

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, May 4, 2022, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue for the said City.

Other Council members present were: Councilors Keith Heitzman, Al Amdahl, and Adam Rushmeyer. Councilor John R. Harlander 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, Ellarry Prentice, Staff Writer, the Star Post, and Jean Pundsack, 211 Railroad Avenue.

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 Al Amdahl to approve/authorize payroll, electronic payments (5804-5808), transfers, and the payment of the following bills: Check Numbers 71794 to 71819. 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 April 20th and hearing none declared them approved.

Open forum/public comments: Ms. Pundsack appeared before the council to inform the council she contacted an individual from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) regarding emissions from semi-trucks that travel on populated main streets that may pose a health risk to individuals. Ms. Pundsack noted the individual from MnDOT will get back to her if they have ever done studies on the issue.

Mr. Mathiasen updated the council on the following projects: 1) 2021 Lake Avenue/Church Avenue Improvements, 2) 1<sup>st</sup> Street (TH238) and Railroad Avenue Improvements, 3) 2022 Midland Avenue Improvements, 4) Golf View Drive Lift Station Improvements, and 5) right-of-way clarification on Shamrock Lane west of 8<sup>th</sup> Street (TH238).

Mr. Mergen appeared before the council and presented the following two bids received for the replacement of two street light posts and fixtures at the intersection of Co. Rd. 10/41 and 8<sup>th</sup> Street (TH238): 1) Liberty Electric, Albany, MN - \$11,465, and JT Electric, Albany, - \$14,140. After due discussion, a motion was made by Adam Rushmeyer and seconded by Keith Heitzman to hire Liberty Electric, Albany, at a bid price of \$11,465, for the project. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Mergen also informed the council the insurance adjuster for the League of Mn Cities directed him to proceed to replace the control boxes with new variable frequency drives (VFD) in the electrical panel that were damaged by an electrical surge caused by a subcontractor hired by XCEL Energy on April 4<sup>th</sup> at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Mergen noted the cost is \$41,000+/- and insurance coverage may cover a majority of the costs.

Mr. Schneider informed the council the 2001 aerial (snorkel) fire truck is scheduled to be delivered to the Albany Fire Department the week of May 9th. Mr. Schneider noted the Albany Area Fire Board approved the purchase from the City of Sauk Rapids at a cost of \$15,000.

The council took notice of Resolution 2022-20, a resolution to authorize the city to enter into a Master Partnership Contract with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). Mr. Schneider noted the city purchases street maintenance materials from Mn DOT on an annual basis and the contract improves the efficiency of the delivery of such materials and services. Mr. Schneider noted the contract expire will expire on June 30, 2027, which similar contracts have been approved by the council in the past. After due discussion, and upon the recommendation by Mr. Schneider, a motion was made by Al Amdahl who introduced the resolution and moved its adoption:

CITY OF ALBANY  
RESOLUTION 2022-20  
(Master Partnership Contract)

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, 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. Schneider also informed the council Karen Pundsack, the Executive Director for the Great River Regional Library system, is requesting a letter of support to encourage Governor Tim Walz to allocate Federal Capital Projects funds to Minnesota public libraries across the state to include library improvements with these funds. Mr. Schneider noted the funds would improve construction/renovations, and facility projects throughout their library system which includes the Albany Library. After due discussion, a motion was made by Al Amdahl and seconded by Adam Rushmeyer to direct Mayor Tom Kasner on behalf of the city, to execute a letter of support and submit to Ms. Pundsack. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mayor Tom Kasner informed the council fireworks are typically setup around 11:00 AM on the golf course driving range for the 10:00 PM display on Heritage Day. Mayor Tom Kasner noted the Toptracer driving range improvements have been completed and questioned if there is an alternative site to display the fireworks. Mayor Tom Kasner questioned if the Wastewater Treatment Plant may be used to display fireworks or any other location in close proximity to main street where the community event is held. Mayor Tom Kasner informed the council he will discuss the matter with the Chamber of Commerce, the organization planning the community event.

Mayor Tom Kasner announced the next regular council meeting for 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, and adjourned the meeting at 7:15 PM.

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Tom Schneider  
Clerk/Adm.