

Dawson City Council  
Work Session  
April 18th, 2023  
5:30 p.m.

Councilpersons present: JT Schacherer, Vince Adelman, Jeff Olson, Charlie Prestholdt, Jake Bothun and David Hansen. Others present: Mayor Randy Tensen, City Manager Jill Kemen, City Clerk Kristin Daline, Public Works Superintendent Kurt Collins, Public Works Supervisor Colin Lee, City Attorney Rick Stulz, Nancy Falness and guest, Lauren Olson and Duane Hastad.

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

Councilman Prestholdt motioned to approve the agenda, with a second from Councilman Schacherer. Voting in favor Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Bothun, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Schacherer and Councilman Olson. Absent: None. Against: None. Motion passed.

10-Minute Public Forum

Mayor Tensen opened the public forum at 5:31 pm. Hearing nothing, Mayor Tensen closed the 10-minute public forum at 5:32 pm.

Public Works Superintendent Kurt Collin's Report

Update on the flood. Sandbags were available to residents to fill at the Road & Bridge garage. There were a few residents that took advantage with no word if anyone had any issues. Olson's hauled gravel in at the end of the new road exiting Carlson Addition. The road was soft at the end where it met with Skunk Hollow. The gate was closed on Tuesday at 10pm and reopened when the water leveled to 37 feet. There was a difference of a foot compared to the graph the weather channel provides.

City Manager Jill Kemen's Report

Lori Schwendeman and Tami Mortenson with the LqP County assessor's office will be here April 19<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6 pm for the Board of Equalization. They do prefer a phone call ahead of time if you are planning to come. If residents have questions about their home evaluations, this would be the time to ask. Council does not have to be here.

Discussion at the Community Meeting included a list of problems and concerns at the softball fields and concession stand. A finance committee and a work committee were formed with five volunteers for each. The Finance committee will work on funding and grants. It was apparent that the needs need to be a community effort between the school, outside residents and the city. The tennis courts were brought up briefly. Through the Blandin Foundation, one tennis court and one basketball court was included in the grant. At this time, the city has received one bid and there would not be enough funds to purchase new grills for the shelters or kayaks for the river after resurfacing the two courts. The Lac qui Parle school may add the tennis courts to their referendum to have them resurfaced at LqP Valley.

Update on Phase 2 street project. Temporary water will begin next week on the 24th. They will start at Spruce and 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> between Pine and Chestnut. On May 8<sup>th</sup>, crews will begin work on 6<sup>th</sup> St. from Spruce to Ash. Crews will then move north and start working from Chestnut to the Railroad around June 1<sup>st</sup>. Underground utilities will follow the removals.

Ryan will detour vehicles to County Road 8 (Helgeson Bridge) to 301<sup>st</sup> Street. The city will be sending letters to business owners making them aware of the timing. Hoping to be done by the end of August. Councilman Prestholdt expressed that he was happy with how the city and Ryan made the gravel streets in town usable in a timely matter. The weather was not in our favor.

Discussion Topics:

A. Hackberry Street Condition. Jill wanted to provide information on the condition of Hackberry Street based on concerns for the street that Kurt and Collin have expressed. Hackberry Street is not included in the street project. The city sent letters last June to property owners, and then went back to the R&B committee. An estimate for a mill and overlay was provided in the packet. There are cracks and chunks coming up. Not all owners replied to the letter, but the ones that did were either for or against resurfacing the street. Discussion on drainage and if it's worth seal coating. Councilman Olson asked if Kurt could check into slurry? There is a large drop off onto Birch from 6<sup>th</sup> Street and also on Hackberry from 6<sup>th</sup>. Those should get better when 6<sup>th</sup> Street is resurfaced this summer. The worst part of Hackberry Street is the first block from 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Discussion on baseball field road. Councilman Hansen made a statement that the focus for new streets should be streets residents live on.

B. Hydro-Klean Update. A bill from Hydro-Klean was provided in the packet. Kurt said they were here 4-5 times to fix the hole but after failed attempts, blew off the project and now they want to get paid. The leak is currently dumping 5-10 gallons/minute into the sanitary sewer that the city is treating, but do not need to be. Kurt needs an explanation on the \$4,500 change order, he doesn't understand where this came from. Kurt will keep trying to get ahold of the company for more clarification before he feels comfortable paying the bill. Another option would be digging the whole thing up and getting a whole new manhole. Kurt will get a price on this as well.

C. Parking Update. The current parking ordinance was included in the packet. City Attorney Rick Stulz will re-write the ordinance clarifying parking as marked. This will go in affect this Fall when Main Street is done.

D. Assessment Policy. The Assessment policy that was included in the packet was approved in 2021 which ties back to gravel streets, and property owners paying 100%. The packet also included examples of past improvement city assessment projects. Discussion on making the policy uniform in regards to gravel streets. Also included was a chart of the city's current debt.

E. Seal Coating vs. Crack Sealing. The city has a program in place for certain streets to be addresses every few years. How often it needs to be done depends on the traffic of the street. Streets that were done in the 2012 project were crack filled 2 years ago, and filled what got missed last year. The city will continue to save money towards these projects. Councilman Adelman asked about the street by the hospital where there is alligator cracking. Could look at the slurry there as well.

F. 14th Street Assessments North of Walnut Street. Knutson & Sand (Golfview Apartments) feel they do not benefit from 14<sup>th</sup> Street being paved. What other property is being assessed on three sides? This would be a shared cost with the golf course and no curb and gutter on this street. Discussion on paving this street will continue.

G. Carlson Second Addition Housing Development. The EDA will be listing the lots on Zillow with addresses. Joe is working with Ben Bothun on this. Rebecca feels we will have something that works for an apartment building. CEDA will also be reaching out to a developer from Morris as well. CEDA is also reviewing a grant that is available for single family homes.

H. Duane Hastad invoice for driveway. At the start of the project, the contract states driveways will return to previous state. Ryan Construction does not do pavers, which Duane has. Duane did all the work of taking the pavers out. Jeff Kuhn provided a point of reference with concrete \$3,000 and paved driveway \$1,000. Discussion on where Ryan Const. ended the blacktop and curbing, which needs to be extended (has been done once already). Assessment needs to be looked at as far as footage for Hastad property, currently assessing full frontage even though it was complete.

I. Phase 2 Assessment letter mailed. Some negative and some positive feedback. Quite a few people have already paid the proposed amount.

Miscellaneous Announcements

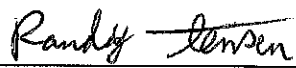
The next Council Meeting is Tuesday, May 2nd at 5:30 p.m.

All paperwork has been sent to the state for the Deputy Registrar. There will be a new window made in the office.

With nothing more to discuss, Councilman Hansen motioned to adjourn the meeting with a second from Councilman Schacherer. Voting in favor Councilman Schacherer, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Bothun, Councilman Olson and Councilman Hansen. Absent: None. Against: None. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

  
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Kristin Daline, City Clerk

  
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Randy Tensen, Mayor