

Dawson City Council Minutes  
May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
5:30 p.m.

The Dawson City Council met in regular session Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the Dawson City Hall Council Chambers following social distancing guidelines and wearing masks. This meeting was also available by Zoom.

Councilpersons present: Jeff Fish, Jeff Olson, Steve Tufto, Vince Adelman, Dean Petersen, and Charlie Prestholdt.

Also Present: Mayor Randy Tensen, City Clerk/Treasurer Jill Kemen, Utility Billing/Office Clerk Kristin Daline, Maintenance Superintendent Kurt Collins, City Attorney Rick Stulz, Head Librarian Deb Lanthier, Mike Cagley, and Steve O'neal.

Others present via Zoom: Blaine Green with Widseth.

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

Councilman Olson motioned to approve the agenda with the additions of 7E-1. Resolution for Phase 2 improvements. Seconded by Councilman Petersen. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson, Councilman Prestholdt, Councilman Petersen, and Councilman Tufto. Voting against, none. Motion passed.

On motion by Councilman Prestholdt with a second from Councilman Fish to approve the April 6<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting Minutes. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson, Councilman Petersen, and Councilman Tufto and Councilman Prestholdt. Motion passed.

On motion by Councilman Petersen with a second from Councilman Fish to approve the April 13<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting Minutes. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson, Councilman Petersen, Councilman Tufto and Councilman Prestholdt. Motion passed.

On motion by Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman Fish to approve the April 20<sup>th</sup> Work Session Minutes. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson, Councilman Petersen, Councilman Tufto and Councilman Prestholdt. Motion passed.

Mayor Tensen opened the 10-minute public forum. Steve O'neal, who lives at 121 N. 5<sup>th</sup> street asked about the parking situation on his street and inquiring about paving, curb and gutter. Councilman Olson said that they are taking care of the water flow with a larger line to alleviate the drainage issues on his property. O'neal also mentioned the contractors had removed a tree from his property, and while doing so damaged another. He asked if it was possible to have the 2<sup>nd</sup> tree removed. The contractor will be contacted. He also had a complaint about the amount of dust that is behind the Cenex Store. Councilman Olson said that he should contact John Roiger, Co-op Manager, Cenex to see if they would be willing to wet it down.

Hearing nothing else, Mayor Tensen closed the public forum.

Deb Lanthier with Pioneerland introduced herself to the group. She went over her handouts that were provided, which was an update of 2020 numbers at the library. She was excited about the virtual summer reading program last summer, it will be done again this year. The library was providing about 25 packets to kids. Curbside pickup has been a success, and the library has also been providing home deliveries and drop offs at the Assisted Living and Care Center in Dawson. Digital checkouts

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offered a wide variety to customers, mentioning programs for elementary age children has been wonderful. The library has also been offering zoom classes for a variety of different projects. There will be a Mobile Sign Fest for Riverfest this year which will take place in the parking lot. Deb was able to get grant funding for this event, so materials will be free. The event will allow for 20 people to make a sign an hour. There will be a sign-up for times.

Blaine Green with Widseth gave an update on the street project. The concrete crew will be here next week to finish up areas from last fall that didn't get done and continue moving with the project. They will be bringing in class 5 following the underground crew. So far, the project is on track for the projected completion date. Councilman Adelman asked about boring across the railroad tracks. Boring will take about 2 weeks on the 7<sup>th</sup> Street crossing. Green said that there has been great communication with AGP. Councilman Prestholdt asked about the parking by they ball field on 1<sup>st</sup> Street as far as if it was going to continue to be at an angle, to which Green said yes, it will remain the same. Mayor Tensen brought up a concerned citizen who lives on 7<sup>th</sup> Street who will be bringing in a moving truck on May 14<sup>th</sup>. The contractor will communicate with them so the homeowner has the space for the truck.

Green spoke about the pay estimate for Kuechle of \$1,082,326.04. Kuechle's have purchased materials to have on hand, with the price of materials going up so fast they felt this was feasible. On motion by Councilman Olson to approve the pay estimate with a second from Councilman Tufto. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson, Councilman Petersen, Councilman Tufto and Councilman Prestholdt. Motion passed.

City Clerk/Treasurer Jill Kemen asked that the pay estimate for Maguire Iron of \$47,500 be approved. On motion by Councilman Olson to approve the pay estimate with a second from Councilman Tufto. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson, Councilman Petersen, Councilman Tufto and Councilman Prestholdt. Motion passed.

An invoice was provided from KLM Engineering. Larry with Widseth said that is was adjusted to meet the original quote and said it was ok to pay. On motion by Councilman Fish to approve the KLM invoice with a second from Councilman Petersen. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson, Councilman Petersen, Councilman Tufto and Councilman Prestholdt. Motion passed.

City Clerk/Treasurer Jill Kemen received an email late today from Larry with Widseth. Widseth has requested that MPCA allow changes in Phase 2 Improvements. The sanitary sewer will be added to the project in the southeast portion of Dawson as shown on the map Larry provided. This will serve for future development. Sanitary sewer will be replaced in 15<sup>th</sup> Street and a sewer service replaced up 14<sup>th</sup> Street shown on the map. MPCA is asking for a resolution from the City agreeing to these changes. Widseth will prepare a facility plan letter amendment that will add these areas to the project and the estimated costs. On motion by Councilman Olson to approve the resolution to make changes to Phase 2 with a second from Councilman Petersen. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson, Councilman Petersen, Councilman Tufto and Councilman Prestholdt. Motion passed.

A resolution to take Tami Schuelke-Sampson off as a signer for bank accounts was provided. On motion by Councilman Fish to approve the resolution with a second from Councilman Petersen. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson, Councilman Petersen, Councilman Tufto and Councilman Prestholdt. Motion passed.

TNT Indian Tacos have applied for a peddler's permit for Riverfest. On motion by Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman Tufto to approve the peddler's permit. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson, Councilman Petersen, Councilman Tufto, Councilman Adelman, and Councilman Prestholdt. Motion passed.

City Clerk/Treasurer Jill Kemen spoke about city wide cleanup. The date this year is Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. Homeowner's will have to prepay the City for tvs and Olson Sanitation for mattresses and other appliances. Councilman Olson said they will have everything picked up by the end of the next day. Nothing is to be put out until 6 a.m. Monday morning.

City Clerk/Treasurer Jill Kemen spoke about Covid funds that the city will receive. She asked the Council if there was any interest being on the Covid Committee. At the April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, it was decided that each department head would determine what was needed and come back to the committee, and from there a decision would be made. Councilman Olson recommended the finance committee, along with Mayor Tensen, and Chief Andy Stock be on the committee. Chief Stock is also our Emergency Manager for the City.

Maintenance Superintendent Kurt Collins said that he is getting lawn mower bids. The last mower we purchased is 12 years old and has had work done to it. At the Park Board meeting it was decided to leave the camping rates the same and take a look at them again in the off season. Campground Host Dennis Hullstrom said that he plans to keep one spot open for weekend campers coming through. Both campgrounds are full through the summer. City Clerk/Treasurer Jill Kemen asked Collins if there had been a decision made with watering the hanging baskets this summer, to which he stated that between Colin, Austin and Adam they may rotate doing so. He also mentioned that during the next phase of the project, he had mentioned to Jeff Kuhn with Widseth that he would like water to the poles on main street. The council agreed that that would be a good idea. The City has hired a pool manager. He is a teacher at LQPV School and will try and recruit some lifeguards from Madison. The pool has a tentative open date of June 4<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Adelman had concerns about parking in the u-ball. Collins said that it shouldn't be a problem come opening day, work should be done there. Kemen asked Councilman Prestholdt about the status of the concession stand at the baseball field. Prestholdt said the floors and plumbing are finished, but Sather Construction was having problems getting some of the materials for Tom Bothun to finish. Prestholdt said he spoke with Pastor Stelter and he would like Puris to get recognized for the work they have done in the community. He asked Dave Hickey to visit with Pastor Kendall about the projects that have been done.

