

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, April 16, 2014, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue for the said City.

Other Council members present were: Councilors John R. Harlander, Laurie Dingmann, Tom Kasner and John Greer. None were absent. Also present were: Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm., Ozzie Carbajal, Police Chief, Jeremy Mathiasen, City Engineer with Stantec, Inc., and Mike Kosik, Staff Writer, Albany Enterprise.

After due discussion, a motion was made by John Greer and seconded by John R. Harlander to authorize the payment of the following bills: Check Numbers 64238 to 64270 and 64302 to 64307 and 15212 to 15224. 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.

Mayor Daron Gersch called for any corrections or additions to the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on April 2nd and hearing none declared them approved.

Ryan Eiden, owner of Straight Line Auto Glass, 220 Railroad Avenue, appeared before the Council to question if the City had any further information regarding his objection to the type of surmountable curb that had been installed in front of his business for the 2013 Railroad Avenue (T.H. #238) Improvements. Mr. Eiden informed the Council that he measured the surmountable curb and it's his opinion that the back of the surmountable curb is higher than the specification. Mr. Mathiasen informed the Council that his survey crew can measure the said curb and meet with Mr. Eiden to compare notes to verify if the curb was or was not installed properly.

Jean Pundsack, 211 Railroad Avenue, appeared before the Council to request that her assessment be adjusted for the 2013 Railroad Avenue Improvements because her property is a residential homestead and not a commercial business. Ms. Pundsack informed the Council that she never received an answer from the Council to her question for an adjustment in her assessment. Ms. Pundsack requested the light shield on the street light in front of her home be adjusted to deflect light away from her home and the crack in sidewalk by her mailbox be repaired. Ms. Pundsack also noted that their cable television hookup had been disconnected for several days due to water freezing in Charter Communications electrical vault installed in the sidewalk. Mayor Daron Gersch informed Ms. Pundsack the assessments are calculated based on lineal property frontage. Mr. Greer noted that a final assessment hearing was held last year for the street improvements; whereby the hearing allowed property owners who will be assessed an opportunity to appear before the Council to provide written or oral objections on their proposed assessment. Mr. Schneider noted that the project is not competed and that a punch list will be prepared by the City Engineer for miscellaneous items to be corrected by the general contractor prior to final payment. Mayor Daron Gersch informed Ms. Pundsack that her concerns will be addressed by the City Engineer.

Mr. Mathiasen appeared before the Council to update the Council on the 2013 Railroad Avenue (State HWY #238) Improvements. Mr. Mathiasen informed the Council that core samples of the concrete on Railroad Avenue Phase II have been taken and will be analyzed. Mr. Harlander informed the Council that it's his opinion that salt did not cause scaling and flaking on the south side (east drive lane) on Railroad Avenue (Phase II) between 5th and 8th Street because there are no issues with the concrete poured on Railroad Avenue between 1st Street and 5th Street (Phase I). Mr. Harlander informed the Council that the concrete surface will deteriorate overtime if not corrected. Mr. Harlander recommended that the City reject the concrete in those areas that have seen scaling and flaking for Phase II of the project improvements. Mr. Kasner questioned if MnDOT had any concerns about pouring the concrete in cold temperatures. Mr. Mathiasen noted that if the contractor met the specifications to pour concrete in colder temperatures, the concrete was poured. After due discussion, a motion was made by Councilor John R. Harlander and seconded by Councilor Tom Kasner not to accept the concrete on the south side (east drive lane) on Railroad Avenue Phase II including any sidewalk, curb or gutter that is scaling and flaking. All voted for this motion and it carried.

Mayor Daron Gersch directed Mr. Mathiasen to prepare a letter to Ms. Pundsack addressing her concerns relating to the Railroad Avenue Improvements.

