

Dawson City Council  
February 7th, 2023  
5:30 pm

Councilpersons present: Jake Bothun, David Hansen, Jeff Olson, Vince Adelman and Charlie Prestholdt. Absent: JT Schacherer. Others present: Mayor Randy Tensen, City Manager Jill Kemen, City Clerk Kristin Daline, Public Works Superintendent Kurt Collins, City Attorney Rick Stulz, Doug Breberg, Burt Faehn, Dave Hickey, Lauren Olson and Tony Aafedt.

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

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

Councilman Olson motioned to approve consent agenda item 4, January 17th Council Minutes and consent agenda item 11, January financials and Ehlers Summary of Reports with a second from Councilman Bothun. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson and Councilman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Schacherer. Against: None. Motion passed.

#### 10 Minute Public Forum

Mayor Tensen opened the 10 minute public forum at 5:31 pm. Doug Breberg said that he is all for the Co-op expanding but not the street vacation on N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street because he feels it will affect his business. Tony Aafedt was present representing the school and the affect the Street vacation would have for the bus garage. Stulz said that the street vacation would be addressed later in the meeting. Hearing nothing else, Mayor Tensen closed the 10 minute public forum at 5:33 pm.

#### Reports of officers, boards and committees

The Employee/Volunteer Committee met. Representatives from the fire department were present and spoke about fire facial hair and SCBA masks. They would like the city to make an addition to the personnel policy stating the firemen need to be clean shaven or the SCBA cannot be worn, allowing the chief to enforce it more. Discussion was had on increasing township rates which will be further discussed at the township supper on Monday. Jill received quotes from two companies to do a compensation study for the city to provide steps and wages for employees. The compensation study was tabled until mid year. Lifeguard and WSI training will be held at the pool June 3rd and 4th. The city pays half of lifeguard training and full WSI training. PERA phase out was discussed briefly for employees who are eligible. Jill asked for a motion to include firemen need to be clean shaven to be able to wear a SCBA mask to comply with OSHA standards. On motion from Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman Prestholdt to add to the personnel policy. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson and Councilman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Schacherer. Against: None. Motion passed.

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

Kurt was absent for the meeting but stated he is still working on meter estimates for the water treatment plant, and the city crew has been busy clearing off streets and storm drains as the ice thaws.

City Manager Jill Kemen's Report

A. Fire Department township supper is Feb 13th. Townships should have received invite in the mail. Hoping for a better attendance than in the past.

B. Widseth is working on Phase 2 Assessments. Plan on bringing the numbers to the April meeting so the assessments will be on taxes for 2024.

C. Community Coffee February 21st to ask questions and share thoughts about the city. All are welcome.

D. Upcoming committee meetings will include Funding Committee, Above Ground Construction, and Arts and Education committees. Jill would like input from committee members on when those committees should be and dates that don't work. Ehlers is almost complete with sanitary sewer and storm water numbers. Jill and Kristin are meeting with Kristina from Ehlers tomorrow.

E. The variance for chloride has been completed and sent to the State.

F. Isaac Conover and Nathan Kittleson are working with the city crew as a credited class through the school for 2nd semester job training, 2 hrs/day 4 days/week for a total of 80 hours. This is an opportunity for students to learn what the city does and help with projects that don't always get done. Colin Lee is the supervisor.

Old Business

A. The Resolution to approve street vacation on N. 6th Street East between Oak Street (HWY 212) and Johnson Street was tabled from the last meeting. City Attorney Rick Stulz explained the procedure for vacating a street, which the city properly handled. Tony Aafedt said he is concerned with the access to bus garage. Buses will be able to have direct access to HWY 212. Doug Breberg voiced concerns about being able to turn trucks around going to and from his business. Discussion was had on doing an easement for Livestock Systems, School and LQP instead of vacating the street. Corey at Lac qui Parle Co-op has not shown any plans for the remodel, but does not plan to build any further west than the building sits today. The city has 60 days to respond to the petition, with the date very near. Councilman Prestholdt motioned to extend the petition another 60 days to have Corey bring in plans and get a zoning permit through the city, seconded by Councilman Hansen. Voting in favor Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen and Councilman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Schacherer. Against: Councilman Adelman and Councilman Olson. Motion passed.

