

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS
HELD DECEMBER 7, 2020

The regular meeting of the Devils Lake City Commission was held as a web hosted meeting on Monday, December 7, 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.

Commissioner Robbins moved to approve the minutes of the regular City Commission meeting held November 16, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Volk, and the motion carried unanimously.

5:30 P.M. – This was the time set for the bid opening for 1.5-ton 4X4 crew cab truck and chassis DRW. The following bid was opened and read:

Marketplace Motors – Devils Lake, ND Bid \$45,250.00 plus any applicable fees

Commissioner Volk moved to accept the bid as read, and refer it to the Public Ways Supervisor for further review and recommendation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre, and the motion carried unanimously.

Joshua Gallion, State Auditor, appeared before the City Commission to present a stewardship award to the Auditing Department.

Commissioner Volk – The Public Ways Supervisor stated the bid received for the 1 ½ ton cab and chassis was \$3,000.00 higher than state bid; therefore, he will wait until next meeting to make a recommendation to award the bid.

The Public Ways Supervisor requested to transfer a Grade 7 from the street department to the cemetery. Discussion followed on the justification for the transfer. The City Administrator noted any transfer would need Commission approval since the Commission would need to authorize the position.

Commissioner Volk moved to authorize transferring a Grade 7 from the street department to the cemetery. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hach. Discussion followed on cross-training employees between the two department and on the supervisor handling coordination of employees to cover areas when needed. The City Administrator stated 3-4 mills would need to be moved from the general fund to the cemetery fund if the transfer is approved, and the rates and fees for the cemetery need to be looked at since the fund has been operating at a deficit. On roll call, Commissioners Hach and Volk voted aye. Commissioners Hamre, Robbins and President Johnson voted nay. The motion failed.

Commissioner Hach – Commissioner Volk inquired why the gate was not locked at the tree disposal site. The Sanitation Supervisor stated no modifications had been made as to locking the gate since the Commission had not acted upon the proposed changes. The gate was left open to allow the commercial haulers to continue to haul to the site.

The Sanitation Supervisor reported power was dug in and cameras installed at the landfill.

The City Assessor stated another bid was received for the removal of flooring at the daycare building; however, it was considerably higher. The first contractor will start on January 7th, and it will take about three days.

Commissioner Robbins – The Police Chief said an employee has resigned to go work for the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office.

The City Engineer stated he is working with the Corps of Engineers on the 17th Street work and flood insurance rate map adjustments. The department is also working on the surveying plans for the road improvement projects scheduled for next year and on the shared road agreement.

Commissioner Hamre – Public Utilities have been working on curb stop replacements and hydrant repairs. Wastewater samples are being provided for the Covid-19 research project.

The City Auditor reported everything was fine.

The City Administrator stated everything was fine.

The Fire Chief said they are working with the health department on protocols for registration for the fishing tournament.

City Attorney stated everything was fine.

President Johnson indicated General Dohrmann reported testing for Covid-19 has been slow in Devils Lake, and he would like to encourage people to continue with the testing.

The City Administrator reported on the estimated amount paid to the Law Enforcement Center (LEC) for 2020 will be under the \$302,000.00 budgeted amount. Discussion followed on boardings being up, policies, the LEC meeting scheduled for tomorrow to name a new chair, work to update the contract between the city, county and LEC, and the City Administrator and County Auditor working with the Director of the LEC on the budget.

Commissioner Robbins moved to approve \$48,068.14 for the fourth quarter of funding for the Lake Region Law Enforcement Center with \$20,747.50 going to the LEC for percentage of use revenue and \$27,320.64 going to Lake Region E-911 Authority for joint powers revenue. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre. On roll call all Commissioners voted aye, and the motion carried.

The memo from the City Engineer and Sanitation Supervisor recommending fees and rates for disposing of trees and branches at the disposal site at the south end of 8th Ave SE was reviewed. Currently, residents can dispose of trees for free, and nonresidents are charged \$5.00 per cubic yard. The new rates and fees would limit resident to 10 cubic yards for free and then charge \$2.50 per cubic yards for anything in excess of 10 yards. Commercial tree contractors would be charged \$2.50 per cubic yard for trees and branches from within the City and \$5.00 per cubic yard for trees and branches from outside of the City. The price would be double the amount for dumping at the recycling center. Commissioner Volk was opposed to charging city residents. Discussion followed on the costs associated with the work to be done, no property taxes going to the enterprise funds and the enterprise funds operating on fees. The Sanitation Supervisor stated the department hauled 175 40-yard roll offs this year for trees and branches. Discussion continued on control over dumping, cameras at the gate and the increase in labor and time at each site to keep the sites cleaned and trees burned.

Commissioner Robbins moved to approve the disposal fees for the trees and branches at the landfill and the tree disposal site as follow – City residents up to 10 cubic yards free and anything over 10 cubic yards would be \$2.50/CY; nonresidents \$5.00/CY; commercial tree haulers \$2.50/CY from within city and \$5.00/CY from outside of city. The fees would double for dumping at the recycling center. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hach. On roll call, Commissioners Robbins, Hach and President Johnson voted aye. Commissioners Volk and Hamre voted nay. The motion carried.

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

Game of chance permits for the month of November 2020.

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

The City Engineer reported the change order for Kemper was done at the City's request for the additional work; therefore, the completion date was changed from October 2020 to June 2021.

Commissioner Hamre moved to approve Change Order No. 2 for Kemper Construction for the Watermain Improvement District 25-20 -8th St NE for emergency water main replacement for a net increase of \$1,548.87 and for adjusting completion date to June 15, 2021 as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robbins, and the motion carried unanimously.

The City Engineer stated the payment to Kemper is for the sidewalk and concrete change order.

Commissioner Volk moved to approve payment of Estimate No. 6 to Kemper Construction for Watermain Improvement District 25-20 -8th St NE in the amount of \$1,517.89 as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hamre. On roll call all Commissioners voted aye, and the motion carried.

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

Discussion was held on using a different web host for the next meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, President Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:40 P.M.

LINDA LYBECK
CITY AUDITOR

RICHARD S. JOHNSON
PRESIDENT