

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a regular meeting of the Council in and for the City of Albany, Stearns County, Minnesota, was called to order by Mayor Daron Gersch at 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, August 21, 2013, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue for the said City.

Other Council members present were: Councilors Laurie Dingmann, John Greer, and Tom Kasner. Councilor John R. Harlander was absent.

Also present were: Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm., Joe Mergen, Public Works Supervisor, Jeremy Mathiasen, City Engineer, Stantec, Inc., Ozzie Carbajal, Police Chief, and Mike Kosik, Staff Writer, Albany Enterprise. No members from the public were present for the meeting.

After due discussion, a motion was made by John Greer and seconded by Tom Kasner to authorize the payment of the following bills: Check Numbers 63603 to 63644 and 14937 to 14953. All voted for the motion and it carried. The complete check register is on file at the office of the City Clerk/Adm. for public inspection during regular office hours.

Mayor Daron Gersch called for any corrections or additions to the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on August 7th and hearing none declared them approved.

Mr. Mathiasen appeared before the Council to update the Council on the progress of the 2013 Railroad Avenue (T.H. #238) Improvements (Phase II). Mr. Mathiasen presented to the Council pay request number four to R. L. Larson Excavating, Inc., for the Railroad Avenue Improvements. After due discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by Laurie Dingmann to approve the pay application to R. L. Larson Excavating, Inc., in the amount of \$485,683.83. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Councilor Tom Kasner informed the Council that a property owner questioned if the City or the general contractor for the 2010 Capital Improvement Project was responsible to repair the boulevard in areas that settled after construction making it impossible to mow grass adjacent to the curb. Mr. Kasner noted that he inspected the area and confirmed that the boulevard did settle in several areas. Ms. Dingmann also noted that several boulevard areas along the 2006 Capital Improvement Project experienced the same problem. Mr. Mathiasen informed the Council that the contractor warranty period has expired on both projects. Mayor Daron Gersch, with the consensus of the Council, directed Mr. Mergen to inspect the said boulevards and obtain a quote from a local landscaper to repair the boulevards.

Mr. Schneider presented to the Council a proposed 2014 budget which included the following departments: Police, Fire, Street, Park, Library, and Administration. Mr. Schneider noted that the proposed budget does not show a levy increase due to an increase in local government aid (LGA). The Council took notice of a capital equipment plan for the Police and Public Works Department. Mr. Schneider also noted that the Council must certify the proposed 2014 levy to the Stearns County Auditor on or before September 15th.

Mr. Mergen recommended to the Council that the unpaid water bill at 301 13th Street be certified to the Stearns County Auditor to be collected as a special assessment. After due discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by Mayor Daron Gersch to direct the City Clerk/Administrator to certify to the Stearns County Auditor the unpaid water bill at 301 13th Street in the amount of \$150.14. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Councilor Tom Kasner, Fire Department Liaison, informed the Council that the fire department recently purchased a new Pumper/Tanker (\$197,000 +/-) with funding from the Albany Area Fire Board's capital equipment fund, fire department charitable gambling funds, and local fund raising activities. Mr. Kasner presented to the Council a proposed Fire and Emergency Mutual Aid Agreement between several Stearns County Fire Departments pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 471.59 which authorizes the joint and

cooperative exercise of powers common to contracting parties. Mr. Schneider informed the Council that the Stearns County Fire Chief's Association has been discussing a proposed agreement that would make equipment, personnel, and other resources available to fire departments from other fire departments. After due discussion and upon the recommendation by the Albany Fire Department, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by John Greer to approve the aforesaid Agreement. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Carbajal informed the Council that Patrol Officer Jeff Eggert was successful in obtaining a \$4,500 grant from Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) to allow the department to purchase a video camera for the squad car. Mr. Carbajal also informed the Council that Patrol Officer John Arneson will teach the No Bullying Program at the Albany Elementary School for students in grades K-6.

Mayor Daron Gersch, Albany Golf Club Liaison, presented to the Council the said Club's checkbook register for review and consideration. Mayor Daron Gersch noted that there was some damage to the course from the June severe storms and the cleanup expenses will be submitted to FEMA for reimbursement because Stearns County was included in the presidential disaster declaration for assistance. Mr. Schneider also noted that the City and Fire Department will submit applications to be included in the said declaration for labor, equipment, and materials for the June 21st cleanup. After due discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Daron Gersch and seconded by John Greer to authorize the payment of the following bills: Check Numbers 35658 to 36025. Voting for the motion were Mayor Daron Gersch, Councilors Laurie Dingmann, and John Greer and none voted against. Councilor Tom Kasner abstained and the motion carried.

The Council took notice of a Minnesota Lawful Gambling Exempt Permit Application submitted by the Albany Sportsman Club, 38052 State HWY #238, Albany, to conduct a raffle on January 3, 2014 at Paul's Par-A-Dice, 451 Railroad Avenue. After due discussion, a motion was made by John Greer and seconded by Laurie Dingmann to approve the said Application. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Schneider presented to the Council a cost estimate in the amount of \$7,810 submitted by Heritage Construction Companies for the installation of curb/gutter on the eastern boundary of the City Administration building parking lot. Mr. Schneider informed the Council that the City received a cost estimate from Ferber, Inc., St. Cloud, MN, to install the curb/gutter in the amount significantly less. Mr. Greer noted that if acceptable, the work and authorization should be included in the Railroad Avenue Improvements. After due discussion, a motion was made by John Greer and seconded by Tom Kasner to authorize Ferber, Inc., St. Cloud, MN, to install the curb along the eastern boundary of the City Administration building parking lot and said work to be included in the Railroad Avenue Improvements. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mayor Daron Gersch announced the next regular Council meeting for 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, September 4, 2013 and adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM.

Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm.