

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS
HELD JUNE 21, 2021

The regular meeting of the Devils Lake City Commission was held Monday, June 21, 2021 at 5:30 P.M. with the following members present: President Dick Johnson, Commissioners Dale Robbins, Shane Hamre, Rob Hach and Jacob Volk. None were absent.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Hamre moved to approve the minutes of the regular City Commission meeting held June 7, 2021. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Volk, and the motion carried unanimously.

5:30 P.M. – This was the time set for the public hearing on special assessments for Sidewalk Snow and Ice Removal. Hearing and receiving no comments, President Johnson closed the hearing.

Commissioner Volk moved to table the 2021 Sidewalk Snow and Ice Removal assessments until the June 28, 2021 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robbins, and the motion carried unanimously.

5:30 P.M. – This was the time set for the proposal opening for Shade Tree tree trimming. The following proposals were opened and read.

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| 1. Angry Beaver Tree Service – Devils Lake, ND | Bid Area 1 | \$29,350.00 |
| 2. Locken Outdoor Services - Devils Lake, ND | Bid Area 1 | \$42,500.00 |

Commissioner Volk moved to award the Shade Tree tree trimming to Angry Beaver Tree Service of Devils Lake in the amount of \$29,350.00 as recommended by the Fire Chief. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Robbins – Commissioner Robbins reviewed the LEC inspection that revealed a shortfall in funding and a reduction in the number of state/federal prisoners that will be allowed housing at the LEC. Maximum prisoners will be held to 80-85. The LEC will be raising 2022 starting wage to \$20.00/hour for correctional officers.

The Police Chief reported that his department assisted with the apartment fire on 5th Ave NE and commended his staff for their excellent work. He stated the joint efforts of Fire, Police and Ambulance departments saved lives.

The City Engineer reviewed the following projects:

1. The mill and overlay project is nearing completion on the north end of the city. Several other areas in the city are included in the overall project and the contractor is expected to be back in July to commence work on other areas.
2. Work will begin soon on the Corps project on 17th St SE for an additional storm water pump station.

Commissioner Hach – On behalf of the City Assessor, Helen Carlson said everything was fine.

It was noted everything was fine in the Sanitation Department.

Commissioner Hamre – The City Engineer indicated all was fine in the Water Department.

Commissioner Volk - The Public Works Director stated the mosquito count is way down and may not warrant aerial spraying. More discussion and a decision on aerial spraying for the 4th of July will be made at the June 28th city commission meeting.

President Johnson - President Johnson noted there will be an open house June 30th from 1 to 4 pm, for the retirement of Fire Chief Jim Moe after 44 years of service. He thanked the Fire Chief for his service.

The City Administrator stated everything was fine.

The Fire Chief reported that his department was on hand for the 3rd floor fire at an apartment building on 5th Ave NE. He also commended his staff and stated combined efforts of Fire, Police and Ambulance departments were key in notifying residents of the building, assisting with getting residents to safety and treating victims. There will be a formal recognition of the departments at a later date.

The City Attorney said everything was fine.

The City Engineer requested to remove the gator pump rental from the rates and fees. The pumps are not available for use by anyone other than governmental agencies and the rental rate no longer needs to be included in the rates and fees.

Commissioner Robbins moved to remove the gator pump rental from the rates and fees. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Volk, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve the following consent agenda:

1. 2021-2022 permit/license applicants effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022;
2. Extension of premises application for a special event submitted by Proz Inc for parking lot party with Slama Bama band playing outdoors on July 9, 2021 at Proz parking lot;
3. Game of chance permits for the month of May 2021;
4. Parade permit submitted by Devils Lake Fire Department for July 4, 2021 starting at 11:00 A.M.;
5. Two gaming site authorizations submitted by Devils Lake Rural Fire Department for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 at the following locations: Pop's Package Store LLC – 924 Highway 2 E and Ye Olde Tavern – 410 4th Ave NE; and
6. Three gaming site authorizations submitted by Devils Lake Youth Activities for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 at the following locations: Columbus Club and Building Association – 522 4th St NE; Proz End of the Line – 101 6th St NE; and Thirsty's LLC – 318 4th St NE.

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

The City Engineer reviewed the warranty deed for the Haugland property the City needs to purchase for the embankment project. All other necessary documents have already been approved and signed.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve the warranty deed and payment of \$15,000.00 for the Haugland property as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hamre moved to approve payment of Estimate No. 1 to Strata Corporation for the citywide mill and overlay in the amount of \$664,239.24 as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Volk. On roll call all Commissioners voted aye, and the motion carried.

Helen Carlson reviewed an application for a 5-year commercial remodeling tax exemption for renovation of the former Kmart building at 701 5th Ave SE. The applicant has met the requirements for the exemption, which will be for improvements only. The developer/owner will still be responsible for paying real estate taxes on the existing value of the property.

President Johnson noted an email was submitted protesting the five-year tax exemption.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve a five-year tax exemption for improvements to a building at 701 5th Ave SE submitted by Midtown Ventures LLC. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hach, and the motion carried unanimously.

The City Engineer reviewed the VFW project. He stated there are two separate items that needed to be discussed regarding the work that would be completed. First is approval from the City to encroach on public right of way in order to construct a stoop in front of the door to enable handicap accessibility. The second item is cost share of sidewalk replacement south of the stoop that would need to be completed to ensure the proper grades.

Commissioner Hamre moved to approve the encroachment on city right of way for Veterans of Foreign Wars Accessibility Improvements being done under a CDBG grant. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Volk, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hamre moved to approve the City paying up to \$13,500.00 for the sidewalk replacement by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Volk, 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:
City Auditor monthly report.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, President Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:30 P.M.

LINDA LYBECK
CITY AUDITOR

RICHARD S. JOHNSON
PRESIDENT