

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Scott Decker called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present were: President Scott Decker, Vice President Robert Baer  
Commissioners Jason Fridrich and Joe Ridl

Telephone: None

Absent: Commissioner John Odermann

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****2. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

MOTION BY: Robert Baer

SECONDED BY: Joe Ridl

To approve the October 15, 2024 meeting as presented.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote...Aye 4, Nay 0, Absent 1  
Motion declared duly passed

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. MOTION BY: Jason Fridrich

SECONDED BY: Joe Ridl

**B. Approval of Meeting Minutes dated October 1, 2024**

**C. Approval of Accounts Payable, Commerce Bank and Checkbook**

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote...Aye 4, Nay 0, Absent 1  
Motion declared duly passed

**4. ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE****A. Approval of Appointment for Municipal Judge William C. Severin**

City Administrator Dustin Dassinger presents an approval of second Alternate Judge. Judge William C. Severin would be used when Judge Keogh and Judge Ramsey cannot be in attendance. Judge Severin has 40 years of experience and services Bismarck as an Alternate Judge. Administrator Dassinger states Judge William C. Severin will be paid the same as Judge Ramsey.

MOTION BY: Jason Fridrich

SECONDED BY: Robert Baer

To approve the appointment of alternate Municipal Judge William C. Severin.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote...Aye 4, Nay 0, Absent 1  
Motion declared duly passed

**B. Dickinson Municipal Airport Authority**

City Administrator Dustin Dassinger presents a letter of support from the City of Dickinson Commission for the support of the Dickinson Municipal Airport Authority Terminal construction project. This letter will be utilized for funding and grant application. He states City staff and Commission recommends letter of support.

MOTION BY: Robert Baer

SECONDED BY: Joe Ridl

To approve the support letter for the Dickinson Municipal Airport Authority.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote...Aye 4, Nay 0, Absent 1  
Motion declared duly passed

**C. Consolidated Fiber Contract for City Hall and PSC**

IT Director Aaron Meyer states the presented updated fiber contract will transition the speed of the rented line from 1Gbps to 10Gbps as discussed in both the 2023 and the 2024 budget planning sessions. The increased speed is necessary to support the Public Safety

Datacenter for data replication, backups, and public safety operations. This contract is for a period of 3 years at a rate of \$1,350 per line per month, amounting to \$2,700 per month.

MOTION BY: Joe Ridl

SECONDED BY: Jason Fridrich

To approve the Consolidated Fiber Contract for City Hall and PSC.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote...Aye 4, Nay 0, Absent 1  
Motion declared duly passed

#### **D. IT Annual report**

IT Director Aaron Meyer states the City has received 4 cybersecurity grants. He states there was a Duo Multi-Factor - \$20,000; Veeam Backup - \$10,000; SAN Replica - \$130,000 and Server Refresh for \$30,000. He states the City Has \$160,000 in project and the State and Federal covered 85%. IT Director Mayer states in Access You created a HR evaluation platform that will roll out this fall, a new IT Helpdesk, universal invoicing, hardware nodule, etc. 3D printer and designing mounts. He states the City has partnered with State of ND for security training. Director Meyer visits about his notable projects such as they redid all computer systems at library – 25 units; updated sound system; PSC camera project; dispatch support services – took all over services and migrated all stations onto the city network and full support of hardware. Cargo van – turned into mobile work space. Hitachi San Project – full disaster resiliency plan. Director Meyer thanks the Commission as the City couldn't do these projects without the funding and thank you to Commission and his Staff.

Commissioner Jason Fridrich thanks Mr. Mayer for the nice work and his Staff.

#### **E. Monthly Financial Report**

Deputy City Administrator Linda Carlson presents the monthly financial report. She states the cash assets are \$64,923,029 and at 3.81% interest. Investments stayed about the same. Deputy Administrator Carlson presents the cash balance report; deficit last month and this month positive with a decrease of long-term liabilities. She states the City pays all bonds in October; 1% down for month; hospitality lower; occupancy lower; general fund over in collection and under in expenditures.

