

Dawson City Council Minutes  
April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
5:30 p.m.

The Dawson City Council met in regular session Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the Dawson City Hall Council Chambers.

Councilpersons present: Jeff Olson, Vince Adelman, Steve Tufto, Jeff Fish and Charlie Prestholdt. Councilman Dean Petersen was absent. Also Present: Mayor Randy Tensen, Acting City Manager Jill Kemen, Deputy Clerk Kristin Daline, Public Works Superintendent Kurt Collins, Public Works Supervisor Colin Lee, Maintenance 1 Aaron Tufo, Maintenance 1 Nick Vorvick, City Attorney Rick Stulz, Dave Hickey, Duane Hastad, Doug Peterson, Burt Faehn, Sue Westby, Lauren Olson, Kevin Ely, Deb Farmen, Tonya Thesing, Eugene Mix, County Commissioner Ben Bothun, Dick Berglund, Dawn and Lowell Tyler, Del Thielke and Gloria Kassel.

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

Councilman Olson motioned to approve the agenda with a second from Councilman Fish. Voting in favor Councilman Olson, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Prestholdt and Councilman Tufto. Absent: Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion Passed.

Councilman Fish motioned to approve consent agenda items April 5<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting Minutes with a second from Councilman Tufto. Voting in favor Councilman Olson, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Prestholdt and Councilman Tufto. Absent: Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion Passed.

#### 10 Minute Public Forum

Mayor Tensen opened the 10 minute public forum at 5:31 pm. Duane Hastad asked where the City is at with Mainstreet going to parrell parking, and if the variance had been approved. The variance will be presented at the June meeting. The car count will also be re-done in the future. Hastad complimented the County for filling in the holes on the railroad tracks and on 6<sup>th</sup> Street. County Commissioner Ben Bothun spoke on behalf of the County and a member of the Railroad Authority. He said that he will do some checking on the needed repairs at the 5<sup>th</sup> Street crossing. Sue Westby asked who she can get ahold of to talk about her street. Kemen said that the engineers are available to talk with any residents with any concerns involving their property. Hearing nothing else, Mayor Tensen closed the 10 minute public forum at 5:39 pm.

Mayor Tensen opened the regular meeting at 5:40 pm.

#### Reports of officers, boards, and committees

The Finance Committee Minutes were included in the packet. No discussion was had. On motion by Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman Fish to accept the finance committee meeting minutes as written. Voting in favor Councilman Olson, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Prestholdt and Councilman Tufto. Absent: Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion Passed.

The Park Committee Minutes were included in the packet. Councilman Prestholdt, along with Farmer's for Dawson is working on getting sponsors for a Christmas themed lighted display at Gnome Park on highway 212. Several benches are being donated in memory of loved ones in both parks. The

Committee was out and marked where the benches should be placed in Gnome Park. Jeff and Gretchen Loose have donated bean bag boards and will be located near the Band Shell Shelter House. The tennis court is scheduled to get resurfaced in May, Larson Brothers will be doing the work. Brian Bothun will be contacted to give an estimate to redo the floors at the baseball concession stand to match what he had done at the softball concessions. The school shop class will be putting up the steal siding at the softball concession stand, with Farmer's for Dawson donating the cost of materials. On motion by Councilman Prestholdt with a second from Councilman Fish to accept the park committee meeting minutes as written. Voting in favor Councilman Olson, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Prestholdt and Councilman Tufto. Absent: Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion Passed.

#### Public Works Superintendent Kurt Collin's Report

Ryan Contracting will be in town this week to do some top soil scrapping and excavation work for a holding pond in Carlson's Second Addition. They will be jack and boring under the railroad tracks near Diagonal Street, so we can expect the road to be closed until the work is complete. Matt with Widseth will be here on Thursday with the tree removal representative. The City crew has done a great job filling in pot holes around town. With the weather that we have been having, the guys have been working to keep them filled.

#### Interim City Manager Jill Kemen's Report

Kemen explained what the pink ribbons around the trees mean. There are a number of reasons for the ribbons. The streets are being widened to 36', new water and sewer lines are being placed along with curb and gutter. Bob Kuhlman asked about a tree in his yard that was marked. The water lines from the curb to the house are the homeowner's responsibility, they have the option to move the line to save the trees. Burt Faehn also asked about a boulevard tree that was on his lot. He didn't think it was right as a homeowner that he should have to pay for a water line to be moved when he didn't plant the tree.

#### Old Business

Duane Hastad addressed to the council to speak about the infrastructure project. Hastad asked if the why the City did not receive the full grant amount from PFA. The City received \$5 million in grant funding from PFA for water. Kemen explained that on the sanitary sewer side, there were more expenses in the 2019 audit, 2021 budget and 2020 un-audited numbers, versus the numbers of the 2020 audit, 2021 adjusted numbers, and the 2022 budget so the grant and loan amount have changed at PFA. The sanitary sewer grant came in at \$3,695,334 with a loan amount of \$3,401,029. Hastad asked why he was not able to drive around town with the engineer as was talked about at a prior meeting. Kemen explained that the council made the decision not to do this because of the extra expense for the engineers time, and Hastad not being a city employee. Doug Peterson addressed the council and expressed that he is not happy about 14 of his trees being marked to come down, and wanted to know where the 36' for street width came from. Del Thielke expressed that he thinks removing all the boulevard trees is a big mistake and doesn't want to see his sidewalk and driveway dug up again. Del shared that this had already been replaced when they were running new lines at the school. Sue Westby would like the city to consider keeping the streets the width that they are. She also had concerns about her driveway being taken out and a utility box in her yard.

New Business

The City Wide Cleanup is scheduled for Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. Discussion was had on rate increases for certain items. Box springs and mattresses will be \$35 a piece, all appliances and tv's will be \$25 each. All tv's will be picked up by Olson Sanitation this year. The cleanup will be complete by Tuesday evening. Remaining items will be picked up by the City and charged to the homeowner's utility bill. There will be an ad in the newspaper as well as the city website. On motion by Councilman Fish with a second from Councilman Prestholdt to approve the rate increases. Voting in favor Councilman Olson, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Prestholdt and Councilman Tufto. Absent: Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion Passed.

Miscellaneous Announcements

The Open Book meeting with Lori Schwendeman and Tami Mortenson will be Wednesday at City Hall from 5-7 pm. If you are planning to come to the meeting, Lori asked that you call her at the Court House so she can bring your property file. Keep in mind that the City does not control your property value, values are determined by home sales.

There will be a Public Hearing for those living in Phase 1 to talk about the final assessment on May 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:35 pm. All owner's will receive a letter in the mail with the assessment total. This amount can be paid upfront, or put on taxes for 15 years at 4.1%.

The next Council meeting will be held Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 pm.

Adjourn Meeting

Hearing nothing else, on motion by Councilman Olson with a second by Councilman Fish to adjourn the meeting. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Olson, Councilman Fish and Councilman Tufto. Absent: Councilman Petersen. Against: None. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

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Deputy City Clerk

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Mayor