B. The city received a past due invoice from Hydro-Klean. Back in 2020 they were hired to repair a leaking manhole. The gel product that was used wasn't holding in the manhole and ending up at lifestation and then treated at the Wastewater plant. City decided not to pay the bill until it was fixed properly and never heard anything more. A month ago the city received a bill with finance charges. Nobody knows what the change order was that was included on the bill. The manhole to this day is still leaking. They did do some sealing on another manhole and is ok. Kurt came up with an amount that was about half of what the bill was, but haven't heard back after proposal. Councilman Adelman mentioned that he has stood above the manhole in question and can hear the water run. Water runs to

the treatment plant where it shouldn't be treated. Kurt came up with about \$6,600 for work that was completed as a settlement. Councilman Prestholdt made a motion to pay up to \$7,000. The city crew will try and get a video of the manhole that is still leaking to prove that the work done failed and has made the issue worse. Council decided to table paying the invoice until more information is gathered. Jeff Kuhn will give some company recommendations to have it fixed. Recommended that Stulz represent the city.

#### New Business

A. A pay estimate from Ryan Contracting was presented. Jeff Kuhn explained that this was for work that has trailed behind other estimates and a change order that went above the original project cost, which is approximately \$100,000 of the pay estimate. On motion by Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman Hansen to pay pay estimate #8. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson and Councilman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Schacherer. Against: None. Motion passed. Councilman Adelman asked what the extra stormsewer work was at the Armory. Extra pipe was put in for gutters and water run off. Ryan Contracting will be back in town the middle to end of April weather depending. They will have one underground crew, possibly two crews. Kuhn has been visiting with uptown businesses about the upcoming construction. Another preconstruction meeting will be held before any work begins this Spring.

B. A contract with Auditors, Meulebroeck, Taubert & Co., PLLP for 2023 was presented. The auditors will need to do single audits for water and wastewater for PFA starting in 2023 which will increase the cost of the audit for the year. On motion from Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman Adelman to approve the contract with Meulebroeck, Taubert & Co., PLLP for 2023. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson and Councilman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Schacherer. Against: None. Motion passed.

C. The Jetter Truck invoice was included in the packet. The money the city received from ARPA will be used to pay for the jetter truck. Kurt is happy with the truck and the old truck will be put out for bids. Councilman Adelman asked if the new truck came with any kind of warranty. Jill isn't aware of a warranty but will look into it. On motion from Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman Hansen to approve paying for the truck with ARPA funds. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson and Councilman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Schacherer. Against: None. Motion passed.

D. The Rusty Duck Liquor License renewal was presented. On motion by Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman Hansen to approve the renewal. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson and Councilman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Schacherer. Against: None. Motion passed.

E. The Dawson Chamber turned in paperwork for a Gambling Permit. On motion by Councilman Hansen with a second from Councilman Bothun to approve the renewal. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson and Councilman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Schacherer. Against: None. Motion passed.

F. The Dawson Bowl Liquor License renewal was presented. On motion by Councilman Bothun with a second from Councilman Olson to approve the renewal. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson and Councilman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Schacherer. Against: None. Motion passed.

G. The Hilltop Bar & Grill Liquor License renewal was presented. On motion by Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman Hansen to approve the renewal. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Hansen, Councilman Olson and Councilman Bothun. Absent: Councilman Schacherer. Against: None. Motion passed.

Miscellaneous Announcements

A. The next Council meeting is Tuesday, February 21st at 5:30 pm.

B. Rebecca with Ehlers will be present at the next meeting to give her recommendation on a lender based on bids from local lenders for the new water meters.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:29 pm.

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Kristin Daline, City Clerk

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Randy Tensen, Mayor