MOTION BY: Jason Fridrich

SECONDED BY: Robert Baer

To approve the monthly financial report.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote...Aye 4, Nay 0, Absent 1  
Motion declared duly passed

#### **F. HR Monthly Report**

HR Director Shelly Nameniuk presents the monthly HR Report which shows 4 opening in Police Officers; Animal Control has 1 open; 1 open Public Safety Telecommunicator; filled EMS Educator; still have Paramedics – 9 openings and are in the offer stage for those; EMT interviews were held; and 5 openings for PT Firefighters. Public Works Solid Waste Manager position is in the background; Solid Waste Operator 1 openings; Street Maintenance Operator 1 position; Finance Dept Finance Director went through process and no offers made; 1 book mobile position open; and Construction Project Manager has 1 opening. Ms. Nameniuk congratulates Natalie Torgerson for passing the SHRM CP in May, 2024. Ms. Torgerson is the HR Generalists.

### **5. PUBLIC WORKS**

#### **A. Report**

None

### **6. PUBLIC SAFETY**

#### **A. Fire**

##### **1. Quarterly Fire Department Report**

Fire Captain Jared Rhode presents the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report Fire Department Report. He reviews the services offered by the Fire Department. They had received 578 calls for service which is 1,575 for the year to date, a 7% increase. There were 72% EMS calls.

Captain Rhode states calls by Station and Station #1 had 65 % of the calls. Response times are looking pretty good. Seventy percent of the total training needed for the year is completed now. Fire prevention had 367 routine inspections; 146 prevention activities; 14 CO's. Captain Rhode reviews events such as the community breakfast, 911 stair climb, push in event, etc.

## **B. Police**

### **1. Axon Interview Room Contract**

Police Chief Joe Cianni presents an Axon Interview Room Contract which is for 5 years. This contract is related to PSC interview room which is an upgrade project. There are 3 interview rooms at PSC. These rooms are imperative to cases for the court system, prosecution and others. These rooms are also used by BCI and the Sheriff's Office. This process of transitional all audio/video-related technology to Axon- Based Systems. These would include the body cameras, in-car video systems, and Tasers This would include all of the software and needs. This contract would bring all together under one bundle.

MOTION BY: Robert Baer

SECONDED BY: Joe Ridl

To approve the Axon Interview Room Contract.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote...Aye 4, Nay 0, Absent 1  
Motion declared duly passed

### **2. Quarterly Police Report**

Police Chief Joe Cianni presents the quarterly report for the past four months of activities. There were 855 emergency calls for services which are a slight uptick; 2,583 calls for service in the past four months which is an uptick in comparison to prior years. Traffic control 450 traffic stops; 220 citation, 222 warnings; increase and uptick. He states this is due to staff coming off probation and getting out on own in own area. There were 296 total accidents; 719 total arrests associated with alcohol or violence; 12 felony arrests each month. Criminal investigations very busy with 10 calls out per month. Detective's average 60 new cases each month and closing 35 cases each month. This is about 35 cases each month which is quite busy. There were 49 search warrants. Chief Cianni reviews notable events. He states Keith Williams still missing since May, 2024. Behavioral health has 468 calls for service. Training has been at 922 hours. Records are very busy as well; animal shelter 132 calls for service; at this time of report show no animals in pound. SRO officers have been somewhat slow as school just started. He visits about community activities such as Cops and Bobbers; Guns and Hoses event and the happiness of the firefighters when they win. Blood drive had over 200 participants. Everyone is a winner, but Chief Cianni is sure the Firefighters won the battle; 2024 national night out, maybe move back to August. Several attended the annual Constitution and Citizenship Day. Chief Cianni welcomes new staff. Stark Award Kim McGarvey guided a 911 caller over birth. He compliments on a good job to Kim.

President Scott Decker compliments the Police Department on doing an awesome job as all do City Employees. Great work to all of them.

## **7. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

### **A. Contract Amendment for Grant Writing Services to KLJ Engineering**

Engineer and Community Development Director Joshua Skluzacek presents a task order amendment for grant writing services to KLJ Engineering for \$11,000 for this amendment. The intent of the amendment is to provide services to Task 4 for North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) Urban Grant and Regional Project solicitations. The plan is to include the five Downtown Lighting phases into a single project grant proposal for the Urban Grant. The total estimated increase for Task 4 is \$6,208.00. Also, Task 5 which is for Miscellaneous Support Services is requested to be increased by an estimated \$4,792.00 for review of the City of Dickinson capital improvement plan for other possible grants, and to apply for the NDDOT Special Road Fund grant. City staff recommends approval.

