

Dawson City Council Minutes  
May 1, 2018  
5:30 PM

The Dawson City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 5:30 PM in the City Council Chambers.

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

Councilwoman absent: Becky Bothun

Others present: Mayor Randy Tensen, City Attorney Rick Stulz, Payroll/Utility Billing Clerk Jill Kemen, Maintenance Superintendent Brent Powers, Tom Schutz, Dennis Anderson, Ruby Anderson, Burdette Faehn, and Morrie Schacherer.

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 as written. On a motion made by Councilman Lien with a second from Councilman A. Tufto to approve the agenda. Voting in favor Councilman Olson, Councilman Lien, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman Prestholdt and Councilman A. Tufto. Councilwoman absent Becky Bothun. Motion passed.

Mayor Tensen asked for approval of consent agenda items number 4, Approval of the April 17, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes, and number 12, April bills paid and 1<sup>st</sup> quarter financials. Motion made by Councilman S. Tufto to approve consent agenda items number 4 & 12 with a second by Councilman Olson. Voting in favor Councilman Olson, Councilman Lien, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman Prestholdt and Councilman A. Tufto. Councilwoman absent Becky Bothun. Motion passed.

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

Dennis Anderson next addressed the Council on behalf of the Dawson Bank Museum building on Main Street. After six months of water usage paid for by the City, the City previously motioned to stop paying the bill, thus leaving the bill payable by the Dawson Bank Museum owners. Anderson wanted the Council to know where the museum was sitting financially and where they plan to be in the months to come. He shared some of the big expenses like insurance, sewer problems, and cement in the basement to replace the dirt floor. Also mentioned was the roof would only be viable for approximately 5 years before needing to be replaced. Ruby Anderson stated it was the most beautiful building on Main Street. Mayor Tensen asked if Lac qui Parle County forgave any of the real estate taxes, to which Dennis Anderson replied no. Mrs. Anderson shared that financially it has cost them \$100,000.00. There is a donation box in the museum but since Thanksgiving, they have only received \$151.00. Mayor Tensen suggested creating a GoFundMe page for donations to help reach people who were previous residents that would be willing to donate. Councilman Prestholdt asked if the Council would be willing to delay the billing to the museum one more month. Councilman A. Tufto stated that summer is coming which will bring additional foot traffic through the building for more potential donations. Councilman Olson feels that the City cannot

give water away if the Council isn't willing to lower taxes too. Faehn feels there is such little water used it's hardly worth talking about. Attorney Stulz suggested the possibility of Dawson EDA willing to pay the bill without forgiving the cost altogether. After further discussion, Councilman Prestholdt said that they will have to work to come up with a fair solution.

The Lac qui Parle County Fairboard donation was presented. Discussion was held questioning what Dawson benefits from the County Fair since it is held in Madison. Councilman Lien feels that this request should come during budget time. He stated that the Fairboard should present again, at that time, with who has donated and how much. Attorney Stulz is going to find out what others are giving. This was tabled until Stulz could present on the topic again during the June meeting, after he learns of other City/Township donations.

Mayor Tensen brought up the July Council date. Originally planned for July 3<sup>rd</sup>, he requested to move the date due to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday and him being absent on July 10<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Prestholdt motioned to move the July council date from July 3<sup>rd</sup> to July 17. Councilman Tufto seconded. Voting in favor Councilman Olson, Councilman Lien, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman Prestholdt and Councilman A. Tufto. Councilwoman absent Becky Bothun. Motion passed.

Sidewalk quotes from Ken Sather Construction and Larson Brothers were presented. This is replacing the sidewalk on 7<sup>th</sup> Street south of the walking bridge for one block to accommodate for the Born Learning Trail. After discussion, on a motion by Councilman Olson with a second by Councilman Lien to accept Larson Brothers' bid. Voting in favor Councilman Olson, Councilman Lien, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman Prestholdt and Councilman A. Tufto. Councilwoman absent Becky Bothun. Motion passed.

Councilman Olson stated the Personnel Committee had the full support of the Council and the committee did a good job dealing with the issue presented to them.

#### Maintenance Superintendent Brent Powers' Report

A. Powers closed the flood gate and kicked on pumps. He also exercised the pumps and ran the generator under full load to check the operation in case the river flooding got to such a warranted level. He was pleased with how well things worked.

B. There will need to be a lot of patching of roads. The roads have several pot holes and broken tar areas and some are in really rough shape.

#### 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. Minutes for the EDA were enclosed. With the skylights removed, apartment #24 needs to be cleaned and mitigated to be rentable again as soon as possible.

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B. Dawson Bikes will have 7 bikes in their fleet. Everything has been ordered. Farmer's for Dawson contributed \$500.00 which was spent purchasing another bike rack to have at the swimming pool park. The City is looking forward to launching their fleet in May, National Bike Month.

C. The DNR is requiring a Local Water Supply Plan. This is a report that is done every 10 years. This report covers years 2005-2015. Jim Bullert, our City Engineer, can be hired to help with the details of this report. He charges \$160.00/hour. It was decided to have Kemen reach out via list service to other cities that have completed this report to find out how much work is involved. This was tabled until the June meeting after Kemen reports her findings.

D. Kemen received a thank you from the Blandin foundation for allowing Schuelke-Sampson to participate. The thank you is available for anyone to read.

E. The Computer Commuter update was received after the agenda went out so it was given to Council at the meeting for information only.

Councilman S. Tufto said he has received complaints from a few residents about Rudy Garcia at 914 Pine Street. They told him there have been several cars in the streets and repair work going on in his yard. Councilman Olson said this is in violation of City ordinances and it has now become a police matter to enforce. People having complaints are encouraged to call the police.

Councilman Olson attended the Pioneerland Library Meeting. He said the City is down to \$26,000.00 in reserves and doesn't feel the City should fall below \$20,000.00. He feels the City will have to start funding more to bring reserves back up.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM.

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Payroll/Utility Billing Clerk

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Mayor