

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Dennis W. Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Present were: President Dennis W. Johnson, Carson Steiner, Gene Jackson, and Joe Frenzel

Absent were: Klayton Oltmanns

STANDARD MOTIONSIII. 2012 SUBSIDY REQUESTSA. ***Theodore Roosevelt Regional Airport***

Matt Remyense, Airport Manager speaks to the Commissioners and requests additional money for a new hanger. This hanger would be a medium sized hanger which would have an 80'x 25' door. This hanger was estimated to be approximately \$500,000. Remyense explains Lemmon, SD received bids for the same type of hanger and the new hanger estimated cost is closer to \$800,000. Remyense is requesting an additional \$100,000 grant to use towards the hanger. Remyense will also be revisiting Stark Development, Billings and Dunn Counties for additional funds. Remyense anticipates with the county mills, the city money and the reserves from the airport a loan of approximately \$75,000-80,000 will still need to be taken out for the hanger. Remyense explains a new parking lot will be constructed this summer. He does state FAA monies cannot be used for a parking lot if fees are charged and the airport does not charge for parking. Mr. Remyense informs the Commissioners on how important it is to have a large hanger at the airport so the airplanes can be housed during the winter weather in order for them to run properly. By using the hanger the aircrafts will not be affected by the weather and will be able to fly daily.

Commissioner Frenzel arrives at 1:05 p.m.

B. ***Arts on the Prairie***

City Administrator Shawn Kessel reports on behalf of Kristi Pechtl, Executive Director of Arts on the Prairie. Kessel thanks the City Commission for their continued support for the Arts on the Prairie and would like to ask for the continued support of \$8,000.00 for the year 2012 and the use of the office space. Kessel explains some of the annual programs held by Arts on the Prairie such as the Missoula Children's Theatre, band shell, Relay for Life concessions and the Dickinson's Got Talent programs. Kessel explains this program is run on a very slim budget with a total of assets less than \$15,000.

Commissioner Jackson feels 50% of the expenditures are being requested and the remaining funds must be coming from savings.

C. ***Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)***

Bev Hafele, Project Coordinator for the RSVP in Dickinson spoke about the RSVP and RSVP+ program. This program focuses on the needs of older adults. This program has 316 volunteers with 164 being the age of 55+. A consignment store has been opened in the T-Rex Mall to subsidize the program. This store is run by volunteers. Volunteers only work for non-profit and government agencies. Hafele states volunteers over the age of 55 have worked 25,659 which saved non-profits \$422,860 and 43 - 55 years old and younger volunteers worked a total of 2211 hours

for a savings for non-profits of \$36,000. Hafele states without the help of volunteers the non-profits in the community may not be able to do the things they do. This program is keeping the over age 55 volunteers active in the community. The core volunteer base age is 55 and older. Hafele states the older volunteers mentor younger volunteers.

Robert Sivak who is the Vice Chairman on the Advisory Council states RSVP is a very good steward of the funds given to them. This program returns back to the community by engaging volunteers on a 1 to 1 basis and is a very strong statement on how to keep the community involved.

**D. Sunrise Youth Bureau**

Jerry Mayer, Sunrise Youth Bureau Director gives many examples of the program and how it is utilized. This program allows for children to be taken to a safe place outside of the home or from any institutions. This program has 24 hour supervision. Mayer thanks the Commissioner for the past support and the continued support. Mayer states this program diverts the juveniles from juvenile court with the appropriate consequences as related to their crimes. Mayer feels this program is important and critical to Dickinson. Mr. Mayer introduces two of his staff members who teach preventive classes such as alcohol, self esteem and other classes to grade school students in order for the students to make better choices in the future. Mayer explains the some of the funding does come from Stark County mill levy dollars and donations. The Youth Bureau does charge for classes and receives donations from others. Their expenses of \$31,000 consist of telephone, supplies, equipment, and others. The biggest expenditure is salaries.

Chuck Rummel who is on the Board of Directors for the Sunrise Youth Bureau explains the Sunrise Youth Bureau is trying to keep the organization afloat with the monies they have. The staff is very good stewards of the funds received. Rummel feels Sunrise prevents juveniles from going into the court systems because of intervention. Rummel states the staff do visit schools and teach different topics such as anger management, etc.

