meetings if they would like to speak in the 10 Minute forum. The school does this, and gives the Board time to look into the question being asked. Mayor Tensen said this will be looked at when new people join the Council in January. Hearing nothing else, Mayor Tensen closed the 10 minute public forum at 5:34 pm.

Alex Ourada with Minnwest Bank Insurance was present to talk about the insurance renewal for the city's property & casualty policy. The cost of the policy for 2023 will be \$79,616, which is \$9,800 less than the previous year with very little changes to the policy. The workmans compensation policy increased from \$49,909 to \$56,000. Increase is due to the amount of PTSD claims insurance companies have seen recently. A Waiver of Liability Coverage was included in the packet. Councilman Olson motioned for the City to not waive the monetary limits with a second from Councilman Fish. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson and Councilman Prestholdt. Absent: Councilman Tufto and Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion passed.

City Engineer Jeff Kuhn was present to give an update on the Phase 2 street project. Currently there are two grading crews, a curb crew, and three underground crews in town. Bituminous will be coming back towards the end of October, around the 26th for paving. The Chestnut crew is progressing in the next

two weeks on 10th Street West to 12th Street. The second crew on 12th has started on storm sewer. The third crew will be on 11th Street between Locust & Elm for the next two weeks. The crew is subcutting on 11th Street and placing curb and gutter on Pine & 15th Street. Most of the curb and gutter on 15th Street is in and they will continue to work towards coming down 14th Street and working towards the school. Overall the project is progressing well. There have been minor changes that are to be expected and feel confident with the project being complete next year. The main goal is to get all underground done this year, with as much paved with a first lift as they can. Streets South of river have the first lift complete. They are working on temporary turf establishment in yards, and will continue with final restoration next year. Concerns are being addressed in a timely fashion. Mayor Tensen addressed Public Works Superintendent Kurt Collins asking if the City crew is happy with streets on the south side for snow removal. Kurt agreed they are happy with how the streets turned out and don't have any concerns for moving snow. Councilman Prestholdt said the only complaint he has heard is the timing of the project around the school and the start of school. Kuhn said they have been in constant communication with the school as well as coordinating with other utilities such as Otter Tail Power. The School was still in session when Ryan Contracting started in town so they felt it best to start South of the river. The school was still doing their own construction so Ryan Contracting was trying to avoid that area. Councilman Adelman asked about the storm sewer on the West end (county tile by hospital). They were able to intercept and tie it in going around the old Sandtrap building. Still working on Kuechle's punchlist. Dunnicks will fix the area of asphalt between 5th & 6th Streets on Locust. Curb work will be fixed in November in Phase 1. Kuhn isn't concerned about the work being finished. The City has enough retainage if the work is not completed to hire someone else to do it, but that is unlikely to happen.

Public Works Superintendent Kurt Collins

Bargen was in town to do crack filling. They did miss a few spots and will be coming back this week. The guys have been busy spraying and mowing, spraying is complete. The Boy Scout building is being shingled this week. Mayor Tensen mentioned there are some trees in Phase 1 along the sidewalks that need to be trimmed. Kurt said the tree trimming will be addressed.

Interim City Manager Jill Kemen

- A. The EDA approved a \$1,000 fix up grant. The grant will be available as matching funds, spend \$1,000 and the city will match \$1,000. Ten grants will be awarded as first come first serve.
- B. JMHS & Farmers for Dawson each donated \$5,000 towards the Blandin foundation grant. Blandin Foundation will meet with Hillary with CEDA.
- C. Prairie Waters will be giving \$750 to Dawson & Madison this year for each city to do a promotion. The City of Dawson will be working in conjunction with the Chamber to promote "Christmas in the Park". The City is looking at doing it the same weekend as the Vendor fair in November.
- D. The S&P call went very well and Rebecca was happy with the results. Results will be published tomorrow.

Old Business

- A. Tree Grant Update-Letters went out to all residents that applied. Tree reimbursement is \$140 per tree, with a max of two trees per household. The office has started a wait list for those interested, but missed the deadline.
- B. Small Cities Grant-the City is currently looking for eight homes that meet the guidelines, as people

have dropped out. Residents pay \$5,000 to get \$20,000. The City will work with UMRDC to push the program again as we would like 18 residential properties. There are four businesses that are in different phases of the application process.

C. The Thomson Detachment Petition was tabled. No settlement to bring at this time. Mediation on Thursday. There will be a hearing on the 13th and a full trial February 2023.

D. DSG has extended the contract for an extra 30 days. Rebecca has reached out to local lenders. As she stated in the memo that was sent to Council members, no lender will lock in the funds until next year. The best case is waiting, if the City borrows money now interest will have to be paid. Jeff will also follow up with Larry about meter delivery estimate. The City could complete a due to/due from for the meters and finance half. A motion to award the bid to DSG was made by Councilman Adelman with a second from Councilman Prestholdt. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson and Councilman Prestholdt. Absent: Councilman Tufto and Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion passed.

New Business

A. A resolution authorizing the city to enter into a credit enhancement program agreement with PFA for the 2022E Storm Sewer Bonds was provided in the packet. Taft forgot to send a resolution for the last Council meeting so a motion is needed to ratify the resolution. Councilman Fish motioned to approve the resolution with a second from Councilman Olson. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson and Councilman Prestholdt. Absent: Councilman Tufto and Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion passed.

B. Resolution 2022D (street) approving the authorization for the issuance of GO improvement and refunding was provided in the packet. The resolution allows Ehlers, Jill and Baird to sell the bonds on or around October 12th. Councilman Prestholdt motioned to approve the resolution with a second from Councilman Fish. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson and Councilman Prestholdt. Absent: Councilman Tufto and Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion passed.

C. Resolution 2022E (sewer) approving the authorization for the issuance of GO improvement and refunding was provided in the packet. The resolution allows Ehlers, Jill and Baird to sell the bonds on or around October 12th. Councilman Olson motioned to approve the resolution with a second from Councilman Fish. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson and Councilman Prestholdt. Absent: Councilman Tufto and Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion passed.

D. Pay estimate #5, Ryan Contracting was included in the packet. Ryan Contracting is requesting \$1,125,971.19. This amount has been verified by the engineers who recommend the City pay. On motion by Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman Prestholdt to approve the pay request. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson and Councilman Prestholdt. Absent: Councilman Tufto and Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion passed. Kuhn said that Bituminous will be on the next pay estimate and material is all here, with just a small portion to pay yet.

E. Kemen spoke again about the Mainstreet Fix up grant through the EDA. The grant will be available to ten businesses in Dawson, not limited to Mainstreet. This is a grant to give back to the businesses to give them the opportunity to update their curb appeal with lighting, paint or whatever they choose. This is for exterior purposes only. On motion by Councilman Prestholdt with a second from Councilman

Fish to approve the Mainstreet Fix up grant through the EDA. Hillary will bring to the businesses as well as Chamber. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson and Councilman Prestholdt. Absent: Councilman Tufto and Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion passed.

Presentation of Claims

On motion by Councilman Fish with a second by Councilman Prestholdt to approve the financials for August. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson and Councilman Prestholdt. Absent: Councilman Tufto and Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion passed.

Miscellaneous Announcements

The next Council Meeting is Tuesday, October 18th at 5:30 p.m. This will be a Work Session Meeting, no motions will be made.

Adjourn Meeting

Hearing nothing else, on motion by Councilman Fish with a second from Councilman Adelman to adjourn the meeting. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson and Councilman Prestholdt. Absent: Councilman Tufto and Councilman Petersen. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Kristin Daline, Deputy City Clerk

Randy Tensen, Mayor