

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 Acting Mayor John Greer at 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, July 3, 2013, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue for the said City.

Other Council members present were: Councilors Laurie Dingmann, and Tom Kasner. Mayor Daron Gersch and Councilor John R. Harlander were absent for the meeting.

Also present were: Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm., Joe Mergen, Public Works Supervisor, Jeremy Mathiasen, City Engineer, Stantec, Inc., Ozzie Carbajal, Police Chief, Nicole Roering, Albany resident, and Mike Kosik, Staff Writer, Albany Enterprise.

After due discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by Laurie Dingmann to authorize the payment of the following bills: Check Numbers 63469 to 63506 and 14872 to 14887. 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.

Acting Mayor John Greer called for any corrections or additions to the minutes of the regular Council meeting held on June 19th and hearing none declared them approved.

Jamie Thelen, 382 Countryside Lane (storage garages), appeared before the Council to inform the Council that he will be selling his real estate to Teske Properties, LLC, but during title examination it was noted that the driveway to the property crosses over the City's property to get to the public street (Countryside Lane). Mr. Thelen noted that an access easement executed between the City and Teske Properties, LLC would resolve the problem. Mr. Schneider informed the Council that the storage garages were built in 1996 and no access easement had been executed at the time of construction. Mr. Schneider noted the City Attorney reviewed the proposed agreement to find no concerns. After due discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by Laurie Dingmann to authorize Acting Mayor John Greer on behalf of the City to execute the Access Easement Agreement dated July 5th between the City of Albany and Teske Properties, LLC. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Mathiasen appeared before the Council to update the Council on the progress of the 2013 Railroad Avenue (T.H. #238) Improvements. Mr. Mathiasen noted that the paving (concrete) for the roadway will begin July 8th and that sidewalks will continue to be installed. Mr. Mathiasen noted that concrete joints will need to be sawed during the evening and overnight hours because the joints need to be cut before the concrete gets too hard to avoid cracking of the new pavement; whereby a letter will be hand delivered by Police Patrol Officers to all residents and business owners along the construction route alerting them of the additional noise caused by the saw cutting machines. Mr. Carbajal informed the Council that the notices will be hand delivered on Friday, July 5th.

Mr. Mathiasen also presented to the Council change order number one for the purpose to replace three existing City Hall parking lot lights along the northern boundary of the City parking lot with new decorative lighting. After due discussion, a motion was made by Laurie Dingmann and seconded by Tom Kasner to approve the said change order in the amount of \$10,253.25. All voted for the motion and it carried.

The Council took notice of a cost estimate to extend (directional drill) the Christmas decoration electrical services from Railroad Avenue north on 5th Street approximately 150 feet to an existing power pole owned by Xcel Energy. After due discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by Laurie Dingmann to approve the extension of the electrical service at a cost of \$1,575. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Mathiasen informed the Council that the placement of the pedestrian flashing lights on the sidewalk in the northwestern corner of the 2nd Street and Railroad Avenue intersection may not be feasible

due to inadequate space to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations. Mr. Greer questioned if only one pedestrian flashing light was an option on the southwest side of the intersection or erecting both on the east side of the intersection. Mr. Mathiasen noted that he will contract MnDOT to discuss other options for the placement of the pedestrian flashing lights and poles.

Mr. Mergen informed the Council that the Albany Area Jaycees donated \$5,000 for the placement of an underground lawn sprinkling system in the Legion Park and City Hall, but the estimated cost to extend the system south of the Lake Wobegon Trail is \$6,000 or a total cost of \$11,000. Mr. Greer noted that the Council will discuss the issue at the next Council meeting when all members are present.

Mr. Kasner noted that he has received numerous complaints from the public who utilize the Hall's High View Park regarding dogs not being leashed and dog owners not picking up after their dog. Mr. Kasner also noted that the Public Works Department erected temporary signage alerting the dog owners of the problem, but there has been no improvement with compliance from the dog owners. Mr. Carbajal informed the Council that he will direct his officers to make additional visits to the City Park to make contact with the dog owners to determine if citations are warranted.

Mr. Carbajal informed the Council that Patrol Officer John Arneson will attend a training session at the CornerHouse, Child Abuse and Training Center, for the Albany Police Department. Mr. Carbajal noted that the training methods include lecture and discussion, review of CornerHouse video-recorded interviews, skill-building exercises, and an interview practicum. Mr. Carbajal informed the Council that the police department received a CornerHouse grant in the amount of \$1,000 for Mr. Arneson to attend the training.

The Council took notice of two applications for a Large Gathering Permit from the Albany Chrysler Center for the annual car show to be held on Friday, August 2nd and the Chamber of Commerce for Heritage Day to be held on Saturday, August 3rd. Mr. Schneider noted that the parade route has not yet been determined, but if Railroad Avenue remains under construction, an alternate route may have to be considered. After due discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by Laurie Dingmann to approve both aforesaid applications. All voted for the motion and it carried.

The Council took notice of an Event (Fireworks) Permit request by the Albany Area Jaycees to display fireworks at the Albany Golf Course on Saturday, August 3rd (Heritage Day). Mr. Schneider noted that Premier Pyrotechnics, Inc., Richland, MO will display the fireworks on behalf of the Albany Area Jaycees. Mr. Schneider also noted that in the event of inclement weather, the fireworks may be displayed on Sunday, August 4th. After due discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by Laurie Dingmann to approve the aforesaid Event Permit. All voted for the motion and it carried.

The Council also took notice of a request by the Albany Lions Club for a Temporary On-Sale Liquor license for Saturday, August 3rd (Heritage Day), at 400 Railroad Avenue. After due discussion, a motion was made by John Greer and seconded by Laurie Dingmann to approve the said License. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Acting Mayor John Greer announced the next regular Council meeting for 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, July 17, 2013 and adjourned the meeting at 7:40 PM.

Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm.