

SPECIAL CITY COMMISSION MEETING
HELD JANUARY 22, 2018

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Board of City Commissioners met at the City Office on Monday, January 22, 2018 at 12:00 P.M. with the following members present: Commissioners Craig Stromme, Dale Robbins and President Richard Johnson. Commissioner Rick Morse was absent.

President Johnson stated the purpose of the meeting was to review the ballot, joint powers agreement and resolution for the special election, to hear an update on the downtown project and to review a going out of business permit.

The City Administrator stated the ballot includes a not to exceed 30 years for the activity center. Members of the Park Board were invited to see if they had any questions on the ballot.

Mike Dunn, Park Board Member, stated the Board is working towards an activity center that can be paid off within the 30-year term. They are also working on a funding strategy for the remaining funds. On January 31st, there will be presentations of the project scope. There have been two input sessions. One was with the friends group, and the other was a public input session. That information was combined with the data that has been gathered over the last five years and will be released on Wednesday next week. The noon session will be with directed groups, and the 5:30 PM session will be open to the public.

Discussion followed on how much of the \$24 million would be interest, on sales tax collections being down, on the projections being based on collecting \$3.2 million in sales tax and on projecting \$20 million could be raised through sales tax, but the center costing \$22 million.

Commissioner Stromme moved to approve the ballot for the special election on March 13, 2018 to vote for the election of a commissioner to fill an unexpired term, on whether to increase the City's sales tax by .25% to be used for infrastructure improvements and on whether to increase the City's sales tax by .50% to be dedicated for the construction of an activity center by the Devils Lake Park Board not to exceed 30 years. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robbins. On roll call all Commissioners voted aye, and the motion carried.

The joint powers agreement would be needed if the residents vote in favor of raising the sales tax .50% for the construction of an activity center, not to exceed 30 years. The agreement would allow the City to collect the sales tax and distribute it to the Devils Lake Park Board.

Commissioner Robbins moved to approve the joint powers agreement between the City of Devils Lake and the Devils Lake Park Board to collect the sales tax and distribute it to the Devils Lake Park Board for the construction of an activity center if the electors approve the raising of the sales tax by .50% for this purpose, not to exceed 30 years. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stromme, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Stromme moved to approve the resolution to hold a special election on March 13, 2018 for the electors of the City of Devils Lake to elect a commissioner to fill the vacant seat, to vote on whether to empower the City Commission to approve an additional .25% sales tax to be used for infrastructure improvements and to vote on whether to empower the City Commission to approve an additional .50% sales tax to be dedicated to the construction of an activity center by the Devils Lake Park Board not to exceed 30 years. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robbins, and the motion carried unanimously.

The City Engineer provided the City Commission with information from the downtown district steering committee. The steering committee has identified three hierarchies for street improvements. The green is the primary corridor or primary streetscape. That is where the vast majority of the money will be spent. It includes 4th St and a block in each direction off of 4th St, and one block of 3rd St which would be adjacent to the potential park at the old Firestone building. In the primary corridor, sidewalks would be revamped, banding adjacent to the curbs on the sidewalks and redoing the intersection of 4th & 4th. The work would be done in the public right-of-way to improve the primary corridor. The blue is a secondary streetscape. Some improvements will

be done, but sidewalks will not be ripped out and replaced. The yellow would be making improvements to the lighting and repairing areas. Also discussed was the bulb outs to be replaced and enhanced. The committee would like to make improvements on 6th St by Proz and on 6th Ave by the east underpass to make the areas more welcoming to the downtown area. The block by Proz is going to be adjusted for the west underpass project so it may be possible to make some of the improvements there. The area at 6th Ave is less likely to happen due to budget constraints. The intersection of 4th & 4th was identified as the primary corridor with banding, colored stamping and bulb outs. Some parking will be lost with the enhancements to the bulb outs. The sanitary sewer system was videoed and looked okay. The waterlines and main were replaced 25 years ago and should be fine. The only concern would be the individual laterals coming into the main. The steam heat lines run in the alleys. None of this work will be done in the alleys.

Commissioner Robbins moved to approve a going out of business permit submitted by Kmart Corporation Store #4704. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stromme, and the motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, President Johnson adjourned the meeting at 12:23 P.M.

LINDA LYBECK
CITY AUDITOR

RICHARD S. JOHNSON
PRESIDENT