

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS
HELD SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

The regular meeting of the Devils Lake City Commission was held Monday, September 19, 2016 at 5:30 P.M. with the following members present: President Johnson, Commissioners Craig Stromme, Rick Morse, Dale Robbins and Ben Sander via telephone. None were absent.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Stromme moved to approve the minutes of the regular City Commission meeting held September 6, 2016. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robbins, and the motion carried unanimously.

5:30 P.M. – This was the time set for a public hearing for the 2017 City of Devils Lake Budget. The City Administrator reviewed the changes to the budget since the last meeting. The zero increase refers to dollars and not the number of mills. Jessica Ramey questioned the two police cars, Ultra Green's back taxes, the use of a drone to take pictures, and the reimbursement of legal fees from Eagles Ledge. The two cars are replacing two current vehicles. The taxes were to be paid by Ultra Green; however, they did not have the resources to pay and without payment the deed transferring the building to the City could not be recorded. So the City either had to pay the taxes or scrap the deal. The payment owed by Eagles Ledge is in litigation. Rachel Lindstrom stated the payment for the drone was for more than just pictures of the industrial park. It is a marketing strategy, and the information will be incorporated into Forward's website. Daniel Reese stated the use of a drone provides high quality images. Hearing and receiving no other comments, President Johnson closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Robbins moved to approve the 2017 City of Devils Lake Budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Morse, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Stromme moved to sign a proclamation proclaiming September 22, 2016 as "**Lake Region State College Day**". The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robbins, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Robbins – The Public Ways Supervisor stated the cemetery fence was finished, but some landscaping needs to be done. Discussion followed on using a barricade during winter to protect the fence. It was noted the contractor also repaired parts of the current fence. The fence will be pressure washed later this fall.

The Public Utilities Supervisor said everything was fine in the Water Department.

Commissioner Morse – The Public Ways Supervisor said Tri State is in town doing street repairs and street openings. The city crew started cutting trees and was able to take 8 down today. Some of the trees were huge. The work would go faster with a grapple.

Commissioner Stromme - The Sanitation Supervisor indicated there would be free landfill this week and on Saturday for city residents.

The Police Chief requested out-of-state travel for touch up training for the canine officer. He also stated the dog is on medicine and doing better.

Commissioner Stromme moved to approve possible out-of-state travel for the officer and canine to attend additional training. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Morse, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Sander - The Public Utilities Supervisor said everything was fine in the Sewer Department.

The City Assessor stated everything was fine.

President Johnson – The City Auditor stated everything was fine.

The City Administrator said everything was fine.

The Fire Chief said fire prevention week is October 9th through October 15th. An open house will be held October 12th from 5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. There will also be a flu shot clinic.

The Fire Department will be supporting breast cancer awareness by wearing pink and assisting with a steak fry.

The City Attorney said everything was fine.

The City Administrator gave an update on the child care equipment. Two auctioneers were contacted. The one was not interested and the other one would charge 17.5% plus \$600.00 for advertising. Discussion followed on putting everything out on bid, bidding by room and leaving the kitchen equipment. Consensus of the City Commission was to put the items up for bid by room with the bid opening at the October 3rd meeting.

Commissioner Stromme moved to approve the consent agenda which included the following:

Gaming site authorization submitted by Lake Region Community College Foundation of Devils Lake to be held October 21, 2016 at the Memorial Building – 524 4th Ave NE.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Morse, and the motion carried unanimously.

Rachel Lindstrom, Executive Director of Forward Devils Lake, appeared before the City Commission to request flex funds for JKV Investments dba Bobcat of Devils Lake. The project totals \$2.5 million with the local share being \$50,000. Four full-time jobs will be created over five years. The community portion will be repaid at the end of the loan.

Commissioner Robbins moved to approve flex funding for JKV Investments LLC in the amount of \$50,000.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Morse, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Stromme moved to approve payment of Estimate No.2 to Morris Sealcoat & Trucking for Street Improvement #59-16 Seal Coat in the amount of -\$559.65 as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Morse, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Stromme moved to approve payment of Estimate No. 5 to Elshaug Concrete Construction for 2016 Curb, Gutter & Sidewalk in the amount of \$9,261.72 as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Morse. On roll call all Commissioners voted aye, and the motion carried.

Commissioner Robbins moved to approve the payment of \$15,160.00 to the Mayor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities as allocated in the City's 2016 budget with funding from the General Fund – 1000-000-44940. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Morse. Discussion followed on the actual value of a mill being less than what the expected value was at budgeting time. On roll call all Commissioners voted aye, and the motion carried.

Commissioner Stromme moved to approve payment of the list of bills as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Morse. On roll call all Commissioners voted aye, and the motion carried.

President Johnson acknowledged the following report:

Municipal Court monthly report.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, President Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:08 P.M.

LINDA LYBECK
CITY AUDITOR

RICHARD S. JOHNSON
PRESIDENT