

Dawson City Council Minutes
March 15th, 2016
5:30pm

The Dawson City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, March 15th, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall.

Councilpersons present: Heather Myers, Jeff Olson, and J.T. Schacherer.

Councilpersons absent: Becky Bothun, and David Lien.

Others Present: Mayor Merlin Ellefson, City Manager Crystal Hansonl, City Attorney Richard Stulz, City Maintenance Superintendent Brent Powers, Don Pederson, Amanda Jenson, Steve Tufto, Prairie Waters Melissa Streich, County Commissioner Terry Overlander, and County Engineer Sam Muntean.

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

Mayor Ellefson asked for approval of the agenda as printed with the additions of 5a Chamber Gambling Permit, and 12a approval of an ordinance summary. Motion made by Councilman J.T. Schacherer and seconded by Councilwoman Heather Myers. Voting in favor: Schacherer, Olson, Ellefson, Myers; voting against: none; absent: Bothun, Lien. Motion carries.

Motion made by Councilman Jeff Olson seconded by Councilman J.T. Schacherer to approve the February 16th Council Meeting Minutes. Voting in favor: Myers, Ellefson, Olson, Schacherer; voting against: none; absent: Bothun, Lien. Motion carries.

Mayor Ellefson opened the 10 minute public forum. With hearing no comments Mayor Ellefson closed the public forum.

Motion made by Councilman J.T. Schacherer seconded by Councilwoman Heather Myers to approve the VFW 5247 Liquor License Renewal. Voting in favor: Myers, Ellefson, Olson, Schacherer; voting against: none; absent: Bothun, Lien. Motion carries.

Motion made by Councilman J.T. Schacherer seconded by Councilman Jeff Olson to approve 5a the Chambers Gambling Permit request. Voting in favor: Myers, Ellefson, Olson, Schacherer; voting against: none; absent: Bothun, Lien. Motion carries.

Mayor Merlin welcomed Amanda Jenson and Councilman Jeff Olson proceeded to ask the interview questions. Mayor Merlin explained later on in the meeting that they will select a candidate for appointment.

Mayor Merlin welcomed Melissa Streich representing Prairie Waters. Melissa introduced herself and stated the purpose of Prairie Waters is to market our region. She explained Prairie Waters is

supported by local units of government. She discussed the updated antique guide and stated the yearly event was held at the Lac qui Parle Museum. Discussion. She further explained that this year they would like to make a video that highlights the different communities in the region.

County Engineer Sam Muntean is present to discuss the county's road reconstruction project scheduled to be done this summer. Because of State Aid, the County is requesting the City pass a resolution that shows support for the project. Sam stated the project is to reconstruct a portion of 37 starting at the end of the pavement just inside City limits heading east for a total of one mile. Mayor Merlin Ellefson asked about the bridge and if it is too narrow. Sam explained that the bridge meets standards at this time but at some point in the future will need to be replaced. Motion made by J.T. Schacherer and seconded by Councilman Jeff Olson to approve the resolution. Voting in favor: Myers, Ellefson, Olson, Schacherer; voting against: none; absent: Bothun, Lien. Motion carries.

Mayor Merlin welcomed Steve Tufto. Councilman Jeff Olson proceeded to ask interview questions. Mayor Merlin explained that they will vote to select the appointed candidate later during the meeting.

Motion made by Councilman Jeff Olson and Seconded by Councilwoman Heather Myers to approve the updated PERA resolution. Voting in favor: Myers, Ellefson, Olson. voting against: none; abstained: Schacherer; absent: Bothun, Lien. Motion carries.

Motion made by Councilman J.T. Schacherer and seconded by Councilwoman Heather Myers to approve the ambulance support request. Voting in favor: Myers, Ellefson, Olson. voting against: none; abstained: Schacherer; absent: Bothun, Lien. Motion carries.

