

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS
HELD AUGUST 2, 2021

The regular meeting of the Devils Lake City Commission was held August 2, 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 Volk moved to approve the minutes of the regular City Commission meeting held July 19, 2021 and of special City Commission meetings held July 26, 2021, July 28, 2021 and July 29, 2021. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre, and the motion carried unanimously.

5:30 P.M. – This was the time set for a public hearing to review a proposed amendment to zoning regulations that would add a definition of “group homes’ and add group homes as a permitted use to residential zoning. The City Assessor reviewed the background for the change. Hearing and receiving no other comments, President Johnson closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve the changes submitted to amend the zoning regulations to add a definition of group homes and add group homes as a permitted use in residential areas as recommended by the Devils Lake City Commission. 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 to review a proposed amendment to zoning regulations that would change the responsibility of special use requests to Planning Commission, rather than Board of Adjustment. The City Assessor presented information for the change. Discussion followed on if there was any difference than the group homes already located within the residential areas. Hearing and receiving no other comments, President Johnson closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Robbins moved to approve changes submitted to amend the zoning regulations to shift the responsibility of special use requests from the Board of Adjustment to the Planning Commission as recommended by the Devils Lake Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Volk, and the motion carried unanimously.

5:30 P.M. – This was the time set for a public hearing to review a request for changing the name of 16th St NW to Firebird Lane NW. President Johnson recognized the high school students for the work in initiating the change. Erin Clementich, 2020-2021 Student Council President, presented information to the Commission. It was noted the school will be paying for the signs. Hearing and receiving no other comments, President Johnson closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve the request from the Devils Lake Student Council to change the name of 16th St NW as recommended by the Devils Lake Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre. The effective date will be September 1, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

5:30 P.M. – This was the time set for a public hearing to review the final subdivision plat for Emerald Ridge (Section 9, southwest of Frison Addn). The City Engineer reviewed the information. Hearing and receiving no other comments, President Johnson closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Hamre moved to approve the final subdivision plat for Emerald Ridge as recommended by the Devils Lake Planning Commission contingent on conditions being met. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hach, and the motion carried unanimously.

Doug Yankton, Tribal Chairman of Spirit Lake, informed the City Commission of the changes and operation of the former City Center Motel and discussed working with the City to make available more family-oriented activities.

Commissioner Hamre – The City Engineer stated Public Utilities was fine.

Commissioner Hach – The City Engineer said everything was fine in Sanitation.

The City Assessor said everything was fine.

Commissioner Volk – Everything was fine in Public Ways. Discussion followed on no mosquitoes and mosquito traps.

The City Engineer stated Tri-State Paving will be working on 8th St NE.

Commissioner Robbins – The City Engineer reported on the following:

1. The preconstruction meeting was held for the water tower and work will start August 16th.
2. The mill and overlay has started; and
3. The storm sewer project with the Corps of Engineers by Walmart should be done the end of September.

The Police Chief stated National Night Out will be held August 10th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

New employee testing and interviews will be held for the police opening.

President Johnson - The City Auditor stated everything was fine.

The City Administrator said everything was fine.

The Fire Chief reported on better reports and working with rural fire for fires during construction at the water tower.

The City Attorney said everything was fine.

The City Administrator reviewed the 2022 Budget Overview.

1. Cost of living – 4%;
2. Family insurance increases to \$2,200 (80/20 split) and SPD increases to \$1,800 (90/10 split);
3. Equipment purchases include weed control mower - \$12,000 - toolcat - \$30,000, street mower - \$9,500, street sweeper - \$38,000 annual lease, sewer camera – \$15,000, Hwy 19 Lift pumps - \$65,000, 2 pickups - \$60,000 and garbage truck chassis - \$140,000;
4. Increase water charge by .20/1000 gallons;
5. Infrastructure fund budgeted at \$250,000;
6. Sales tax budgeted at \$4.1 million compared to \$3.3 million in 2021; and
7. Increase mill levy by 2.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve the 2022 preliminary budget as recommended by the City Administrator. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre, and the motion carried unanimously.

The City Commission directed the City Attorney to make the ordinance change to allow minors in licensed premises.

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

1. Authorizing the City Auditor to cancel Check No 120784 dated June 8, 2021 in the amount of \$389.50 to PNC Bank (General-Police Departments-Computer Equipment & Office Supplies/Postage and Highway Fund -Non-departmentalized – Equipment Maintenance)– the check was lost and will be reissued; and Check No 120924 dated July 7, 2021 in the amount of \$190.51 to Job Service North Dakota (General-Police & Fire Departments-Unemployment Comp Ins) – the check was returned, agency requires electronic payments only;

2. Game of chance permits for the month of July 2021; and
3. Gaming site authorization submitted by Lake Region Community College Foundation of Devils Lake for October 22, 2021 at the Lake Region State College, Hofstad Ag Center – 1801 College Dr N.

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

The 1st reading of Ordinance No 973 – group homes definition was held.

The 1st reading of Ordinance No 974 – special use was held.

Commissioner Hamre moved to approve the JAG & Lottery Grant Application for Lake Region Narcotics Task Force. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robbins, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hamre moved to approve paying the 2021 funding for Forward Devils Lake in the amount of \$53,799.00 as recommended by the City Administrator. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hach. On roll call all Commissioners voted aye, and the motion carried.

Commissioner Robbins moved to approve the NDTC easement as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre, and the motion carried unanimously.

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

There being no further business to come before the Commission, President Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:25 P.M.

LINDA LYBECK
CITY AUDITOR

RICHARD S. JOHNSON
PRESIDENT