## Old Business

### A. Trees

City Clerk/Treasurer Jill Kemen said she spoke with a citizen who lives on Pine St about trees. In 2012, Pine Street was repaired and it was up to the homeowner to replace their own trees. There was no reimbursement from the City, so she believes it should be the same for the current and future phases of

the project. Blaine Green with Widseth said they are working on a way to better communicate with homeowners about tree removal during the street project. They are planning to put a ribbon around trees they feel need to be removed. The homeowner will have two weeks to talk to the engineer about the tree. After this time, trees will be marked with an X and the tree will be removed. Keeping in mind that trees marked, are done for a reason and may have to come down regardless of the homeowner complaint.

### B. City Manager Update.

Council moved this to the end of the meeting.

### Maintenance Superintendent Kurt Collins

The Fire Department has burnt the riverbank in the City. A cottonwood tree by the driving bridge was burning internally, and it was determined that the tree needed to come down for safety reasons. There are two other trees beside it that will also come down. Jeff Nyhiem has been contacted to remove the trees. On Thursday, they will be bypassing the sewer on 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Millings will be put down to cover the tube across the road, so there will be a bump on 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Collins received an estimate from Barga for \$22,000 to repair cracks. Mayor Tensen questioned why we would do this when the city is replacing streets. Collins said this will only be done in areas that the roads will not be replaced. On motion by Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman Petersen to approve the estimate from Barga to approve the crack sealing. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson, Councilman Petersen, Councilman Tufto, Councilman Adelman, and Councilman Prestholdt. Motion passed. Collins spoke with Lyle Schutte of the Railroad authority about the crossing on 5<sup>th</sup> Street. He mentioned Kuechle tarring the crossing and splitting the cost between Burlington Northern, the Railroad Authority and the City. Mayor Tensen is frustrated because the crossings on 6<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> street are on county roads, and that the City should not have to pay for the repairs, it's a safety concern. Rick Stulz said he would look into the issue. Collins said the umbrella at the swimming pool is in need of a lot of fixing. He thinks it will make it through the summer, but it should be replaced. The locks on the fences at the baseball field all need to be replaced. Collins was approached by Tony Aafedt from the school and Pastor Kendall about going in on an 4' over-seeder to pull behind a tractor. The city portion would be \$2,500. After a short discussion it was decided to table it until the next action meeting.

### Interim City Manager Jill Kemen's Report

EDA Minutes provided, with nothing new to report. LQP Computer Commuter is for information only. Dunnicks will be at the library in the next two weeks to finish the project under the grant the library received. Kemen asked the council if it would be ok to close the office on Friday due to her being in training all day, and Utility Billing/Office Clerk Kristin Daline gone for a Dr. appointment. Council was ok with putting a note on the door. Kemen said that she has some concerns about the checkbook

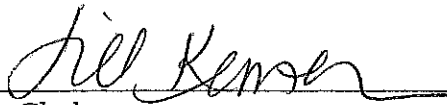
balance, and is going to space out some of the larger bills as much as possible. There is money at Minnwest Bank that can be transferred into the operating fund to ease up on the budget. Bobbie Bohlen and Matt Durand will be present at the next council meeting to talk about housing. Chappel Central will be coming tomorrow to install dehumidifiers at the library. Interior work not covered by the grant will be done as needed. Kemen said that the agenda will be sent out first through email, and then hand delivered with the packet. The next council meeting will be May 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

On motion by Councilman Olson with a second from Councilman Fish to approve April bills and 1<sup>st</sup> quarter financials. Voting in favor Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson, Councilman Petersen and Councilman Tufto. Councilman Prestholdt absent. Motion passed.

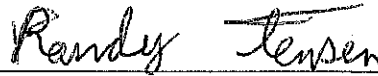
Mayor Tensen asked the council what they would like to do about the City Manager position. Stulz asked if everyone had ranked the applicants and those were turned in to him. It was in agreement that they would contact the top two candidates and ask them to come in for an interview. This will take place after the next council meeting. Each candidate will have the same amount of time to interview.

With nothing else to address, on motion by Councilman Olson with a second by Councilman Tufto to adjourn the meeting. Voting in favor Councilman Adelman, Councilman Fish, Councilman Olson, Councilman Petersen and Councilman Tufto. Councilman Prestholdt absent. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.



City Clerk



Mayor