

Dawson City Council Minutes  
October 1, 2019  
5:30 PM

The Dawson City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, October 1, 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 Councilman Al Tufto.

Councilperson absent: None.

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, Clyde Dessonville, Dave Hickey, Dean Petersen and Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water General Manager Jason Overby.

Declaring a quorum present, 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 with the removal of #7 and # 8, Sunday liquor election question and Dawson Bowl liquor licensing issue. On a motion by Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman A. Tufto to approve the agenda with the changes. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: none. Motion carries.

On motion by Councilman Fish with a second from Councilman S. Tufto to approve the Consent Agenda items #4 and #14, approval of the September 17<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting Minutes and the September bills paid. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: none. Motion carries.

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

Clyde Dessonville presented the 2019/2020 insurance renewals. There is a large increase in the premiums due to the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) having more claims. The LMCIT is set up as a cooperative of most the cities joining together to fund the insurance. There will be a dividend if the LMCIT has any excess in premium. On motion by Councilman Olson with a second from councilman Prestholdt to approve the insurance renewal. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: none. Motion carries.

City Manager Schuelke-Sampson explained the previous street project was assessed at 50% of the cost for the sidewalks and street improvements. Homeowners had the option to pay off the assessment or apply taxes for 15 years at 4.65% which was 2% over the bond interest rate. For the 5<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk improvements, the City paid out of its reserves and so it was proposed to do an assessment for 7 years at 2%. On motion by Councilman Olson with a second by Councilman A. Tufto to assess 50% of the cost to the homeowners for 7 years at 2%. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: none. Motion carries.

Mayor Tensen explained there were three interested candidates for the open council position that were interviewed during the last council meeting. Mayor Tensen asked if there were any more nominations. Hearing none, he closed the council position nominations. Councilman Prestholdt thanked all three candidates and hopes that anyone not appointed will consider running during the next election. Each councilmember voted by paper and the Mayor read aloud the results. There were 4 votes for Chessa Frahm and 1 vote for Dean Petersen. On motion by Councilman A. Tufto with a second by Councilman Olson to appoint Chessa to the Dawson City Council with the swearing in at the next meeting. Voting in favor: Fish, Olson, S. Tufto, Prestholdt and A. Tufto; voting against: none; absent: none. Motion carries.

The Computer Commuter update is for your information only. City Manager Schuelke-Sampson invited everyone to the kick off of the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the Computer Commuter which will be October 7-9<sup>th</sup>.

#### Maintenance Superintendent Brent Powers' Report

- A. The Lac qui Parle Environmental Office provided a thank you to the City for letting them hold their hazardous waste collection at the city garage due to their local location being too wet.
- B. Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water (LPRW) is hosting a stop during the October 8<sup>th</sup> House Bonding Committee Southwest tour. The location will be at the proposed well field area from 4:15 - 4:45 PM with the alternate location being the Boyd Community Center. LPRW General Manager Overby invited all to the event and explained the importance. They have already passed a 7 day pump test and received approval to add another well. Another pump test will be conducted for 30 days. They have secured a driller and may even be starting this test next week. The LPRW board decided that they will pass their costs onto any city that is connecting to them and it could possibly be up to 50% of the total cost of the project. They are only able to bond for 50% of the project. They are anticipating building a lime softening plant that will bring the water to the high teens in softness. Dawson provided the first letter of support for the project along with 9 of the 10 counties in the southwest region providing letters of support.
- C. Duane has had a surgery on his hand and is expected to return October 15<sup>th</sup>. Brent will also have a leave of absence due to shoulder surgery on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### City Manager Tami Schuelke-Sampson Report

- A. The EDA had Jessica Greene with Northland Securities present at the meeting about the different funding options for developments. The options presented included TIF and tax abatement. The rent for the Library apartments and garages are increasing January 1, 2020.
- B. National coffee with a cop day is tomorrow, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The city will have coffee and donuts from 9:00-11:00 AM. Everyone is welcome.

- C. At your table is a press release that was issued today from DEED that explains the Puris Proteins job creation award they received. Puris Proteins is expected to create 75 jobs with an hourly wage of \$24.77 in the next 2 years.
- D. Also at your table, is a letter we just received from the MPCA giving preliminary approval to phase 1 of the wastewater treatment improvements facility plan. WSN informed us that we are in the fundable range for the water and wastewater project for low interest loans. Today WSA was provided some financial information so a preliminary request for grant calculations can be submitted to PFA.
- E. The city is trying to locate the turquoise bikes. We are missing 3 or 4.
- F. Kristin Daline started Monday as the new part-time office assistant. She will be handling all of the utility billing.

Councilman S. Tufto stated that he and County Commissioner Bothun attended a MN State Highway 212 upgrade project meeting. The reason for the meeting is that the current Highway 212 poses serious safety problems as it switches from a four-lane west of Chaska to a two lane highway and then back to a four lane around Cologne and back to a two lane from Cologne to Norwood Young America. It is felt that US Highway 212 would be much safer and effective as a continuous four lane highway in this area. Support for this project is needed from Western Minnesota and South Dakota.

On motion by Councilman Fish with a second by Councilman Olson to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 PM.

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City Clerk/Treasurer

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Mayor