

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS
HELD MARCH 7, 2022

The regular meeting of the Devils Lake City Commission was held March 7, 2022 at 5:30 P.M. with the following members present: President Johnson, Shane Hamre, Dale Robbins, Rob Hach, and Jack Volk. None were absent.

Commissioner Robbins moved to approve the minutes of the regular City Commission meeting held February 22, 2022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Volk, and the motion carried unanimously.

Matt Bakke, Superintendent of Devils Lake Public Schools, updated the Commission on the facility survey, brief history of the process to get to the survey and the plan to have a public forum on March 17th

Commissioner Volk – The Public Ways Supervisor reported snow is still being removed. He is concerned about fuel prices and costs of repairs.

The new sweeper will not arrive until June.

Commissioner Robbins - The City Engineer reviewed the CRP contract.

Commissioner Robbins moved to approve the CRP contract for the land at the wellfield as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Volk, and the motion carried unanimously.

Discussed with NERD and GRWD to assist with water supply during high demand. Looking at an inline booster which would be cost shared between all the entities.

Also discussed the possibility of an additional Water supply system from the west of the city.

The Lake Region Sportsman has approached the City about developing a pond in Ruger Park that the State Game & Fish would stock. The SG&F has agreed to provide \$45,000 to excavate the pond. The balance could be paid 1/3 by the park district, 1/3 by the city and 1/3 by various recreational entities.

The Police Chief said everything is fine.

Commissioner Hach – The City Engineer said \$140,000 was budgeted for a truck chassis. Nothing available for this year. Skidsteer was budgeted for next year, would like to move the truck to next year and buy skidsteer this year.

The City Assessor stated everything was fine

Commissioner Hamre – The City Engineer stated the Public Utilities SCADA system was costing more to update than to upgrade. Will be bringing a contract for the commission to review at a later date.

President Johnson - The City Auditor asked for authority to offer a candidate a starting wage of 9D for the AP/PR Clerk position. Commissioner Hamre made the motion to approve starting the new AP/PR Clerk at a 9D. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hach, and the motion carried unanimously.

The City Administrator said everything is fine.

The Fire Chief is finishing up reviewing code process

The City Attorney said everything was fine.

Mayor Johnson updated the Commission on the Hospital situation and the effort to improve the current conditions. The Hospital employees have been great. The problem lies with CHI and their lack of effort to improve the conditions at the Hospital. Our citizens deserve better healthcare in our community.

Reviewed the Application for property tax exemption for improvements submitted by Shoreacres Pipe & Steel. First year starts immediately after it is approved, starting with the 2022 tax year.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve the application for property tax exemption for improvements submitted by Shoreacres Pipe & Steel starting with the 2022 tax year as recommended by the City Assessor. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hach, and the motion carried unanimously.

The City Attorney reviewed the fireworks display agreement and issues to be completed before signing the agreement.

Commissioner Hamre will contact the company to complete the agreement.

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

1. Authorizing the City Auditor to call for bids for two pickups for Public Utilities to be opened on Monday, April 4, 2022 at 5:30 P.M. at City Office as recommended by the Public Utilities Supervisor;
2. Authorizing the City Auditor to cancel Check No 120935 dated July 7, 2021 in the amount of \$849.00 to Lincoln Marketing Inc (Airport-Non-departmentalized-Publishing/Printing/Advertising)– the check was lost in the mail and will be reissued;
3. Approve designating American Bank Center, the Bank of North Dakota, Bremer Bank, Horizon Financial Bank, Ramsey National Bank and Trust Co, US Bank and Western State Bank as financial institutions for depositories of City funds as required by the North Dakota Century Code and as recommended by the City Auditor;
4. Game of chance permits for February 2022;
5. Permit to sell alcoholic beverages at a special event submitted by Proz Inc for Tyson Ackerman's wedding on October 2, 2021 at the Memorial Building;
6. Permit to sell alcoholic beverages at a special event submitted by Proz Inc
7. Permit to sell alcoholic beverages at a special event submitted by Pop's Bar
- 8.

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

The City Administrator reviewed the agreement between the City of Devils Lake and the Chamber of Commerce. Only change was to change \$90,000 for administrative costs to \$105,000.

Commissioner Hach moved to approve the agreement with Devils Lake Area Chamber of Commerce – restaurant and lodging tax as recommended by the City Administrator. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Volk, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Robbins moved to approve the agreement with North Dakota Department of Transportation for temporary highway closure as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre, and the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held about giving the City Auditor extra pay for the work she has been doing since the last employee left without notice. The recommendation is for an extra \$500 per week since the employee left in late October. Discussion was held on other employees who have done extra work and received no pay. Robbins made a motion to approve an extra \$500 per week since late October for the Auditor until the position is filled.

Commissioner Hach seconded the motion.

Upon Roll call, Volk and Hamre voted no. Robbins, Hach and President Johnson voted aye. Motion passed.

Kale Stromme and the Devils Lake Park Board presented a request for a ballot measure to vote on an additional one quarter percent of sales tax. Discussion followed on what the money could be used for.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve the request for a vote on an additional quarter percent sales tax. Commissioner Hach seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve the resolution approving plans and specifications and directing advertisement for bids for Water Main Improvement District No 27-22 – 10th St NW, 11th St NW, 12th St NW, 13th St NW as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hamre moved to approve the resolution declaring the necessity of an improvement for Street Improvement District No 78-22 – Walnut St E, Fair St SE, 10th Ave SE, Various Locations as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robbins, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve the list of bills as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robbins. 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 6:43 P.M.

LINDA LYBECK
CITY AUDITOR

RICHARD S. JOHNSON
PRESIDENT