Motion made by Councilman Jeff Olson and seconded by Councilman J.T. Schacherer to approve the 1st quarter Pioneerland funding request. Voting in favor: Myers, Ellefson, Olson, Schacherer; voting against: none; absent: Bothun, Lien. Motion carries.

Motion made by Councilman J.T. Schacherer and seconded by Councilwoman Heather Myers to approve the second reading of the water/sewer rate increase and base fee increase ordinance. Mayor Merlin Ellefson explained there is some language change in the ordinance. Voting in favor: Myers, Ellefson, Olson, Schacherer; voting against: none; absent: Bothun, Lien. Motion carries.

Motion made by Councilman Jeff Olson and seconded by Councilman J.T. Schacherer to approve 12a. A summary of the water/sewer ordinance for publication. Voting in favor: Myers, Ellefson, Olson, Schacherer; voting against: none; absent: Bothun, Lien. Motion carries.

Discussion on the two candidates for appointment. Councilman J.T. Schacherer stated it is a very difficult decision because both candidates are very well qualified and would do a good job. Discussion. Mayor Merlin Ellefson asked for a motion for nominations. Councilman J.T. Schacherer motioned to nominate both Steve Tufto and Amanda Jenson seconded by Councilman Jeff Olson. Voting in favor: Myers, Ellefson, Olson, Schacherer; voting against:

none; absent: Bothun, Lien. Motion carries. Mayor Merlin then asked for a role call vote. Councilman J.T. Schacherer: Steve, Councilwoman Heather Myers: Amanda, Councilman Jeff Olson: Steve, Mayor Merlin Ellefson: Steve. Steve Tufto was selected as the new council member.

City Mtn. Supt. Brent Powers' report.

1. Brent presented two quotes for seal coating. Brent also stated the trail needed to be done and estimated the cost to be around \$9,500. Councilman J.T. Schacherer stated he would like to see the trail done and to go with the lower quote Bituminous Paving for seal coating. Motion made by J.T. Schacherer to go with Bituminous Paving and to do the Trail seconded by Councilman Jeff Olson. Voting in favor: Myers, Ellefson, Olson, Schacherer; voting against: none; absent: Bothun, Lien. Motion carries. Merlin asked if flushable wipes have been a concern. Brent stated it is not too bad but they do have to clean them out. Merlin suggested an article in the paper informing residents about the concern with flushable wipes. Brent stated that can be done.

City Manager Crystal's report.

1. Crystal stated she has been in contact with DSI. She stated right now we are needing one more commercial business and we have 7 out of 16 for housing. She stated she expressed concerns on the lower number of housing, but DSI stated this is normal at this stage.
2. Crystal stated the Microfiche equipment at the library is out of date and is no longer compatible with upgrades. She stated there is a grant with the Historical Society that will pay for the equipment outside the scanner portion. She stated Pioneerland will pay for the scanner out of reserves. Total cost for the new equipment is \$9,385 and a little over \$2,000 for the scanner portion. Crystal asked Council for permission to move forward with applying for the grant. Motion made by Councilman Jeff Olson and seconded by Councilman J.T. Schacherer to apply for the grant. Voting in favor: Myers, Ellefson, Olson, Schacherer; voting against: none; absent: Bothun, Lien. Motion carries.
3. Crystal stated at this time she is waiting to hear back from the The Rusty Duck if they are interested in purchasing part of the City owned parking lot. She stated Marc's on Main is not interested at this time and potentially Jim's Clothing is no longer interested.
4. Crystal stated at the next meeting will be the Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Motion made by Councilman Jeff Olson and seconded by J.T. Schacherer to approve the February bills paid. Voting in favor: Myers, Ellefson, Olson, Schacherer; voting against: none; absent: Bothun, Lien. Motion carries.

Motion by Councilman Schacherer seconded by Councilman Olson to adjourn the council meeting. Motion carries and the meeting adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Mayor Merlin Ellefson

City Manager Hansonl