President Johnson does state no financial decisions will be made today. These requests will be forwarded on to the budget and the City staff will review the requests at budget time.

\*\*\*\*\*A five minute break was taken\*\*\*\*\*

**E. Southwest Community Service**

Toni Morasko, Program Director states SW Community Service serves all of southwestern North Dakota which is approximately 10,000 square miles. This program is a judicial system for alternative incarceration for low risk offenders. Offenders can work off fines and fees and community service arranges work for the offenders. Offenders are taught life skills. Morasko is requesting \$6500.00 for the year of 2012. She states this program has been in business for 17 years and now has seen more drugs in this area than ever before. Morasko states that offenders cannot always pay for fines or classes so she finds temporary jobs in order for them to complete their community service. In placing these individuals Morasko hopes they will receive training and then be hired onto the position permanently. She doe state again this is an alternative to incarceration. Morasko states she does receive funds from the surrounding counties. Ms. Morasko again thanks the City and the Commission for their past support.

**F. Western Wellness Foundation, Inc./Best Friends Mentoring**

Kris Fehr, Director of Western Wellness Foundation would like to thank the Commissioners for the past funding to Western Wellness Foundation/Best Friends Program. The City's current contribution means six kids have social skill training, role modeling and tutoring. This program is a prevention program as it keeps kids from getting in trouble now and later on. The program serves kids at risk. Fehr states 68% of the kids are at poverty level, 48% are below proficiency in math, 45% below reading, 42% single parent homes which is double the average in North Dakota. Fehr explains mentoring helps youth from becoming a statistic. Fehr reports 219 children have been served so far in 2011. The program does do fund raisers such as recycling, chocolate affair and seeks other grants and donations. Ms. Fehr explains the "Round Up" program which she feels the City should institute with their utility bills. This Round Up program would allow citizens to round up their bills to the next dollar and the remaining unused funds would be put towards a charity. This way all citizens in Dickinson would be able to donate to charity. Fehr does explain the energy impact has affected this Best Friends program as they are seeing more and more kids who are staying at home without supervision. They also see people with different family life styles, discipline styles where violence is a daily occurrence and that is not desirable. The energy workers do work many hours and the kids are not being taken care of.

**G. Theodore Roosevelt Symposium Dickinson State University (DSU) – Theodore Roosevelt (TR) Symposium**

Sharon Kilzer, Project Manager thanked the City Commission for their past support and would like to continue to receive \$20,000.00 for the year 2012. Ms. Kilzer is very excited to announce the 2011 Symposium will be held in Dickinson over Theodore Roosevelt's birthday on October 27-29, 2011 which will be held in conjunction with the 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual meeting for the National TR Association. Ms. Kilzer explains the events that will be taking place over the three day event. Kilzer explains the value of the program and gives examples of the many that are thankful for the Theodore Roosevelt Symposium culture and humanities program and for the featured event. Kilzer states many return year after year to the Symposium. This program draws people from outside of the community which impacts the economy of the City. Kilzer states the hospitality that the City and the institution provide as well as the community is excellent. Kilzer states Edward Morris will be the keynote speaker at the Symposium this fall. Ms. Kilzer thanks the City for their support and is looking forward to the continued support.

**H. Stark Development**

Gaylon Baker, Executive Vice President of Stark Development Corporation gave a presentation to the Commission highlighting the activities and accomplishments of the organization. Mr. Baker informed the Commission this program is a 501c(4) nonprofit organization with two full time employees. This program is funded with 14% of 1% sales tax for economic development. This program focuses objectively on economic merits of proposed projects. Mr. Baker thanked the Commission for the continued support and would like to continue to receive 14% of the 1% City sales tax. Baker would like retention of manufacturing jobs which is difficult with the energy impact. Baker has been focusing more on the need for housing and feels the rent would be much higher in Dickinson if the PACE program was not incorporated.

President Johnson states in the early 90's the 1% of the sales tax was supportive for economic development which was to attract business as there was more people than jobs. As time marched on and with closing the 20<sup>th</sup> century we begin to notice there are more jobs than people and the economic change now is from trying to attract business to now attracting ?people. Johnson states housing is a significant issue and he applauds Stark Development for recognizing this and changing their roll.

City Administrator Kessel thanks Gaylon for being on the interview and selection team for the City Planner and the Comprehensive Transportation Plan. Kessel states having Stark Development as part of the process have been very helpful.

**I. Mayors Committee on Persons with Disabilities**

Ray Ann Kilen thanks the Commission for their past support. Ms. Kilen explains the Mayors Committee does not need any funding this year.

**J. Small Business Development Center**

Ray Ann Kilen who is the Regional Director for Small Business Development Center states this program serves eight counties. This program serves clients as they start a small business, retention, create a new business and follow-up with the business.

Ms. Kilen states this program takes the entire package and moves it forward all the way until it is producing. This program is continuing to grow. There has been an increased demand on services with the growth of the community. In 2010, 263 clients were served and created 70 new jobs. At this time Ms. Kilen's company is behind approximately six months. Ms. Kilen is requesting money from the City to add new staff members to help out with the demand. She states the federal funding for this program is maxed out. Dickinson State University does give in-kind such as the space, copier, phone and others. Ms. Kilen has approached Stark Development for funding but her request has gone unanswered.

\*\*\*\*\*A five minute break was taken\*\*\*\*\*

**K. Elder Care**

Collen Rodakowski, Director spoke to the Commission in regards to the Elder Care – Public Transit Program. Elder Care took over Public Transit on April 1, 2009. Rodakowski explains the program cannot continue without the support of the City.

Rodakowski is requesting \$100,000 in 2012 to continue with the demand for taxi service. Public transit has seen great growth with the bar crowd and walk-ons after midnight. She states 50% of the riders do exceed the five minute wait time at pickup. Rodakowski explains that public transit does promote Dickinson in its economic growth. Rodakowski would like to increase the salaries this year to be comparable to other companies in Dickinson. She states ridership has steadily been increasing. With the increase in traffic it takes tremendously longer periods of time to transport individuals. Increased driver awareness for safety has been highly stressed.

Discussion had taken place on what the cost of fuel will be and the increase in rider fares.

Fred Gengler, Board Member explains the board does review the fair rates every three months. Should they see a need to increase the rates on 1/1/12 this could take place.

**L. Domestic Violence**

Darianne Johnson and Gloria Fichter-Rau, co-chairs of Southwest Homeless and Domestic Violence provide safe and secure shelter for the domestic violence individuals. Johnson states their funding varies from year to year and it is very difficult to depend on the federal funding. The expenses for the shelter do include food, shelter supplies such as office equipment and a large ticket item is travel.

Ms. Johnson states Domestic Violence's goal for the clients are to help them get self sufficient and move into their homes. She states at this time clients have been housed at the shelter for six to eight months as there is no place for them to live. Johnson does see more incidents of domestic violence with the increased population. Johnson feels there are a lot more issues in regards to drug usage. The shelter has 4 full-time

and 2 part-time employees along within house parents. The capacity of the shelter is 18 and it has been at full capacity for the past 1 ½ years.

Ms. Rau states changes in safety and security has definitely been on the forefront. She states people are not predictable in their actions. Rau feels it is becoming harder to continue meeting needs of special illnesses, drug and alcohol abuse issues and hard to continue to meet the needs of the population.

President Johnson commends Ms. Johnson and Ms. Rau on the work they have done in the community and bringing the challenges forward.

**M. Convention and Visitors Bureau**

Terri Thiel, Executive Director of the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) thanked the Commission for their support for the year 2011. The CVB promotes the City and much of the surrounding communities. Ms. Thiel would like to continue with the funding as usual. Thiel provides the Commission with the 2011 budget which includes the revenue, expenses and additional items in regards to the marketing of the City of Dickinson. . Thiel does visit some about the new motels opening and the availability of the rooms. On their website Thiel explains there is a listing of available rooms weekly.

Commissioner Jackson questions Ms. Thiel on the overage of funding that will be received through the Occupancy Tax for the year of 2011.

Ms. Thiel states these funds will be placed back into marketing. Thiel elaborates on the construction areas around the City and the room rates. Thiel feels the motels are full not only because of the workers, business travelers but soon will be occupied by the visitor travel season.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION BY: Carson Steiner

SECONDED BY: Joe Frenzel

For adjournment of the meeting at approximately 4:05 PM.

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:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Shawn Kessel, City Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis W. Johnson, President  
Board of City Commissioners

Date: \_\_\_\_\_