

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, Klayton Oltmanns and Gene Jackson,

Absent were: Joe Frenzel and Carson Steiner

STANDARD MOTIONSIII. 2013 SUBSIDY REQUESTS***A. Sunrise Youth Bureau***

Jerry Mayer, Sunrise Youth Bureau Director thanks the City for its past support of the Sunrise Youth Bureau Program. Mayer states Sunrise Youth Bureau is the only agency that provides this service and is partially reimbursed through the ND Association of Counties. In 2013 \$400,000, which is a \$200,000 reduction, will be distributed through 11 counties. Mayer explains this program houses the troubled juveniles until they can either be returned to the home or outside placement. Mayer states Dickinson has seen an increase in troubled juveniles as local people have gotten jobs and are away from their homes which puts stress on the family and affects their children. Mayer states staffing has not been a problem. The challenge for Sunrise Youth Bureau is that there is no place to take care of the juveniles as there is not a lot of availability for them to go to. Mayer states foster care is a tremendous need for SW ND. He states the older juveniles are harder to place than the younger ones.

***B. Theodore Roosevelt Symposium***

Sharon Kilzer, Project Manager, thanked the City Commission for their past support and would like to continue to receive \$20,000 for the year 2013. Ms. Kilzer states there are many demands placed on our resources, time and energy and to have time to invest in the future and cultural institutions. Kilzer states Dickinson has a Presidential Library which features Theodore Roosevelt and the library is able to make every individual item of the president searchable online. Kilzer states the 2011 symposium brought in 168 individuals outside of North Dakota with 35 states represented. Nationally acclaimed scholars and authors such as Edmund Morris, Douglas Brinkley and Roger DiSilvestro were present at the 2011 symposium. The 2012 Theodore Roosevelt Symposium is slated for September 20-22, 2012. Kilzer hopes to broaden interest in our community and all around the nation for the symposium. Kilzer once again thanks the Commission for their support.

***C. 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 such as pulling weeds, working with Community Action in insulating, etc. Morasko is requesting \$5,000 for the year of 2013. She states this program does drug testing and there have been a considerable increase in these this past year. She states this program is an alternative to incarceration. Morasko states she does receive funds from the surrounding counties which is very minimal. Ms. Morasko again thanks the City and the Commission for their past support.

**D. Roughrider Commission**

Cory Thompson, President of Roughrider Commission, presents on behalf of the Roughrider Commission. Thompson is asking \$250,000 for new bleachers along with an overhead canopy on two thirds of the bleachers at the DSU rodeo grounds. The seating capacity for these bleachers would be 3,224 seats. DSU will not provide any funding for this project as the bleachers will be placed on their property. Stark County will provide some funds but not the total amount. Thompson states the Roughrider Commission is on borrowed time with the current bleachers. They are a safety hazard and the Roughrider Commission has been grandfathered in with these bleachers. Thompson states the facility is being used by Dickinson High School, 4H, Showdeo and others. He is hoping to have the construction completed by Memorial Day 2013. Thompson states fund raising has not been discussed at this time.

**E. Arts on the Prairie**

Finance Director Tina Johnson presents on behalf of Arts on the Prairie. In the past they have received \$8,000 and are requesting \$10,000 for the year 2013. These funds would be used for the band shell program and the Missoula Children's Festival.

Commissioner Oltmanns states the budget for this program has been very tight the past two years and the program has tapped into some of their reserves. They do provide entertainment at the band shell and sponsor the Missoula Children's Theater.

**F. Stark County Victim Witness**

Finance Director Tina Johnson presents on behalf of Stark County Victim/Witness Program. Johnson reports Stark County Victim/Witness Program is requesting \$15,000 for the year 2013. At this time the money they receive from the City is actually reimbursed fines assessed to the offender. This request of \$15,000 would be in addition to the court fines.

**G. Domestic Violence**

Darriane Johnson, chair of Domestic Violence provides safe and secure shelter for the domestic violence individuals. Johnson is asking for \$15,000 for the year 2013. 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. Johnson states the challenges that are faced today are lack of affordable housing, increased rent prices, increased cost of living in Dickinson, influx of people, lack of daycare and affordable daycares, drugs and alcohol and staff turnover. Johnson states the shelter has become an issue to the point where people have been turned away from help. Another challenge is the cost of living in Dickinson. Ms. Johnson has seen an increase in domestic violence assaults and the community as well as the agency is not prepared for this influx of people and trying to handle the situations at hand. Johnson states Domestic Violence has received tremendous support from the surrounding community and Dickinson.

Ms. Johnson thanks the Commission again for its continued support.

Paulette Riehl, Accountant, states Domestic Violence only has a reserve so they can continue to be stable. Riehl states they would like to have a sustainable program. She feels fortunate of the local support they have been receiving and this has resulted in a couple of years of surplus. Riehl states this is an informal way deemed to obtain additional space should this be needed. At this time Riehl states if they are lucky enough to find something suitable for additional space they would purchase it. It has been a struggle to find an appropriate facility.

