

Dawson City Council Minutes

August 7, 2018

5:30 PM

The Dawson City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 7, 2018 at 5:30 PM in the City Council Chambers.

Councilpersons present: Councilman Dave Lien, Councilman Charlie Prestholdt, Councilman Al Tufto and Councilwoman Becky Bothun.

Councilmen absent: Jeff Olson and Steve Tufto.

Others present: Mayor Randy Tensen, City Manager Tami Schuelke-Sampson, Payroll/Utility Billing Clerk Jill Kemen, Maintenance Superintendent Brent Powers, LqP County Engineer Sam Muntean, LqP County Project Assistant Jordan Roggenbuck, WSN Vice President Jeff Kuhn, WSN Treasurer Larry Van Hout, Dave Hickey, Terry Lodden, Roger Gritmacker, Rod Coon, Geraldyne Turner, Fire Chief Brian Hersom, Ethan Hersom, and Steve Nash.

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 Prestholdt with a second from Councilman A. Tufto to approve the agenda. Voting in favor Councilman Lien, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman A. Tufto, and Councilwoman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Olson and Councilman S. Tufto. Motion passed.

Mayor Tensen asked for approval of consent agenda items number 4, Approval of the July 17, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes, and number 16, July bills paid and 2nd quarter financials. Motion made by Councilman Lien to approve consent agenda items number 4 & 16 with a second by Councilman A. Tufto. Voting in favor Councilman Lien, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman A. Tufto, and Councilwoman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Olson and Councilman S. Tufto. Motion passed.

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

The fire alarm panel at the Dawson Library/Heritage Courts building is obsolete. A quote of \$6,114 was received from Johnson Controls to replace the panel, which is located in the front entryway. On a motion made by Councilman Prestholdt to accept the quote for replacement from Johnson Controls with a second from Councilman A. Tufto. Voting in favor Councilman Lien, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman A. Tufto, and Councilwoman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Olson and Councilman S. Tufto. Motion passed.

The Council reviewed the minutes from the Water/Wastewater Committee. Councilman Lien encouraged a visit from the MN DNR to report on the City of Dawson's aquifer. Schuelke-Sampson said she will contact to host a meeting. Concerning the DNR Water Supply Plan, Councilman A. Tufto said the bill is absorbed over 10 years of data. He gave his approval to hire Jim Bullert, Senior Project Engineer, to complete this plan for the City of Dawson. It was also noted that the plan is due in October and the City has limited staff available to help with this. On a motion made by Councilman A. Tufto to hire Jim Bullert to complete the Water Supply Plan with a second by Councilman Lien. Voting in favor Councilman Lien,

Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman A. Tufto, and Councilwoman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Olson and Councilman S. Tufto. Motion passed.

Mayor Tensen closed the council meeting at 5:35 PM and opened the public hearing for the proposed assessments for sidewalks on 5th Street.

Much discussion between landowners and the Council was had. Schuelke-Sampson stated that 5th Street is part of the Safe Walk to School Route. Councilman Prestholdt questioned if sidewalks were needed on both sides of the street. Steve Nash asked if all the sidewalks were going to be replaced. He stated that some are still in good condition. It was decided upon inspection that the sidewalk by Elaine Ohlenkamp's home and the sidewalk newly poured by Kevin Bothun's home would not need to be replaced. County Engineer, Sam Mutean, stated that it is the City's decision to do one side of the street for sidewalks, both sides or neither. Mutean stated that the City wouldn't be out any money if it was decided not to do the sidewalk project at this time. If it was decided to only do one side, the contractor has the right to rebid the project. Whether sidewalks are done or not all the ramps will be completed. The ramps do not meet the ADA standards for current sidewalks. Councilman Lien stated if we don't do something now, we just kick the can down the road. Previous projects completed had sidewalks replaced on both sides of the street. After further discussion and hearing from all audience members whom wished to speak, Councilman Prestholdt thanked them all for coming. Muntean closed the public hearing by saying that if the project is approved, the start date for sidewalks would be around August 20th. Hearing nothing else, Mayor Tensen closed the public hearing at 6:02 PM and re-opened the Council meeting.

Jeff Kuhn, WSN Vice-President, weighed in on the sidewalk matter. He said that the City should put a master sidewalk plan together and have council vote and approve a city-wide tax levy for sidewalks or make it part of the street levy.

On a motion made by Councilman Prestholdt to start with a public forum this winter doing no sidewalks now with the understanding that all of the City will do the same as what is voted on after hearing from the public. No second was made on this motion. Councilman Prestholdt rescinded his motion.

Councilman Lien said there are no solid answers on sidewalks. The goal is to replace sidewalks and streets together.

Councilwoman Bothun said that the citizens need to take pride in our City.

After further discussion, Councilman Lien motioned to replace both sides of sidewalks at the bidded price and assess as historically done in the past. Councilwoman Bothun seconded the motion. Voting in favor Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Lien and Councilwoman Bothun. Voting against Councilman A. Tufto. Absent: Councilman Olson and Councilman S. Tufto. Motion passed.

Muntean said that Jordan Roggenbuck will be the inspector on the project's mill and overlay as well as the sidewalks. Some trees will need to be removed and these will be marked. He encouraged citizens to call his office if they have any questions.

Jeff Kuhn, WSN Vice President, introduced Lawrence Van Hout, Treasurer to discuss the City's options with eligibility about receiving a low interest loan through Minnesota Public Facility Association or Rural Development. He felt that the PFA would be a better fit for Dawson. A letter has already been submitted to the Department of Health in May. This letter will rank the need within the communities of the state. The City would ask for money through a facility plan submitted by March of 2019. The proposal outlined to accumulate the facility plan is quoted at \$30,000. The City would put all the things possible in the grant because if you don't ask for help, you don't receive it. Also included in this plan would be moving the current watertower to a different location. Councilman Prestholdt motioned to proceed with the WSN proposal. Councilman A. Tufto seconded the motion. Voting in favor Councilman Lien, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman A. Tufto, and Councilwoman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Olson and Councilman S. Tufto. Motion passed.

The 3rd quarter Pioneerland Library funding request has been submitted. This is a budgeted item. On a motion made by Councilman Lien with a second by Councilwoman Bothun to approve the funding request. Voting in favor Councilman Lien, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman A. Tufto, and Councilwoman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Olson and Councilman S. Tufto. Motion passed.

Mediacom update was for information only. We are required to include this information due to our franchise agreement with them.

Demolition quotes were presented by Ken Sather to tear-down the home he owns and repurpose the lot to add an addition to his home. On a motion made by Councilman Prestholdt to accept the low bid with Sather paying the first 25% and the City contribution not to exceed \$3,500.00. Councilman A. Tufto seconded the motion. Voting in favor Councilman Lien, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman A. Tufto, and Councilwoman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Olson and Councilman S. Tufto. Motion passed.

Quotes for demolition were received from Nathan Fjerkenstad to demo property at 720 Walnut. On a motion made by Councilman Prestholdt with a second by Councilman A. Tufto to accept the low bid with Fjerkenstad paying the first 25% and the City contribution not to exceed \$3,500.00. Voting in favor Councilman Lien, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman A. Tufto, and Councilwoman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Olson and Councilman S. Tufto. Motion passed.

The Lac qui Parle Computer Commuter update was for information only.

Maintenance Superintendent Brent Powers' Report

Powers stated that tomorrow, August 8, the dirt work at the campground would begin. The sidewalk, south of the walking bridge, was to be replaced starting the week of August 13th.

Councilman Prestholdt asked if the signs for disc golf could be looked at. His guess is the mowers are getting to close and bending the signs. He asked Powers to have the signs weed whipped around instead of mowed around and back away from the sign itself.

Powers didn't know of an update on the 4th Street project. He felt maybe the City should repair it themselves. He stated the City could run a tile and open it up to tap into the tile that's already there.

City Manager Tami Schuelke-Sampson Report

A. EDA Update. Riverview Estates has now begun building their fourth home in the development. Powers will be hiring someone with a camera to check the apartment for drain cracks and leaks. The grants, Antonio with the County EDA suggested Schuelke-Sampson look into, won't work for the City. One needs to be redeveloped to use the grant and the other had a vacancy stipulation for one year in it.

B. The Dawson Bank Museum minutes were distributed. The City EDA asked the County EDA for matching funds to help with utility bill relief. The City has not heard back from the County about this matter.

C. Due to weather, the Meet at the Trail was rescheduled to August 15th at 9:30 AM.

D. Currently two people have filed for three council vacancy potions, incumbents Dave Lien and Steve Tufto. Filing is open until August 14th at 5:00 PM.

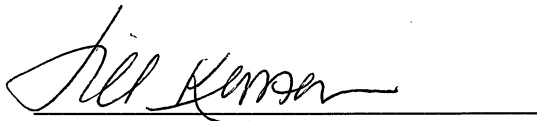
E. The Dawson Aquatic Center is closing on Friday, August 17th. This will be floatie day and the pool will be open from 1:00 PM -9:00 PM. There is a walking taco feed from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM or until gone for \$5.00.

F. There is a tax abatement / TIF training at the Madison VFW on August 17th from 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM. This meeting is open to the public. Ehlers is the presenter.


G. National Night Out was held August 7th from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM at the swimming pool park.

Hearing nothing else, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Lien with a second by Councilman A. Tufto. Voting in favor Councilman Lien, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman A. Tufto, and Councilwoman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Olson and Councilman S. Tufto. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM



Payroll/Utility Billing Clerk



Mayor