MOTION BY: Jason Fridrich

SECONDED BY: Joe Ridl

To approve the Contract Amendment for Grant Writing Services to KLJ Engineering.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote...Aye 4, Nay 0, Absent 1  
Motion declared duly passed

**B. NDDOT Urban Maintenance Certification Urban Federal Aid Projects**

Engineer and Community Development Director Joshua Skluzacek presents a 2024 maintenance certification for urban federal aid projects. He states this is a requirement for NDDOT related to projects that have received federal funding and these projects are good for general public use.

MOTION BY: Robert Baer

SECONDED BY: Joe Ridl

To approve the NDDOT Urban Maintenance Certification Urban Federal Aid Projects.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote...Aye 4, Nay 0, Absent 1  
Motion declared duly passed

**8. PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENTS NOT ON AGENDA – 5:00 P.M.**

**A. Public Comments not on Agenda**

Mr. Seth Helgeson approaches the City Commissioners on the 5<sup>th</sup> amendment part of bill of right and the government cannot abuse powers. Before government can take property, they must follow rules to have fairness. Special assessments are taking private property for public purposes. Taxation must be uniform. Municipalities should avoid special assessment. Government property rights are upheld. Special assessments are unconstitutional. Project are meant to benefit the whole communities. Government official swears to protect and uphold constitution. Citizens cannot afford to fight in court. Special assessments abused in ND. Does improvement benefit the public at large? YES; benefit the entire community; YES. Mr. Helgeson states he is waiting for the percentage of number of signatures from the AG's office.

City Attorney Christina Wenko states she has requested an AG office opinion; I did follow up with them today and requested a timeline when to see that. They did let me know that about a month ago they have been working on our request.

Mr. Seth Helgeson states records requested cannot be provided and they stated they do not have any records. Home rule authority give authority to full right to fall within home rule charter. Why do you get to make up your rules and laws? Records cannot be provided that no records are exist.

President Scott Decker states Mr. Helgeson you will have your answer that there will be a ruling shortly.

City Attorney Christina Wenko states she has asked for an opinion and we are hearing from the attorney general office.

City Commissioner Jason Fridrich asks Mr. Helgeson that this will come to an end soon if you don't quit yelling.

President Scott Decker asks Mr. Helgeson to please calm down. You are generally irritated.

Mr. Helgeson states he is a little emotional upset because I don't like to be lied to.

President Scott Decker states you have the answer, there will be rule. If you are correct then will go by 15%. What is it Mr. Helgeson – lecture of home rule and century code?

Mr. Helgeson states they said that I am right. I am being lied to. Strip us the people of the rights.

Commissioner Jason Fridrich states again to Mr. Helgeson to lower your tone again.

Mr. Charles Tuttle states he was actually approached by elder woman at my stand. She is on a fixed income and city came and tore up her cement. Then sent her a bill for \$1,700 and she paid the bill and doesn't have the money. If this being done and why is it being done. If you are able to tear up the side walk and replace the pipes, and it is in the public area.

President Scott Decker states to Mr. Tuttle that the lady in question should contact him or City Engineer to get to the bottom and find out. It was probably in SID to have sidewalk replaced. Try to work with every person and if you don't know about the problems unless we know it.

Mr. Tuttle states to save money for rainy day and I think this the time to do it. Some of these people are not going to come to you and not confrontational or call you. Mr. Tuttle states the Secretary of State states home rule charter supersedes the state law. This issue has not even been raised. If Ms. Wenko was doing her job, it is in the Secretary of State homework and that it is 15%. No need to get an opinion of AG. Opinion is not law; it is until someone challenges it.

**9. COMMISSION  
A. Vision West**

President Scott Decker states that his second term on the Vision West Board is expiring. He has given the notice that he will not be returning to the Board and asks if anyone of the Commissioners would be interested in sitting on the Vision West Board. Also, a staff member could serve on the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION BY: Joe Ridl

SECONDED BY: Robert Baer

Adjournment of the meeting was at 5:35 P.M.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote... Aye 4, Nay 0, Absent 1  
Motion declared duly passed.

OFFICIAL MINUTES PREPARED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rita Binstock, Assistant to City Administrator

APPROVED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dustin Dassinger, City Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Decker, President  
Board of City Commissioners

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ October 15, 2024 \_\_\_\_\_