

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS**  
HELD OCTOBER 21, 2019

The regular meeting of the Devils Lake City Commission was held Monday, October 21, 2019 at 5:30 P.M. with the following members present: Commissioners Dale Robbins, Shane Hamre, Rob Hach and Jacob Volk. President Johnson was absent.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve the minutes of the regular City Commission meeting held October 7, 2019. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Commissioner Hamre** – The City Engineer presented a memo from the Public Utilities Supervisor requesting to hire an employee at a 7B with the employee moving to a 7C after obtaining his CDL. The individual to be hired currently is a foreman with a construction company and has heavy equipment and mechanical background justifying hiring at a level above a Grade A. After the employee completes his 6 months of probation the Public Utilities Supervisor and the City Engineer will determine if he will receive an additional step. Discussion followed on when he would get his next step and on wages of new hires in utilities versus streets.

Commissioner Hamre moved to approve hiring an employee for the Public Utilities Department at a 7B since he has heavy equipment and mechanical background with the employee moving to a 7C upon obtaining his CDL. After completing the probationary period, the Public Utilities Supervisor and City Engineer will determine if an additional step is warranted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hach. Commissioners Hamre, Hach, and Robbins voted aye. Commissioner Volk opposed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Hamre updated the Commission on the status of the fireworks planned for next year.

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

The City Engineer indicated the special pickup for area 4 will be this week since it was delayed due to the snow.

**Commissioner Volk** – The City Engineer noted all the departments worked well together during the snow removal. Equipment was staged first at the Sanitation Department and then later at the Fire Department. Loaders were rented from Butler and Bobcat. Discussion followed on the safety of the drives, walkers and kids playing in the snow. Also discussed was staging equipment at the ambulance, removal of residential snow and snow removal done by private contractors.

**Commissioner Robbins** – The Police Chief stated this is ribbon week. A balloon release/pledge will be held Wednesday.

The City Engineer stated everything was fine.

The Fire Chief discussed the rescues done during the storm and on the equipment from local individuals used for the rescues.

The Fire Chief reported the truck had to be taken to South Dakota for warranty work. The work is completed so he is requesting out-of-state travel for two people to go get the truck.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve out-of-state travel for two firemen to get the truck from South Dakota as recommended by the Fire Chief. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Fire Chief noted the retirement party for Alvin Schroeder will be held November 1<sup>st</sup> from 2-4 pm. Alvin has worked for the City for 30 years.

The Fire Chief stated the Department has received a grant of \$42,300 for structure support equipment and for training to be held in Texas for two individuals.

The City Auditor stated everything was fine.

The City Administrator stated the Governor has declared a flood emergency.

The City Attorney said everything was fine.

The Police Chief requested to declare 61 bikes as surplus.

Commissioner Hamre moved to declare 61 bikes as surplus. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Volk, and the motion carried unanimously.

The City Administrator reviewed the fees from various cities for microbreweries.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve a fee of \$700 for a microbrewery liquor license. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hach, and the motion carried unanimously.

The City Attorney reviewed two options for a vaping ordinance. Liz Bonney and Officer Dallas reporting on vaping by kids in the area.

Commissioner Volk moved to ban vaping by anyone under 21 years old. Penalties for violating the ordinance and getting help for those individuals were discussed.

Commissioner Volk withdrew the motion.

Consensus of the Commission was for the City Attorney to draft an ordinance addressing vaping by those under 21 years of age and setting fees for violating the ordinance.

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

Authorizing the City Auditor to call for bids for sidewalk snow removal with bids to be opened on Monday, November 4, 2019 at 5:30 P.M. at the City Office as recommended by the City Engineer.

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

The City Engineer reviewed the memorandum of understanding for the floating fishing pier at Channel A.

Commissioner Hamre moved to approve the memorandum of understanding between the City of Devils Lake and North Dakota Game and Fish Department for Channel A – Floating Fishing Pier as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hach, and the motion carried unanimously.

The City Engineer reviewed the changes to the snow removal guidelines. The City will operate with two modes for snow removal – storm operation mode and routine maintenance mode. Storm would normally mean a minimum of 4 inches of snow. The downtown business district will be cleaned the first night following the clearing of priority routes 1 and 2 unless residential roadways are impassable. Discussion followed on asking residents to stay off the streets until cleared, and to remind them the snow cannot be put on the street or alley.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve the snow removal guidelines and procedures as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hach, and the motion carried unanimously.

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

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Vice President Robbins adjourned the meeting at 6:55 P.M.

**LINDA LYBECK  
CITY AUDITOR**

**RICHARD S. JOHNSON  
PRESIDENT**