

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 Tom Kasner at 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue for the said City.

Other Council members present were: Councilors John R. Harlander, Keith Heitzman, and Adam Rushmeyer. Councilor Al Amdahl was absent.

Other's present were: Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm., Joe Mergen, Public Works Supervisor, Jeremy Mathiasen, City Engineer with Stantec, Inc., St. Cloud, MN, Sergeant Matt Gannon, Ross Tamm, 130 1<sup>st</sup> Street, and Ellarry Prentice, Staff Writer, the Star Post.

The council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The council took notice of approval of payment of bills. After due discussion, a motion was made by Keith Heitzman and seconded by Adam Rushmeyer to authorize electronic payments (payroll), transfers, and the payment of the following bills: Check Numbers 71656 to 71681. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mayor Tom Kasner called for any corrections or additions to the minutes of the regular meeting of the council held on February 2nd and hearing none declared them approved.

Open forum/public comments: none

John Hannon, Library Services Coordinator, Albany/Melrose Public Libraries, appeared before the council to present an activity report on the 2021 Albany Library operations. Mr. Hannon reported the following: circulation statistics (number of items checked out) was 92,815 items, an increase of 87.1% from 2020, a year plagued by COVID-19, and increase library hours. Mr. Hannon noted local programming and summer reading programs has been slowly coming back and library fines and late fees have been discontinued. Mayor Tom Kasner thanked Mr. Hannon for sharing the information with the council and hope the year 2022 will see more patrons.

Mr. Mathiasen presented to the council the following bids for the 2022 Capital Improvements (Midland Avenue (from 1<sup>st</sup> Street to 6<sup>th</sup> Street), 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Street (each between Railroad Avenue and Midland Avenue), and adjacent alleys that were publicly opened at 11:00 AM, on Wednesday, February 16th:

<b><u>Contactior</u></b>	<b><u>Base Bid</u></b>	<b><u>Alternate No. 1</u></b>	<b><u>Base + Alt. No.1</u></b>
Breitbach Construction Co.	\$1,976,660.89	\$32,039.70	\$2,008,700.59
C & L Excavating, Inc.	\$2,094,880.00	\$20,695.50	\$2,115,575.58
Kuechle Underground, Inc.	\$2,162,763.48	\$20,695.50	\$2,183,458.98
Northdale Construction Company	\$2,259,331.32	\$21,324.03	\$2,280,655.35
RL Larson Excavating, Inc.	\$2,269,434.15	\$21,462.00	\$2,290,896.15
Larson Excavating Const., Inc.	\$2,304,862.37	\$36,439.41	\$2,341,301.78
Duininck, Inc.	\$2,438,218.35	\$20,695.50	\$2,458,913.85
Ryan Contracting Company	\$2,575,984.00	\$47,523.00	\$2,623,507.00
Central Specialties, Inc.	\$2,583,390.49	\$20,695.50	\$2,604,085.99

Mr. Mathiasen informed the council the low base bid and alternate number one is Breitbach Construction Company, Elrosa, MN, in the amount of \$2,008,700.59. Mr. Mathiasen noted alternate number one included the concrete valley gutter in the east-west alleys. Mr. Mathiasen noted the council may just pave the whole alley with bituminous pavement but a concrete valley was discussed to improve stormwater flow and reduce issues with bituminous pavement in the center aisle in the future. Mr. Harlander noted he would be in favor of a concrete valley gutter and recommended the base bid and alternate number one be approved. Mr. Heitzman noted the concrete valley gutter will hold up much better

than bituminous. After due discussion and upon the recommendation by the city engineer, a motion was made by John R. Harlander who introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION 2022-06  
RECEIVING BIDS AND AWARDING CONTRACT  
2022 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT  
(Street and Utility Improvements)  
(Breitbach Construction Co. - \$2,008700.59)

The motion for the foregoing Resolution was seconded by Keith Heitzman and after a full discussion thereon and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Mayor Tom Kasner, Councilors Adam Rushmeyer, John R. Harlander, and Keith Heitzman, and none voted against the same whereupon the said Resolution was 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.

Mr. Mathiasen also presented to the council the plans and specifications for the 1<sup>st</sup> Street (TH 238) Intersection and Utility Improvements. Mr. Mathiasen noted the improvements will include minimum utility work, the addition of a second stop sign for southbound to eastbound traffic, a splitter island with a dedicated right turn lane for southbound to westbound traffic. Mr. Mathiasen noted the intersection improvements are expected to increase pedestrian safety, reduce driver confusion, and should reduce vehicles stacking on the east leg of the intersection during peak hours. Mr. Mathiasen also noted the second part of the project includes sidewalk construction along the west side of 8th Street and north side of Shamrock Lane; whereby the estimated construction cost for the full project is approximately \$460,000 which is largely funded through MnDOT State Aid. After due discussion and upon the recommendation by the city engineer, a motion was made by Adam Rushmeyer who introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION 2022-05  
RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS  
AND ORDERING ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS  
1<sup>st</sup> Street (TH 238) Intersection and Utility Improvements

The motion for the foregoing Resolution was seconded by John R. Harlander and after a full discussion thereon and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Mayor Tom Kasner, Councilors Adam Rushmeyer, John R. Harlander, and Keith Heitzman, and none voted against the same whereupon the said Resolution was 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. Bids to be publicly opened at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Mergen informed the council the city received a savings of nearly \$15,000 in electric charges at the Water Treatment Plant in 2021 by using the standby generator during off-peak hours at the direction of Stearns Electric Association, the electric distribution cooperative. Mr. Mergen noted the annual electrical savings range anywhere from \$13,000 to \$16,000 annually and the current standby generator is projected to be replaced in the year 2025. Mr. Mergen also reported the total gallons of water pumped at the Water Treatment Plant in 2021 was 144,479,000 compared to 140,046,000 in 2020.

The council took notice of a Minnesota Lawful Gambling application submitted by the Albany FFA Alumni for the purpose of conducting a raffle on October 7, 2022. After due discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Tom Kasner who introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-07  
APPROVING MINNESOTA  
LAWFUL GAMBLING EXEMPT PERMIT APPLICATION

The motion for the foregoing resolution was seconded by Adam Rushmeyer and after a full discussion thereon and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Mayor Tom Kasner, Councilors Adam Rushmeyer, John R. Harlander, and Keith Heitzman, and none voted against the same; whereupon the said Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Mayor Tom Kasner announced the next regular Council meeting for 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, March 2, 2022, and adjourned the meeting at 7:00 PM.

---

Tom Schneider  
Clerk/Adm.