

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 Acting Mayor John Greer at 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, February 5, 2014, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue for the said City.

Other Council members present were: Councilors Laurie Dingmann, Tom Kasner, and John R. Harlander. Mayor Daron Gersch 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 R. Harlander and seconded by Laurie Dingmann to authorize the payment of the following bills: Check Numbers 64060 to 64123 and 15129 to 15140. 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.

Acting Mayor John Greer called for any corrections or additions to the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on January 15th and hearing none declared them approved.

Randy Lockridge, President, and Randy Ritter, Albany Area Jaycee member, appeared before the Council on behalf of the Albany Area Jaycees, to request approval for an Event Permit for their annual Ice Cup Golf Challenge to be held on the North Lake on Saturday, February 22nd. Mr. Ritter noted that there are fifty-two teams with five individuals per team that compete against each other in a scramble format which requires each individual to hit a golf ball on fairways constructed on the ice selecting the best shot from the five players. Mr. Ritter also requested that a Police Officer speak to the contestants before the start to ensure that everyone participating in the event has a safe and fun experience. Councilor Tom Kasner noted that this event has been very successful over the years and thanked the Jaycees for their financial donations to the City over the years. Mr. Schneider informed the Council that the Jaycees recently donated \$5,000 towards the improvement in the Legion Park and \$20,000 towards the purchase of new playground equipment in North Park. After due discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by John R. Harlander to approve the said Permit. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Ozzie Carbajal, Police Chief, appeared before the Council to inform the Council that Patrol Officer John Arneson successfully completed his one-year probationary period. Mr. Carbajal noted that Mr. Arneson is teaching the No Bullying curriculum at the Albany Elementary School which has been well received by the staff and students. Mr. Carbajal recommended that the Council remove the probationary period status. After due discussion and upon the recommendation from Mr. Carbajal, a motion was made by John Greer and seconded by Tom Kasner to remove the designation of probationary period status from John Arneson having successfully completed his one-year probationary period. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Carbajal presented to the Council a proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the Stearns County Attorney and the Albany Police Department to participate in the County's Adult Diversion Program. Mr. Carbajal informed the Council that the said Program will be made available to eligible offenders within the City who commit eligible offenses. Mr. Carbajal noted that these individuals who participate are of lesser violators and if the individual successfully completes the said Program the record of the incident will be removed from the individual's record. After due discussion, a motion was made by John Greer and seconded by John R. Harlander to authorize the Albany Police Department to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding with the Stearns County Attorney. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Carbajal excused himself from the meeting at 6:45 PM.

Mr. Mathiasen appeared before the Council to inform the Council that the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is reviewing the claims for extra work and compensation submitted by R. L. Larson Excavating, St. Cloud, MN, relating to the 2013 Railroad Avenue (State HWY #238)

Improvements. Mr. Kasner questioned if MnDOT had been contacted regarding the concrete surface failing between 5th Street and 8th Street on Railroad Avenue or suggestions on what will be required to repair the concrete. Mr. Mathiasen informed the Council that R.L. Larson Excavating, the General Contractor, and MnDOT are aware of the problems with the concrete, but have not communicated with him how the issue will be resolved, but the surface will definitely be inspected when weather conditions improve.

Mr. Mathiasen presented to the Council a proposed Pavement Management Plan and a map depicting improvement projects that have been completed to date; proposed seal coat plan, and future Capital Improvement Plan. Mr. Mathiasen informed the Council that street surfaces should be seal coated seven to eight years after the first placement of bituminous or reconstruction improvement to extend the life expectancy of the surface. Mr. Mergen noted that the proposed 2014 Seal Coat Improvements is estimated to be \$75,000, about one-half of what previous had been proposed, for those residential subdivisions constructed in the years 2003 and 2004. Mr. Harlander recommended that the City proceed with a small seal coat project in 2014 and 2015, but to budget for future seal coat projects. Acting Mayor John Greer, with the consensus of the Council, directed Mr. Mergen with the assistance of the City Engineer, to prepare the necessary bidding documents for the 2014 Seal Coat Improvements. Mr. Mergen also informed the Council that the sewage flow and condition of the sanitary sewer main in the golf course is very poor and recommended that the Council consider the replacement of the main in the year 2014. Mr. Kasner questioned if the new sanitary sewer main would be installed using an open trench, soil boring, or pipe bursting because there are major obstacles on the course that will pose serious problems for the contractor and golf course operations. Mr. Kasner also questioned if the sanitary sewer main in the golf course could be abandoned and a new sewer main installed on Church Avenue to serve the properties being Church Avenue is considered to be reconstructed in the year 2020. Mr. Mergen noted that the sewer service for the properties on Church Avenue may pose the greatest challenge because each would need to be relocated to flow northerly to Church Avenue rather than through the golf course or each may require a small lift station pump. Acting Mayor John Greer, with the consensus of the Council directed Mr. Mathiasen to research what would work the best for the replacement of the sanitary sewer main. Mr. Kasner noted that he will discuss the proposed sanitary sewer main improvement with the golf board at their next meeting.

Mr. Mergen presented to the Council a list of property owners that have not paid their utility (water/sewer) bill after receiving notices that their utility bills were past due pursuant to Ordinance 30. Acting Mayor John Greer, with the consensus of the Council, directed Mr. Mergen to make one final contact with the property owners to encourage full payment.

Mr. Schneider presented to the Council an amendment to the City's Personnel Policy to provide a lump sum payment to a full-time employee in lieu of a Health Savings Account (HSA) contribution for employees not enrolled in the high deductible health insurance plan. Mr. Schneider noted that an employee not on the City's health insurance plan brought the issue to him and requested the Council consider the amendment. Mr. Schneider also noted that the amendment may entice other employees to enroll in their spouses or an individual health insurance plan resulting in a savings to the City or the Council may elect not to consider the amendment. After due discussion, a motion was made by John R. Harlander who introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY
RESOLUTION 2014-01

The motion for the foregoing Resolution was seconded by Tom Kasner and after a full discussion thereon and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Councilors Laurie Dingmann, John R. Harlander, and Tom Kasner. Acting Mayor John Greer voted against whereupon the said Resolution declared duly passed and adopted. The full text of the said Resolution is on file at the office of the City Clerk/Administrator for public inspection during regular office hours.

The Council also took notice of a Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division, application and permit for a temporary on-sale liquor license submitted by the Church of Seven Dolours, 151 2nd Street, for a Valentine Dinner to be held on February 14th at the Seven

Dolors Parish Center. Mr. Schneider informed the Council that a permit is required being wine will be consumed on the premises. After due discussion, a motion was made by Laurie Dingmann and seconded by John R. Harlander to approve the said application and permit. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Schneider informed the Council that the Special Election for Stearns County Commissioner District Five held at City Hall on Tuesday, January 28th resulted in the following: 96 votes were casts and 1,307 individuals were registered to vote. Mr. Schneider noted that the turnout was extremely low with only seven percent (7%) of the voters coming to the polls.

Mr. Schneider also informed the Council that David Drown, the City's Financial Consultant, will appear before the Council at the next meeting to present a resolution that would refund the 2007A bonds (2006 6th Street and 3rd Avenue Improvements). Mr. Schneider noted that the refunding will save the City approximately \$46,000 due to lower interest rates.

Acting Mayor John Greer announced the next regular Council meeting for 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, February 19, 2014 and adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm.