

Downs City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, July 5, 2022, 5:30 p.m., at City Hall. Mayor Vienna Janis called the meeting to order and led in the flag salute. Council members present were Charlie Stevens, Devin Renken, Joyce Hake, John Cordill and Heather Hancock. Others present were Richard Judd, Sherry Knouf, Harry Colburn, Miranda Robinson, and Bruce Berkley.

Heather moved to approve regular meeting minutes from June 20, 2022 seconded by John. Carried. Joyce moved to approve special meeting minutes from June 30, 2022, Charlie seconded. Carried. Devin abstained.

Librarian Sherry Knouf presented council with the latest attendance and financials for the library. She reported that 25-30 kids have been attending summer reading and there will be a pool party on the last Monday in July. The city has waived the pool fees and the library will pay the lifeguards. The library has a reader feeder out every day that citizens are allowed to take.

Animal Control Officer reported he removed one dead possum from the 400 block of Blunt Street. He also stated he would have to leave this position soon due to health issues. Council stated they would advertise the position in the newspaper and the website.

Code Enforcement officer Harry Colburn stated he had been contacting those who do not have an up to date special use permit for their golf cart/atv. These permits are due yearly and run from January to December. Colburn also stated there are a few who do not have slow moving signs or flags on their vehicles.

City Attorney Bruce Berkley stated he was in contact with the codification company and they have sent him a copy of the updates. He will review the codes and the council can look over the draft at the next meeting. Council discussed changing a few other codes but no decisions were made.

In the water and sewer report, Colburn stated he fixed a leak in a home that the meter was still in the basement over the weekend.

City Superintendent Harry Colburn reported that the oil for the streets should be here July 11 so they would be preparing streets this week so chip sealing could be done once the oil is here. Colburn asked council if he could place a no dogs allowed sign at the city park. There have been complaints about dog owners not picking up after their dogs. Joyce moved to place no dogs allowed signs at the city park, Charlie seconded the motion. Carried.

Colburn reported he would need to have a huge hole dug at the tree dump to bury large tree stumps that won't burn. A Bobcat service guy will be out to service the loader as it has 50 running hours and they will show the crew how to do it properly. Colburn also reported that a

citizen was concerned about where the city crew sprays for weeds. Council asked if they keep track of where and when they spray in which Colburn stated they do.

The City Clerk reported that the billing issue was resolved, and some customers will see an increase in their bills if they use over the minimum of 2,500 gallons. The rate was entered into the system incorrectly last July when rates changed as this was an error with the software company. For the month of June there were 7 water shut offs and four have been paid. Clerk received a thank you card from Downs Chamber and passed it around. Clerk has received a few applications for each open position.

Chace Weis contacted Councilmember Devin Renken stating that he has cut the city's wheat crop for this year. Devin moved to sell the city wheat crop, Joyce seconded. Motion passed.

Joyce moved to approve building permit #22-16; Devin seconded. Motion carried.

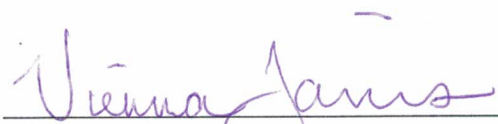
Devin moved to approve solid waste transport permit 22-32 for Dunstan Waste and 22-33 for R & R Refuse. Heather seconded, Motion carried.

Heather moved to approve special use permits #22-35 and #22-36, John seconded. Motion carried.


In old business, the council discussed the 2023 budget. It was discussed to add less than a mill back to the industrial promotion fund, adding a line item for parks and recreation, along with adding to the fire department line. The council is planning on exceeding the revenue neutral rate again this year. Clerk will send an email with changes to the Loyd Group to get another draft budget before deciding on a budget hearing date.

Devin moved to approve vouchers and payroll as presented, Joyce seconded. Motion carried.

Heather moved to adjourn, Devin second. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.


Vienna Janis, Mayor



ATTEST:

Miranda Robinson, City Clerk