

Dawson City Council Minutes
April 2nd, 2024
5:30 pm

Councilpersons present: David Hansen, Jake Bothun, Vince Adelman, Charlie Prestholdt, J.T. Schacherer and Jeff Olson. Others present: Mayor Randy Tensen, Public Works Superintendent Kurt Collins, City Manager Jill Kemen, City Clerk Kristin Daline, City Attorney Rick Stulz, Jon Parsons, Dave Hickey, Holly Ward, Tony Aafedt, Dain Erickson with ICS, Colin Lee, Nathan Grengs, Dennis and Ruby Anderson, and Jim Michels.

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

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

Councilman Hansen motioned to approve the consent agenda item 4, March 12th Council Minutes and item 12A, March financials with a second from Councilman Schacherer. Voting in favor Councilman Hansen, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Bothun, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Olson and Councilman Schacherer. Voting against: None. Motion passed.

10 Minute Public Forum

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

Reports of officers, boards and committees

The Above Ground Construction committee met with the school and their contractor to review the plans for an additional 44 parking spots, a cul-de-sac for bus drop off on Walnut Street, seal coating the existing parking on the south side of the community center and a drop off lane off of Locust Street for the daycare. Chris was available virtually to go through the new design at the school and Holly Ward spoke about the improvements. Collin's talked about snow removal around the school. Councilman Hansen motioned for the school to move forward with the improvements with a second from Councilman Prestholdt. Voting in favor Councilman Hansen, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Bothun, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Olson and Councilman Schacherer. Voting against: None. Motion passed.

EDA minutes from February 21st and February 25th, 2024 were included in the packet. Kemen said the EDA would like to put a \$50,000 cash donation towards the Dawson duplex project. The project is still looking for more funding. On motion from Councilman Prestholdt and a second from Councilman Hansen to approve the EDA donation of \$50,000 towards the project. Voting in favor Councilman Hansen, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Bothun, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Olson and Councilman Schacherer. Voting against: None. Motion passed.

Public Works Superintendent Kurt Collin's report

Collins has been working with the school on their street/parking project. The 8" meters have come in for the water plant and 3 well meters were shipped Monday. Meters will be installed as soon as they come in. A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for April 19th, with work starting again the beginning of May.

City Manager Jill Kemen's report

Kemen gave an update on the Dawson Duplex grant application. Donations and/or low interest loans still to be sought. Five duplexes will be built, all being a two-bedroom, bath and half with a two-car garage. All additional funds donated will help with the grant application.

The SCDP is in need of local contractors. There are currently 7 or 8 residential projects out for bid. Three commercial projects are complete out of the four. The city will be looking at getting an extension, but will wait till the middle of the summer to see how the bids come in. The program is a great deal for our homeowners. Homeowners would need to qualify and be able to put \$5,000 down for \$25,000 worth of work done on the home. An ad was put in the paper last week and also on the website.

Old Business

Bank Museum request, tabled from March 12th meeting. Councilman Prestholdt spoke on behalf of the Bank Museum as a board member for the Museum and one of 22 volunteers that helped get the Museum going when the building was taken over by the non-profit. Prestholdt talked about the history the building holds and the people that made it possible. The Museum does have the office space advertised in the paper to rent. Attorney Rick Stulz provided options to the Council in ways the city can help with the Museums financial burden. Councilman Schacherer motioned to lease the building for Riverfest for \$1,000. The restroom will be available to the public all weekend. Councilman Adelman said that Council needs to take the emotional side out of the situation and concentrate more on what city policies states. Councilman Hansen seconded the motion mentioning this will be looked at on a year-to-year basis. Voting in favor Councilman Hansen, Councilman Bothun and Councilman Schacherer. Against: Councilman Olson and Councilman Adelman. Councilman Prestholdt abstained. Motion passed.

New Business

Papa D's Diner applied for a Peddler's permit and submitted all paperwork. Councilman Schacherer motioned to approve the permit with a second from Councilman Hansen. Voting in favor Councilman Hansen, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Bothun, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Olson and Councilman Schacherer. Voting against: None. Motion passed.

An agreement for joint powers with the State of Minnesota for Minnesota internet crimes against children task force was included in the packet. On motion from Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman Schacherer to approve the agreement. Voting in favor Councilman Hansen, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Bothun, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Olson and Councilman Schacherer. Voting against: None. Motion passed.

Kemen included an Ehlers quarterly newsletter regarding 2024 property tax and market value homestead exclusion. The State is changing the exclusion amount for 2025. This should help with some of the taxes for the citizens in Dawson.

Councilman Bothun announced he was awarded the Twins Grant in the amount of \$10,000 for improvements at the softball field. This is a matching grant from area businesses. Bothun will be using the funds to replace the 4' fence on East field (est. \$16,000) to match West field. Bothun will be asking for volunteer help to install the fence. The dugouts will be getting improved as well. Olsen Plumbing has some plumbing to finish. Councilman Prestholdt thanked Bothun for all the work he put it with the softball field improvements

Ordinances and Resolutions

A Resolution showing support for the Dawson Duplex deferred loan application was presented. On motion from Councilman Schacherer with a second from Councilman Hansen to approve the resolution. Voting in favor Councilman Hansen, Councilman Adelman, Councilman Bothun, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Olson and Councilman Schacherer. Voting against: None. Motion passed.

Miscellaneous Announcements

The next city council meeting will be Tuesday, April 16th at 5:30 pm.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:24pm.

Kristin Daline, City Clerk

Randy Tensen, Mayor