Councilor Laurie Dingmann presented to the Council the final cost for the new playground equipment for North Park. Ms. Dingmann informed the Council that the Park Board reviewed two proposals for new playground equipment and recommended that Flagship Recreation, St. Louis Park, MN be accepted in the amount of \$96,600. Ms. Dingmann noted that the City will purchase the new playground equipment with funds from the Park budget and local donations. Ms. Dingmann also noted that the new playground equipment will be placed just east of the Albany Area Hospital in North Park to replace the older playground equipment installed in the 1970's. After due discussion, a motion was made by John Greer and seconded by Tom Kasner to approve the low bid from Flagship Recreation in the amount of \$96,600 and related site preparation expenses estimated to be \$14,000 submitted by local contractors. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Councilor John R. Harlander, Street Department Liaison, presented to the Council the following bids received by the City for the 2014 Seal Coat Improvement Project:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BID</u>
ASTECH Corp.	\$58,795
Caldwell Asphalt Co.	\$65,743
All Things Asphalt	\$74,830

Mr. Harlander noted that the low bid received was for \$1.10 per square yard. Mr. Harlander recommended that the low bid be accepted and that an inspector from Stantec, Inc., the City Engineering firm, be hired to make sure that the proper quantity of oil and granite are placed on the streets to be seal coated. Councilor John Greer questioned if Lake Avenue between 1st and 3rd Street had been seal coated after the street was reconstructed in 2003. Mr. Schneider informed the Council that the street was already seal coated, but if not, could easily be added to the project in 2014. After due discussion, a motion was made by John R. Harlander and seconded by Mayor Daron Gersch to approve the low bid submitted by ASTECH, St. Cloud, MN in the amount of \$58,795. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Ozzie Carbajal, Police Chief, appeared before the Council to inform the Council that the Police Department is in need of a part-time Patrol Officer and had a couple of individuals that have shown an interest in the position. Mayor Daron Gersch, with the consensus of the Council, directed Mr. Carbajal to meet with the individuals to consider employment opportunities.

The Council took notice of a Minnesota Lawful Gambling Exempt Permit Application submitted by the Albany Lions Club for their annual Gun Raffle on August 2nd, Heritage Day. After due discussion, a motion was made by John Greer and seconded by Laurie Dingmann to approve the said application. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Schneider presented to the Council material and labor bids to build an office for the Clerk/Administrator. Mr. Schneider informed the Council that when the City Administration building was constructed in 1998 there was no office built for the Clerk/Administrator, but having to share the administration office with the Public Works Supervisor and Chamber of Commerce, it prevents private conversations with members of the public, City Attorney, City Engineer, and others. Mr. Schneider also noted that a private and secured office will not allow others to view information on his desk and in files. Mr. Schneider noted that the construction cost is estimated to be nearly \$8,500 and that local contractors have been solicited for the work. Councilor John Harlander questioned if the original carpet placed in 1999 should be replaced being file cabinets and other items will need to be moved during the office remodel. After due discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by John Greer to approve the new office construction for the Clerk/Administrator. Voting for the motion were Mayor Daron Gersch, Councilors Tom Kasner, John Greer and Laurie Dingmann and none voted against. Councilor John R. Harlander abstained and the motion carried. Mayor Daron Gersch directed Mr. Schneider to obtain a cost to re-carpet the administration office.

Mr. Schneider informed the Council that the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) closed grant number CCGP-12-0008-Z-FY12, former Albany Antique Center, 740 Railroad Avenue now owned by the City of Albany. Mr. Schneider noted that the grant funds were used for soil corrections to allow for the site to be sold for redevelopment.

Mr. Carbajal informed the Council that his Patrol Officers did not observe any unusual traffic problems at the intersection of 1st Street and Railroad Avenue, but recommended that the centerline striping be continued north on 1st Street to keep vehicles in specific drive lanes. Mayor Daron Gersch, with the consensus of the Council, directed Mr. Mathiasen to contact MnDOT to request additional striping.

Mayor Daron Gersch announced the next regular Council meeting for 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, May 7, 2014 and adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM.

Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm.