

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS  
HELD AUGUST 3, 2020

The regular meeting of the Devils Lake City Commission was held August 3, 2020 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 July 20, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Volk, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Commissioner Hach** – The City Assessor said everything was fine.

It was reported everything was fine in the Sanitation Department.

**Commissioner Volk** – The City Engineer presented the request from the Public Ways Supervisor to hire an employee at a 7B with the employee moving to a 7C after successful completion of probation. The individual has a background in mechanical repair and heavy equipment operation along with a CDL. Also, permission is needed for the new employee to live outside of city limits. He currently lives in Crary. He has made arrangements for a place to stay within town when on call and when storms are predicted and other essential times.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve hiring Clint Lara at a 7B due to his experience with him moving to a 7C after successfully completing the probation period and for him to live outside of city limits in Crary contingent upon him having a place to stay in town during essential times as recommended by the Public Ways Supervisor. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robbins. It was noted that no compression issues would be caused by hiring at this salary level. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held on ground spraying and the use of three sprayers.

**Commissioner Robbins** - The City Engineer indicated a change order to the State contract would be completed for work on Schwan Ave. The adjoining property owners have agreed to pay 50% of the costs. Mill and overlay will begin on the east underpass next Monday with chip seal occurring the week after. The watermain project should start mid-August. The preconstruction meeting will be held next Monday.

**Commissioner Hamre** – The City Engineer stated Public Utilities are spraying weeds and harvesting at the Lemna with the duckweed being placed on farmland.

**President Johnson** - The City Auditor stated Lake Region Narcotics Task Force submitted a lottery grant request for \$74,580.00 with \$48,477.00 being grant funds (65%) and \$26,103.00 being local funds (35%), and Safe Alternatives for Abused families submitted a JAG grant request for \$40,884.00 with \$26,574.60 being grant funds (65%) and \$14,309.40 being local funds (35%).

The City Administrator reviewed the request from the daycare to replace the flooring in the city-owned building. There is zero cost to the City, and it will be installed by Thompsons.

Commissioner Volk moved to grant permission to Sunnyside Daycare to replace the flooring in the city-owned building at no cost to the City. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre, and the motion carried unanimously.

The City Administrator reported the Emergency Commission approved reimbursing payroll costs for law enforcement first responders.

The Fire Chief inquired about employees traveling out-of-state for training. Grant funds have been awarded by the Department of Emergency Services for structural training in Texas. The deadline for the grant is March.

Consensus of the City Commission was the training could be scheduled if it is still being held.

The Fire Chief discussed the dump site and the placement of a gate. It was noted permission would be needed from the township. Consensus of the City Commission was to have the Sanitation Supervisor, the Fire Chief and the City Engineer bring a proposal for the next meeting.

The City Attorney said everything was fine.

The City Administrator reviewed the 2021 Budget Overview.

1. Cost of living – 3%;
2. Family insurance increases to \$2,100 (80/20 split) and SPD increases to \$1,705 (90/10 split);
3. Equipment purchases include flail mower - \$10,000, 16' dump trailer - \$9,000, batwing mower - \$22,000, upper harvester - \$20,000, utility van - \$65,000, dump truck - \$49,500, JD Gator - \$15,000, sign anchor attachment - \$5,500, motor grader lease - \$42,852, payloader lease - \$26,220, JD tractor lease - \$5,500, toolcat lease rollover - \$5,500, ZTR mower - \$11,000 and cemetery mower - \$7,500;
4. Increase sewer charge by .10/1000 gallons;
5. Infrastructure fund budgeted at \$150,000;
6. Sales tax budgeted at \$3.3 million down from \$3.47 million; and
7. Increase mill levy by 1.05.

Commissioner Hamre moved to have President Johnson work with County to set up a budget committee for the Law Enforcement Center. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Volk, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve the 2021 preliminary budget as recommended by the City Administrator. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hach, and the motion carried unanimously.

The 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Ordinance No. 968 – Fireworks was held.

Commissioner Robbins left the City Commission meeting at 6:25 P.M.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve the consent agenda which included the following:  
Permits for the month of July 2020.

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

The City Engineer reviewed the North Dakota Department of Transportation preliminary engineering reimbursement agreement – ND Hwy 19 from Hwy 2 to 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave NW. The estimated cost is \$27,500.00 with the City having a 10% local share for \$2,750.00.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve the North Dakota Department of Transportation preliminary engineering reimbursement agreement – ND Hwy 19 from Hwy 2 to 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave NW as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre, and the motion carried unanimously.

The North Dakota Department of Transportation preliminary engineering reimbursement agreement for ND Hwy 20 from Hwy 2 to 20<sup>th</sup> St shows an estimated project cost of \$291,500.00 with the City's share being \$29,150.00.

Commissioner Hamre moved to approve the North Dakota Department of Transportation preliminary engineering reimbursement agreement – ND Hwy 20 from Hwy 2 to 20<sup>th</sup> St as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Volk, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hamre moved to approve 2020 funding for Lake Access in the amount of \$8,000.00 to be paid from the general fund (1000-000-55070). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hach, 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 6:35 P.M.

**LINDA LYBECK  
CITY AUDITOR**

**RICHARD S. JOHNSON  
PRESIDENT**