

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, January 5, 2022, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue for the said City.

Other Council members present were: Councilors John R. Harlander, Keith Heitzman, Al Amdahl, and Adam Rushmeyer. None were absent.

Other's present were: Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm., Joe Mergen, Public Works Supervisor, 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 Al Amdahl and seconded by Keith Heitzman to authorize electronic payments (payroll), transfers, and the payment of the following bills: Check Numbers 71489 to 71535. 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 December 15th and hearing none declared them approved.

Open forum/public comments: none

The council took notice of the engineering update prepared by the city engineer related to ongoing improvement projects in the city.

Mr. Mergen informed the council the public works department has been working very hard to prepare the ice for winter skating on North Lake. Mr. Mergen noted due to the unusual rainfall event in late December and recent snow events, there is slush or water beneath the snow causing extremely poor ice conditions. Mr. Mergen noted the Warming House may be open next week, but the ice will not be in very good condition. Mr. Schneider questioned if in the future it might be easier for the public works department to create a skating rink on land or maybe North Park and not on North Lake. Mr. Schneider noted the idea can be discussed at the next Park Board meeting, but many cities are dealing with poor ice on ponds/lakes which are prepared for public skating during the winter season.

Mr. Schneider presented to the council a proposed resolution to authorize the city Clerk/Adm. to pay claims or invoices in an amount of \$10,000 or less prior to Council meetings pursuant to MN State Statute 412.271, Subd. 7 and Subd. 8. Mr. Schneider noted the resolution is the same as last year which is presented annually. After due discussion, a motion was made by Adam Rushmeyer who introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2022-01  
RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DELEGATION OF  
AUTHORITY FOR PAYING CLAIMS PRESENTED TO THE CITY OF ALBANY**

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 Al Amdahl, John R. Harlander, Adam Rushmeyer, and Keith Heitzman, and none voted against the same 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.

Mr. Schneider also presented to the council a Termination and Release of Easement agreement between the city and Unity Family Healthcare, 300 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. Mr. Schneider informed the council the city and Unity Family Healthcare approved a Cross Access Easement and an Encroachment Easement dated September 30, 2020 and recorded at the Stearns County Recorder's Office on April 28, 2021; whereby the same or a duplicate had been executed on November 2, 2020 and recorded December 15,

2020. Mr. Schneider recommended the said agreement be approved and noted the original easements will remain in full force and effect the action by the city will clarify the recording documents. After due discussion, a motion was made by John R. Harlander and seconded by Al Amdahl to authorize Mayor Tom Kasner to execute the said easement agreement on behalf of the city. All voted for the motion and it carried.

The council took notice of a proposed standalone Taser Policy for the Albany Police Department. Mr. Schneider noted the purpose is to provide guidelines for the use of the Advanced Taser X26P by the officers of the department. Mr. Schneider noted the policy includes, but not limited to, conditions of use, deployment, documentation, training, storage and maintenance. After due discussion, and upon the recommendation of Ozzie Carbajal, Police Chief, a motion was made by John R. Harlander and seconded by Keith Heitzman to approve the said Policy. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mayor Tom Kasner updated the council on the cross-country ski trail on the golf course which he has groomed a few times the past week or so. Mr. Kasner noted the equipment used for grooming is working out very well and hopes many more skiers will use the trail. Mr. Schneider informed the council the Star Post will be writing an article in the newspaper to increase public awareness of the new trail and a notice was already posted on the city Facebook page. Mr. Amdahl noted he will contact the director of the Albany Area Schools Community Education program to add the outdoor recreational activity to their newsletter.

Mayor Tom Kasner announced the next regular Council meeting for 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, January 19, 2022, and adjourned the meeting at 6:50 PM.

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Tom Schneider  
Clerk/Adm.