President Johnson states if Domestic Violence should find the much needed space 30% of the 1% sales tax could be used for capital expenditures such as a building project.

Commissioner Oltmanns thanks Ms. Johnson and Ms. Riehl for all they do.

#### **H. Stark County Veterans**

Eugene Robinson and Art Wanner represent Stark County Veterans Memorial Association. Mr. Wanner states this memorial would be dedicated to Stark County Veterans. He states Dickinson will be the only City in the area to have a veteran's memorial. Wanner reports they are in the process of obtaining a 501(c)3 status to offer tax exemptions for donations. This memorial will be granite and etching of names will be placed on the wall prior to bringing it to Dickinson. Wanner states the main goal at this time is to raise money and get the project off the ground. Wanner states Stark County have committed \$100,000 and they are asking the City to commit \$100,000. The location of the memorial will be at the Memorial Park.

#### **I. Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)Plus**

Nancy Olson, North Dakota Program Manager for RSVP+ in Dickinson spoke about the RSVP+ program. Ms. Olson states this program recruits volunteers from all ages. Olson is asking for \$25,000 to support this program in Dickinson. This program offers foster grandparent programs for the schools instilled at the elementary level to raise kids reading scores. There are 475 volunteers in Dickinson. Volunteers work 12-15 hours a week and work at Amen, ARC, deliver meals and work in the community. Olson states that some volunteers are now scared to deliver meals and the challenge of the cost of living have driven volunteers out of town.

#### **J. Elder Care**

Collen Rodakowski, Director spoke to the Commission in regards to the Public Transit Program. Rodakowski would like to request an additional 3% increase on top of the funding for 2012. In addition to the 3% Rodakowski would like to have \$40,000 to hire a mid manager through the Hospitality Tax. Rodakowski explains the program and how it receives funding. She states the increased traffic and road conditions constantly impact the rides. Rodakowski states employees are very much needed and hard to retain. The increase in oil industry has definitely affected Elder Care with the increased traffic. She does state mid management staff is desperately needed to assist with special projects. She feels cross training is needed in order to stay open. There are 80 employees and a personal goal is to have \$300,000 set aside so that Elder Care can remain stable. Rodakowski states the nutritional side of the program is dropping a bit as the elderly are moving out of town because of the inflation of the community. Ms. Rodakowski again thanks the Commissioners for their continued support.

#### **K. 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 four 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. She states the funding for this program is becoming more and more local supporters. NDSU partnership will end on June 30, 2012 for Title V and Best Friends will need to pick up the salary. United Way has granted some funds to the program this year. Fehr states there is an increase in demand for mentor. When youth are not supported by mentors, risk factors increase. Fehr is asking for \$10,000 for the year 2013. She feels the program is being influenced by the energy and is seeing families stressed and this

shows in the behavior of the children. Ms. Fehr again thanks the Commissioner for their support.

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

Ray Ann Kilen thanks the Commission for their past support. Ms. Kilen explains the Mayors Committee would like to request \$1,000 for the year of 2013. Kilen states the program does Diversity Days in the schools. There is an annual recognition from the Chamber of Commerce for outstanding work with employees. Kilen states the more we build awareness the more we can make a difference.

**M. 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. Kilen does state they have secured an intern at the University. Killeen is requesting \$50,000 for the program.

**N. Parks and Recreation**

Director James Kramer presents the Commission his request of \$580,000. Kramer states at the end of May, 2012 the West River Community Center had 5,976 members and this is a 1,100 increase over the 2011 count. Kramer states the golf course has hit a high two times in May for the most rounds in one day with over 260 rounds. Kramer also states Patterson Lake attendance has tripled since last year in May. Kramer states a West River Expansion Committee which is a group of 7 citizens and elected officials have presented some expansion ideas such as an outdoor pool, additional sheet of ice, additional gym space, additional fitness space for cardio machines and group fitness rooms.

Commissioner Jackson feels these projects would improve the quality of the community and he feels these projects are important. Jackson does question the need for fund raising which is not mentioned in Kramer's report. He feels some of these projects would appeal to donors for the quality of life.

Mr. Kramer states there are some nonprofit items such as the band shell, mustang baseball and the outdoor tennis courts that do not generate funds. He states the indoor tennis courts have changed the use of the outdoor courts in the community. Kramer visits about upgrading some parks. Mr. Kramer states both the golf and community center are operating in the black with the day to day operating expenses and he is looking for larger items to be covered by the City.

Mike Lefor states Parks and Rec will try and raise private funding for the recreational expansion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION BY: Klayton Oltmanns

SECONDED BY: Gene Jackson

For adjournment of the meeting at approximately 3:45 PM.

DISPOSITION: Roll call vote...Aye 3, Nay 0, Absent 2.  
Motion declared duly passed.

OFFICIAL MINUTES PREPARED BY:

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Rita Binstock, Assistant to City Administrator

APPROVED BY:

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Shawn Kessel, City Administrator

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Dennis W. Johnson, President  
Board of City Commissioners

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