

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS  
NOVEMBER 2, 2015

The regular meeting of the Devils Lake City Commission was held Monday, November 2, 2015 at 5:30 P.M. with the following members present: President Johnson, Commissioners Tim Heisler, Craig Stromme and Dale Robbins. Commissioner Rick Morse was absent.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Robbins moved to approve the minutes of the regular City Commission meeting held October 19, 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Heisler, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Commissioner Heisler** – The City Engineer reported on the following projects:

1. Cenex – The project is nearing completion. The bore is complete underneath the highway. The water pipe is being put in, and the underground work should be completed this week.
2. Watermain – Some concrete driveways and other concrete items remain to be completed by the city contractor this week.
3. Smith Dr – A small amount of work still remains, but should be completed this week.
4. Channel A – Working on ramps for fishing access grant.

Discussion followed on the placement of gravel by the Cenex project. Frontage road from the welcome sign going east will not be graveled, but the embankment portion and the base will be there. The only gravel that will exist on the frontage road will be from coming off of Elks Dr and that will wrap around to the Cenex project. They are looking at extending the gravel to the new hotel site since construction has begun.

The City Assessor reviewed the roundhouse lot up for foreclosure. The City needs to pass a resolution to cancel the special assessments and pay the property back taxes, interest and penalties in order for the County to deed the parcel back to the City. The City can resell the lot after three months.

Commissioner Heisler moved to approve the resolution for the City to acquire from Ramsey County the E 28' of Lot 4, all of Lot 5, Block 9, Roundhouse Subdivision for the amount of back taxes, interest and penalties and to cancel the certified special assessments of \$2,932.32. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stromme, and the motion carried unanimously.

The City Assessor stated Johnson Controls was over at the daycare building because there was no heat in the building. The boiler was running, but the circulation pump and booster pump were out. They got the circulation pump going, but had to order a booster pump. The City Assessor has requested a quote from Johnson Controls about a system to monitor the inside temperature of the building.

Commissioner Robbins stated he has showed the building to two interested parties – former daycare and Indian Health.

Rachel Lindstrom, Executive Director of Forward Devils Lake, stated a childcare committee has been formed to discuss childcare needs in Devils Lake.

Commissioner Morse arrived at 5:42 P.M.

**Commissioner Stromme** – The Sanitation Supervisor indicated demolition started on roof.

The Police Chief stated the new hire, Tresa Longie, started today.

The Police Chief stated the old police range in the Stromme Addition area needs some work. He has been working with the Sheriff and other entities to do some of the work. The County crews are available this week and have trucks and pay loaders. However, they need something to move the dirt around. Sanitation has a dozer, which hasn't been used since last fall, that Butler Machinery could haul out to the range this week. It would cost about \$700.00 for Butler Machinery to haul the dozer out and to bring it back.

Commissioner Stromme moved to allow the expenditure of \$700.00 for Butler Machinery to move the dozer back and forth to the shooting range contingent upon the dozer running. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robbins, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Commissioner Robbins** - The Public Ways Supervisor said the city sale was held last week.

The Public Utilities Supervisor said everything was fine in the Water Department.

**Commissioner Morse** – The Public Utilities Supervisor said everything was fine in the Sewer Department.

The Public Ways Supervisor stated Tri State Paving is in town finishing the last 4 street openings.

**President Johnson** - The City Auditor stated Ramsey County Emergency Manager is holding a defensive driving course on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and December 3<sup>rd</sup>. City employees interested in attending should contact her.

The City Administrator said everything was fine.

The Fire Chief requested applying for two grants. Several area fire departments would like to apply with the Devils Lake Fire Department for the AFG grant which would be used to purchase new bunker gear. Cost share would be 5%; however, the volunteers would cover that amount.

The other grant would be for updating the rescue truck. The volunteers are paying for a grant writer to apply for a \$100,000.00 grant. The proceeds from the sale of the old truck would be used for the new truck and the volunteers would pay the balance.

Commissioner Stromme moved to approve the Fire Department applying for the AFG grant for bunker gear with the volunteers paying the match as recommended by the Fire Chief. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Morse, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Morse moved to approve the Fire Department applying for a grant for a rescue truck with the proceeds from the sale of the old truck going towards the new one and with the volunteers paying the match as recommended by the Fire Chief. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robbins, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Fire Chief stated there were no serious injuries at the Hardee's fire. It was noted that Bjornson Oil was very generous to the fire fighters while they were on the scene.

The City Attorney said everything was fine.

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

Game of chance permits for the month of October 2015.

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

The City Assessor reviewed the change order for the roof on the Sanitation building. Testing for asbestos was done. Around the flashing of the perimeter of the building, asbestos was discovered in some of the tar-like paper.

Commissioner Heisler moved to approve Change Order No 1 for Structures Inc for the Sanitation building roof for the asbestos survey and abatement for a net increase of \$4,426.00 as recommended by the City Assessor. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Morse, and the motion carried unanimously.

The City Engineer reviewed the change orders for Highway 20. The change orders were reviewed by the Corps of Engineers and approved for LEERD credit.

Commissioner Stromme moved to approve Change Order No 5 for Ames Construction Inc for Highway 20 Embankment for city levee frontage road subgrade prep for a net increase of \$41,240.84 and Change Order No 6 for Ames

Construction Inc for Highway 20 Embankment for city levee temporary drainage for a net increase of \$6,235.44 as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robbins, and the motion carried unanimously.

Rachel Lindstrom, Executive Director of Forward Devils Lake, reviewed the request form Wise Guys Insulation for flex funding. The land value would be used as in-kind for the flex funding. The project total is \$250,000.00.

Commissioner Stromme moved to approve using the lot purchased in the industrial park by Wise Guys Insulation as in-kind for flex funding as recommended by Forward Devils Lake. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Morse, and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Heisler moved to approve payment of Estimate No. 7 to Murphy Pipeline Contractors for Watermain Improvement District 24-15 – various locations in the amount of \$139,297.20 as recommended by the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stromme. On roll call all Commissioners voted aye, and the motion carried.

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

Louise Oleson, *Devils Lake Journal*, introduced Chuck Wickenhofer as a new reporter for the *Devils Lake Journal*.

Rachel Lindstrom, Executive Director of Forward Devils Lake, updated the City Commission on the request for proposals for a convention center. The committee received two proposals – one from Holiday Inn Express and one from City Plaza. From each one the committee required more information. For the Holiday Inn Express, they had land questions, and for City Plaza they had questions on tenant agreements. City Plaza has responded, and the Holiday Inn Express is still working on it. They are now moving on to a feasibility study to see what size of center a community of this size needs. This would be Phase I, and Tourism and Forward Devils Lake will split the cost of the study. If it proceeds, Phase II would be a hotel analysis to see what the logistics are for having a hotel as part of the center. If it proceeds, then Phase III would be done for an operation agreement on how to run the center.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, President Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:04 P.M.

**LINDA LYBECK**  
**CITY AUDITOR**

**RICHARD S. JOHNSON**  
**PRESIDENT**