

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, March 15, 2017, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue for the said City.

Other Council members present were: Councilors John Greer, Tom Kasner, Keith Heitzman, and John R. Harlander. None were absent. Also present were: Diane Jesh, Adm. Assistant, Ozzie Carbajal, Albany Police Chief, Dannielle Zierden, Police Administrative Assistant, Joe Mergen, Public Works Supervisor, and Mike Kosik, Editor, Albany Enterprise.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

After due discussion, a motion was made by John Greer and seconded by Tom Kasner to authorize electronic payments, transfers, and the payment of the following bills: Check Numbers 67154 to 67196 and 16460 to 16473. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mayor Daron Gersch called for any corrections or additions to the minutes of the regular meeting of the Council held on March 1st and hearing none declared them approved.

Mr. Mergen provided the Council with specifications and estimates from Astech, St. Cloud, MN, for options for approximately 5,648 square yards, reclaiming, grading and paving of existing eight (8) foot bituminous pathways in and about the City and approximately 13,600 square yards, regrading, compacting and installing a double chip seal to 360th St. between Soo Line Ave and 230th Ave. Discussion followed regarding future budget consideration. No action was taken.

The Council discussed the cost to install a new sidewalk along the northern right-of-way on County Highway No. 54 west of the Albany High Schools south entrance which would connect to an existing sidewalk adjacent to the City's Municipal Well No. 3. Mayor Daron Gersch directed Mr. Mergen to acquire an additional bid. After due discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Daron Gersch and seconded by John Greer to have the said sidewalk installed with the cost not to exceed \$12,500. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Councilor Keith Heitzman, Albany Golf Club Liaison, presented to the Council the said Club's checkbook register for review and consideration. Mr. Heitzman noted costs of 2017 membership including golf cart use. After due discussion, a motion was made by Keith Heitzman and seconded by John Greer to approve of the check register as presented. Voting for the motion were Mayor Daron Gersch, Councilors Keith Heitzman, John Greer, and John R. Harlander, and none voted against. Councilor Tom Kasner abstained and the motion carried.

Councilor John R. Harlander informed the Council that the City was given notice by the Stearns County Auditor's office that the vacant residential lots at 541 8th Street and 540 9th Street will be sold at a public auction having not paid their property taxes and an assessment for the past several years. Mr. Harlander presented information regarding the uncollected or delinquent special assessment for 2004 Street Improvement for the tax forfeited property at 541 8th St. and recommended that the delinquent amount be reassessed. After due discussion, a motion was made by John R. Harlander and seconded by Keith Heitzman to recertify to Stearns County the delinquent assessment in the amount of \$6,237 for collection over a ten (10) year period at the interest rate of four percent (4%). All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Carbajal informed the Council that Matt Bigler, a Part-time Police Patrol Officer, received a life-saving award at the Albany Fire Hall on March 8th for his involvement with saving a life of an individual on January 15th. Mr. Carbajal informed the Council that the new squad was in at the dealership but will not be put in service for about a month.

Mayor Daron Gersch, Labor Commissioner, informed the Council that he and Keith Heitzman, Labor Commissioner, met with Mr. Mergen and Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm. on March 1st to discuss Gary Winkels' request for a Position Review. After due discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Daron Gersch

and seconded by John R. Harlander to approve Mr. Winkels' job title be changed from "Water and Wastewater and Laborer" in Group V to "Public Works Assistant" in Group VII, Step 5, an increase of \$1.04 per hour. All voted for the motion and it carried. The Council commended Mr. Mergen and the Public Works Department for the great job they do for the City.

Mayor Daron Gersch announced the next regular Council meeting for 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, April 5, 2017 and adjourned the meeting at 6:53 PM.



Diane Jesh
Adm. Assistant