

Dawson City Council Minutes  
July 7, 2020  
5:30 PM

The Dawson City Council met in regular session Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at 5:30 PM at the Dawson City Hall.

Councilpersons present: Councilman Jeff Fish, Councilman Charlie Prestholdt, Councilman Steve Tufto, Councilman Al Tufto, Councilwoman Chessa Frahm

Councilperson absent: Councilman Jeff Olson

Others present: Mayor Randy Tensen, City Manager Tami Schuelke-Sampson, Maintenance Superintendent Brent Powers, City Attorney Rick Stulz, City Clerk/Treasurer Jill Kemen, Dave Hickey, David Pederson, Glenn Carlson, Travis Schacherer, Jan Marihart, Laura Ostlie with UMRDC

Mayor Tensen called the meeting to order and everyone repeated the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Fish motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of 14a. Resolution Approving Plans and Specifications and Ordering Advertisement for Bids and 15a. Peddlers Permit Application with a second from Councilman S. Tufto. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

On motion by Councilwoman Frahm with a second from Councilman S. Tufto to approve the consent agenda items number 4 and 20. Approve June 2, 2020 council minutes and June 10, 2020 special council meeting minutes along with financial information of June bills paid. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

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

Mayor Tensen called on Jan Marihart, who was present, to state her opinion about the dangerous railing around the mezzanine on the second floor of the library. Marihart said she had not been up there before but took her grandkids to the Pig and Elephant presentation. She stated she was genuinely concerned and scared for her grandchildren and all the little kids there because of the railing. She is scared that a child will fall through. She even took pictures of the railing. Councilman Prestholdt echoed what Marihart stated. His daughter-in-law, Leah Prestholdt, shared with him that at one point there were 75 children in the mezzanine and that any one of them could crawl through and fall below. He strongly feels something needs to be done now. Mayor Tensen asked if the city had connections to request different options. City Manager, Schuelke-Sampson, stated that plexiglass would leave too many fingerprints to have to clean. She had found a type of netting that would be reasonably priced and not require a lot of cleanup or maintenance. Maintenance Superintendent Powers stated that the railing was designed to have stainless steel roping in the middle of the metal bars. This would encourage climbing so it was decided not to install it. Mayor Tensen asked about the cost responsibility of the railing to which Schuelke-Sampson stated it was the city's. Glenn Carlson said that quarterly there are safety grants available from the State of Minnesota that could be researched to help cover the cost of the safety improvement. Schuelke-Sampson said she will look further into the netting and the price. Mayor Tensen stated that the height is fine, but the space in between the bars is the problem. On motion by Councilman Prestholdt with a second by Councilman A. Tufto to purchase the netting and

install it while continuing to look for a more permanent fix and apply for the grant to help cover the costs. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

Mayor Tensen closed the regular council meeting at 5:40 PM and opened the public hearing regarding consent to zoning permit at 1155 Walnut Street. Over 80% of the needed signatures were obtained. Hearing nothing else, Mayor Tensen closed the public hear and reopened the regular council meeting at 5:41 PM.

Laura Ostlie with Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission (UMVRDC) presented a program for small cities development. Her presentation included where the money came from, how it is dispersed and what the city needs to do to offer this to their residents and commercial owners. This SMCP will be geared towards low to moderate income persons wanting to eliminate slum and blight conditions or show an urgent community development need. The process will start with a commitment from the city to be able to survey see how many owner-occupied homes and commercial or rental homes are interested in the program. Preapplications are due in November with mid-February 2021 having final applications due. Grants will be awarded in June 2021. There is a 3-year timeframe to spend down all the grant money once awarded. There is no target zone for the SMCP. Anyone can apply from any area within the city. For every 3 applications it is typical that 1 award is given. Commercial properties can apply for an 80%/20% match with a max grant amount of \$40,000. Residents can apply for a 75%/25% grant with a max grant amount of \$25,000. The cost for the city to complete a full application would be \$10,000. UMVRDC has a local assistance fund grant that would cover half of the cost to the city application. Part of the SCDP is \$600,000 per activity for public facilities or housing rehabilitation and could benefit the city water tower project if applicable. Administrative costs to the city could be \$5,000 - \$15,000. However, there is ability to get more funds for administrative help. The UMVRDC will help administer the funds working with the community, city, and contractors. On motion by Councilman Fish to complete the application for the Small Cities Development Program with a second from Councilman Prestholdt. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

Mayor Tensen closed the regular council meeting at 5:53 PM and opened the second public hearing regarding Rezoning of the West Half of Block 37 along 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Hearing no discussion, Mayor Tensen closed the public hearing at 5:54 PM.

Councilman Prestholdt updated the council on the memorial project for COL (Ret) Wayne Moe. Moe was a veteran of WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge and Hacksaw Ridge, among others. One of his final wishes was to give back the Dawson, where he was born and raised along with his wife. His daughter, COL (Ret) Laurie Buckhout oversees the funds for the project currently being held in an investment account. A committee of four, Charlie Prestholdt, Lisa Lund, Sean Deuth, and Jill Kemen, met to give ideas to Ms. Buckhout over Zoom. The memorial is a gift to Dawson to help beautify the city and will be paid for from the investment account. Plans are to have the memorial in Veteran's Park. Councilman Prestholdt will update when more information becomes available.

On motion by Councilman Prestholdt with a second from Councilman S. Tufto to approve the Consent to Zoning Permit at 1155 Walnut Street. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

On motion from Councilwoman Frahm with a second from Councilman Fish to approve the City of Dawson Preparedness and Response Plan. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

On motion by Councilwoman Frahm with a second from Councilman Prestholdt to approve the rezoning of the West Side of Block 37 along 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

Dawson Boyd Baseball Association is requesting to have Hilltop Bar and Grill cater at the baseball games with beer and food. There will be no hard liquor sales. On motion by Councilman A. Tufto with a second by Councilwoman Frahm to approve Hilltop catering the games. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

Previously approved on March 10, 2020, the only change to the resolution is allowing for Dawson-Boyd School to abandon the sanitary sewer lines on Walnut street and redirect them to Locust street so these lines do not run under the school building. Discussion about the school infrastructure project and timetable. On motion by Councilman Fish to approve the Resolution Receiving Feasibility Report and Calling Hearing on Improvement Project with a second from Councilwoman Frahm. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

The Dawson City Council will meet in full council on Tuesday, July 21, 2020, at the Dawson Swimming Pool Park. This is the public hearing meeting for the first phase of the city infrastructure project. Terry Overlander will have his PA system available. Everyone in attendance is asked to social distance, bring their own chair, encouraged to wear masks, and sanitize before coming. In the event of rain, the meeting will be moved to the band shelter or staggering shifts at the city hall. On motion by Councilman S. Tufto to call for the public hearing for the street project with a second by Councilman Fish. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

There was resolution presented to approve the plans and specifications of the street project and start the bidding stage of the street project. Bids will be opened with City Manager, Schuelke-Sampson and City Engineer, Jeff Kuhn on Tuesday, August 11, 2020. Bids will be brought to council for review on Tuesday, August 18, 2020. On motion by Councilman A. Tufto for Resolution Approving Plans and Specifications and Ordering Advertisement for Bids with a second by Councilman Fish. Voting in favor Councilman Fish,

Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

A joint EDA meeting will be held on August 19, 2020 with Dawson, Madison and their CEDA rep. Schuelke-Sampson was informed that the USDA approved the revolving loan fund grant for \$99,999 with the EDA. These funds will be available for existing or new businesses. Schuelke-Sampson is in the process of getting the needed signatures.

Contracts are being drawn up for the improvements to the library and roof replacement. Before this work can happen, the asbestos needs to be removed from the basement. Three bids have been submitted for tile removal. On motion by Councilman Prestholdt to award the bid to Advanced Health, Safety and Security to remove all the tiles at one time for \$6,583 with a second from Councilman A. Tufto. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

The EDA approved a proposal selling the lot on Pine and 7<sup>th</sup> Street to construct a duplex. Half of the payment is due at the time of signing and the second half is due when permits are applied for. The contract wording states that if the duplex is not finished or substantially under construction at the end of two years, the lot will be forfeited back to the Dawson EDA for breach of contract along with the funds. On motion made by Councilman Prestholdt to agree to the terms of the sale and the contract with a second by Councilman S. Tufto. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

Mr. Tonn Luts, currently living in Willmar, applied for a peddler's permit. He would like permission to go door to door throughout the city selling educational supplies from Southwestern Advantage. He would like to start selling at the end of July. Other cities such as Montevideo and Benson have allowed his sales. All the paperwork is in order. On motion by Councilman S. Tufto with a second from Councilwoman Frahm to allow the sales of educational material door to door. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

The Computer Commuter report was for information only.

Thank you notes from Dawson Boyd School District and Lac qui Parle Agricultural Society were for information only.

#### Maintenance Superintendent Brent Powers' Report

- A. Powers received the Countryside Public Health inspection reports back for the pool, campgrounds, restrooms, and concession stand. He stated that there were a couple small issues likes signage that had blown away, but overall, the report was positive.
- B. Electric Pump quoted \$17,088 to replace 2 lift station pumps. On motion by Councilman Fish with a second by Councilman A. Tufto to accept the bid from Electric Pump. Voting in favor Councilman

Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

- C. Well #6 received final approval from the DNR to be relined. Their Well submitted a bid of \$36,000-\$40,000 to reline the well that will fix the hole. On motion by Councilman Fish with a second from Councilman Prestholdt to accept Their Well bid for repair. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

With the repair of these three wells, all should be in good condition for several years.

City Manager Tami Schuelke-Sampson's Report

- A. All the necessary approvals have been received for the infrastructure project to move forward. The last approval was received on June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- B. Included in your packet is the design for the Lac qui Parle Watershed that will be placed by the rock rapids close to the shelter house. Part of the sign will have the ability to change information out as necessary for updates. The photos were supplied by David Craigmile.
- C. The liquor store had an excellent first half of the year, with the profits seeing the greatest increase in the last four years.
- D. Questions are being asked about water shut offs for delinquent accounts. Schuelke-Sampson researched and was advised a word of caution about shutting off these accounts. Due to the peacetime emergency declared, shutting off services is the same thing as constructive eviction. At the present time, the city will continue to work with residents regarding past due water bills.

Councilman Fish questioned why the pool was not open July 4<sup>th</sup>. He stated it was discussed last year and was required to be open. Councilman Prestholdt agreed stating that even if it had limited hours, at least it would have been something. Mayor Tensen suggested staggering the weekend but making sure the pool was open.

Councilman S. Tufto asked about local daycares receiving a grant from DEED through the random draw. Schuelke-Sampson stated she is aware of this also and has been in contact with our CEDA rep who has also contacted the daycares.

Dollar General will be coming to Dawson. They have signed a lease to take over the building on Highway 212 previously leased by Family Dollar.

Hearing nothing else, on motion by Councilwoman Frahm with a second by Councilman S. Tufto adjourn the meeting. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman S. Tufto, Councilman A. Tufto, Councilwoman Frahm, and Councilman Prestholdt. Voting against none. Councilman Olson absent. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:24 PM.