

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, December 18, 2013, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue for the said City.

Other Council members present were: Councilors Laurie Dingmann, Tom Kasner, John Greer and John R. Harlander. None were absent.

Also present were: Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm., Joe Mergen, Public Works Supervisor, Jeremy Mathiasen, City Engineer, Stantec, Inc., Ozzie Carbajal, Police Chief, and Mike Kosik, Staff Writer, Albany Enterprise. The following Albany High School students were present: Tierra Nelson, Martin Carter, and Emily Kolledge.

After due discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by John R. Harlander to authorize the payment of the following bills: Check Numbers 63946 to 63982 and 15056 to 15101. 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 December 4th and hearing none declared them approved.

Mr. Mathiasen appeared before the Council to update the Council on the 2013 Railroad Avenue (State HWY #238) Improvements. Mr. Mathiasen noted that motor vehicles traveling east on Church Avenue and turning on 5th Street during the evening hours are causing the street lights on Railroad Avenue to shut off for a split second because they are affecting the photo eye that energizes the street lights located in the southwest corner of the City parking lot. Mr. Mathiasen noted that he will contact Design Electric, Inc., the contractor to resolve the problem. Mr. Mathiasen also noted that R.L. Larson Excavating, Inc., the General Contractor, submitted detailed time and materials expenses related to the additional obstructions below the surface that were encountered during the excavation on Church Avenue and 8th Street; whereby the information will be compared to their inspector's daily reports to determine an actual quantity of expenses. Mr. Mathiasen presented to the Council pay request number eight (8) submitted by R. L. Larson Excavating, Inc., for the Railroad Avenue Improvements. After due discussion, a motion was made by John Greer and seconded by Laurie Dingmann to approve the pay application for R. L. Larson Excavating, Inc., in the amount of \$406,886.44. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Councilor Laurie Dingmann, Park Department Liaison, informed the Council that only one applicant was received for the position of Warming House Attendant, a part-time seasonal job. Ms. Dingmann noted that the skating rinks will be open this weekend weather permitting. Ms. Dingmann recommended that Mathew Czajkowski, 220 4th Street, be hired for the said Position. After due discussion, a motion was made by John R. Harlander and seconded by Laurie Dingmann to hire Mr. Czajkowski as the Warming House Attendant for the 2013-2014 skating season at an hourly rate of \$9.00 per hour. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Councilor Tom Kasner, Fire Department Liaison, informed the Council of the following 2014 officers of the Albany Fire Department, Inc.: Gary Winkels, Fire Chief, Kurt Richter, Assistant Chief, Scott Reber, Assistant Chief, Jamie Thelen, Treasurer, and Steve Frericks, Secretary.

Mr. Schneider presented to the Council a Mayor and Council wage survey of neighboring cities. Mr. Schneider noted that the annual wages is less than other elected officials and questioned if any changes should be made to the proposed 2014 Budget. Mayor Daron Gersch, with the consensus of the Council, noted that no changes will be made to the 2014 Budget, but discussion whether an increase should be considered may be done in the preparation of the 2015 Budget.

Mr. Schneider presented to the Council the proposed 2014 Budget and the amount of property taxes the City proposes to collect to pay for the costs of services the City will provide in the year 2014. Mr. Schneider noted reminded the Council members that pursuant to legislative action (MN State Statute

297A.70) taken in July 2013, the City will be exempt for the payment of Minnesota State Sales Tax of 6.875% on certain goods and services. After due discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kasner who introduced the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION 2013-22
APPROVING THE 2013 TAX LEVY, COLLECTIBLE IN 2014
Total Levy: \$675,853

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 Daron Gersch, Councilors Laurie Dingmann, John R. Harlander, Tom Kasner, and John Greer, and none voted against the same whereupon the said Resolution declared duly passed and adopted. The full text of the said Resolution and 2014 Budget is on file at the office of the City Clerk/Administrator for public inspection during regular office hours.

The Council took notice of a Minnesota Lawful Gambling Off-site application submitted by the Albany Lions Club to conduct a raffle on February 7, 2014 in conjunction with their annual Sweetheart Dinner/Show at Paul's Par-A-Dice, 451 Railroad Avenue. After due discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Daron Gersch who introduced the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION 2013-23
APPROVING MINNESOTA OFF-SITE LAWFUL GAMBLING
(Albany Lions Club)

The motion for the foregoing Resolution was seconded by John Greer and after a full discussion thereon and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Mayor Daron Gersch, Councilors Laurie Dingmann, John R. Harlander, Tom Kasner, and John Greer, 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.

Mayor Daron Gersch announced the next regular Council meeting for 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Thursday, January 2, 2014 and adjourned the meeting at 7:10 PM.

Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm.