

Dawson City Council Minutes
November 5, 2019
5:30 PM

The Dawson City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at 5:30 PM in the City Council Chambers.

Councilpersons present: Councilman Jeff Olson, Councilman Jeff Fish, Councilman Steven Tufto, Councilman Charlie Prestholdt and Councilwoman Chessa Frahm.

Councilperson absent: Councilman Al Tufto.

Others present: Mayor Randy Tensen, City Attorney Rick Stulz, City Manager Tami Schuelke-Sampson, City Clerk/Treasurer Jill Kemen, Maintenance Superintendent Brent Powers, County Commissioner Ben Bothun, Glenn Carlson, Dave Hickey, Brian Kassens, and Milton Carlson.

Declaring a quorum present, Mayor Tensen called the meeting to order and the group repeated the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

City Attorney Stulz then read the oath of office to newly appointment Councilwoman, Chessa Frahm. Frahm was welcomed to the council by other members. She is filling the seat left vacant by Councilman Lien.

Mayor Tensen asked for approval of the agenda. On a motion by Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman S. Tufto to approve the agenda. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and Frahm; voting against: none; absent: A. Tufto. Motion carries.

On motion by Councilman S. Tufto with a second from Fish to approve the Consent Agenda items #5 and #19, approval of the October 1st Council Meeting Minutes and the October bills paid and 3rd quarter financials. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and Frahm; voting against: none; absent: A. Tufto. Motion carries.

Mayor Tensen then opened the 10 minute public forum. Milton Carlson, 1114 Chestnut Street, spoke about the future of sidewalk assessments. He had his sidewalk replaced a few years back. He was asking that his sidewalk be inspected and requested to have in writing the condition and outcome of the inspection. Further discussion was had on sidewalks and the safe routes to school. Hearing nothing further Mayor Tensen closed the public hearing.

Mayor Tensen closed the regular meeting and opened the public hearing at 5:43 p.m. regarding unpaid utilities, mowing and the 5th Street sidewalk assessments.

Brian Kassens, 242 5th Street, objected to his portion of the assessment. Kassens stated that the front of his driveway was tore out and replaced even though nothing was wrong with it. Further discussion with Kassens about the cost of his assessment and length of time he had to pay it back. Hearing from no one else, Mayor Tensen closed the public hearing at 5:50 p.m. and reopened the council meeting.

Next the council heard from Glenn Carlson. Speaking from personal experience, Carlson feels strongly that an AED should be available in buildings and public places. He attributes a defibrillator to saving his life in a restaurant on Main Street in Montevideo. Carlson will be spearheading this fundraising project

with the help from Ann Jenson, SW EMS. He has contacted Walmart, AGP, Union Pacific RR to name a few. He would like to raise funds to make AED more affordable and available in more places in Dawson, Boyd, and surrounding areas. Accounts have been set up at Dawson Co-op Credit Union and Minnwest Bank – Dawson to contribute to the cause. An AED is approximately \$1,600. When asked what he wanted from the council, Carlson said support in monetary donation or in-kind purchase to put one in the city hall. Councilman Prestholdt suggested tabling Carlson's request until the next meeting.

Attorney Stulz has reviewed the new hiring policy. On a motion made by Councilman Olson to approve the hiring policy with a second from Councilman Prestholdt. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and Frahm; voting against: none; absent: A. Tufto. Motion carries.

Two property owners, Chris Lehne and Mark and Brianna Berglund, agreed to allow an easement across their properties to gain access to the Carlson Addition, should another flood occur. Stulz explained the agreement and how the terms came to be. More of a burden was on the Chris Lehne property due to a large portion of his property needing to be accessible in case of a flood. The city also agreed to move trees and replant trees on Lehne's property. Both property owners were giving a cash allotment to cover the first 15 years. From years 15-40, it was decided to award a usage fee to the property owners in the way of a city tax reduction. If accessibility is never needed during the 15-40 years, then the usage fee isn't paid. Stulz said this was a good opportunity for all parties involved. There isn't a big initial investment made by the city, however the accessibility is there when needed. This easement is filed at the courthouse and is considered a permanent easement. On a motion made by Councilman Fish to approve the emergency access easement with a second by Councilman Olson. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and Frahm; voting against: none; absent: A. Tufto. Motion carries.

Councilman Prestholdt motioned to approve the Ducks Unlimited gambling application with a second from Councilman S. Tufto. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and Frahm; voting against: none; absent: A. Tufto. Motion carries.

Councilman S. Tufto motioned to approve the Dawson Senior Citizens Bingo application with a second from Councilman Fish. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and Frahm; voting against: none; absent: A. Tufto. Motion carries.

A motion was made by Councilman Olson to approve the resolutions to assess unpaid utilities services and mowing with a second by Councilman Fish. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and Frahm; voting against: none; absent: A. Tufto. Motion carries.

Councilman Olson motioned to approve the 5th Street sidewalk assessments with a second by Councilwoman Frahm. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and Frahm; voting against: none; absent: A. Tufto. Motion carries.

A resolution was presented to re-establish the polling precinct and precinct locations for the City of Dawson. On motion by Councilman Prestholdt to approve the said resolution with a second by Councilman Fish. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and Frahm; voting against: none; absent: A. Tufto. Motion carries.

As has been done in the past, the City of Dawson requests permission to close the office November 29th (Friday after Thanksgiving). Anyone not working will have to take a vacation time. On a motion made by Councilman Fish to approve the request to close the office with a second by Councilman S. Tufto. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and Frahm; voting against: none; absent: A. Tufto. Motion carries.

The Computer Commute update is for your information only.

Maintenance Superintendent Brent Powers' Report

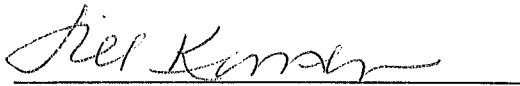
- A. MPCA gave a notice of violation to the city for extra flow during the flood time. The engineers are responding to this violation.
- B. The well issues continue. Well #6 had a hole in the casing and was pumping sand. The thought was that well #8 was bad as well. Since this was in the budget to be repaired in 2020, the pitless unit was installed to repair the unit. Powers is applying to the DNR to reline well #6 and get it back to working condition. Currently there are two wells in working condition.
- C. Street sweeping of the leaves is almost complete.
- D. Stanley Storlien and Nathan Martinson are available to help with snow removal with Powers out due to his surgery.
- E. There is a camper staying at the campground through the winter. He will be paying off peak rates. The city will be responsible for keeping the campground road open this winter.
- F. Grass has been seeded along the new sidewalk in Veterans Park. The riverbank will be burned in the spring of 2020.
- G. A survey fly-over was done by city engineers in preparation for the next street project.

City Manager Tami Schuelke-Sampson Report

- A. On October 21st, Brent Powers, Andy Stock and Schuelke-Sampson met with FEMA to discuss invoices and overtime for reimbursement due to the 2020 spring flooding. The City has 60 days to submit these requests. Our FEMA representative has done several follow-up phone calls to make sure our deadline is met.
- B. The City of Dawson has attained SolSmart Bronze Designation. This is for your information only.
- C. A reminder that the first council meeting in December is the truth and taxation meeting. This meeting will start at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Tensen stated his concern with residents placing unwanted items on their curbs. While this is an okay thing to do, items not taken by a different party within 10 days must be disposed of by the owner. If this does not happen, Olson Sanitation will be notified and the resident will be billed disposal on their utility bill.

With nothing else on the agenda, on motion by Councilman Fish with a second by Councilwoman Frahm to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m.



City Clerk/Treasurer



Mayor