

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 20, 2013, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue for the said City.

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

Also present were: Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm., Joe Mergen, Public Works Supervisor, Tim Brawthen, Senior Construction Manager, Stantec, Inc., Emily Gruenke, Staff Writer, Albany Enterprise, and Jason Falconer, Albany Police Chief.

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 63204 to 63224 and 14770 to 14783. 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 meeting held on March 6th and hearing none declared them approved.

Mr. Falconer informed the Council that the new squad (Dodge Charger) should be delivered to the Albany Chrysler Center within the next week. Mr. Falconer noted that the equipment for the car has been ordered and will be installed upon arrival of the vehicle.

Councilor John Greer arrived for the meeting at 6:45pm.

Mr. Brawthen appeared before the Council to present proposed locations for temporary stop or yield signs on side streets north of Railroad Avenue during the Railroad Avenue street improvements. Councilor John Greer informed the Council that he is concerned with traffic speed and congestion on side streets being individuals will be avoiding Railroad Avenue during construction. Mayor Daron Gersch, with the consensus of the Council, instructed Mr. Brawthen to install temporary stop signs on the side streets (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th) intersecting Forest Avenue and a 4-way stop at Midland Avenue and 5th Street during the Railroad Avenue construction period.

Mr. Brawthen informed the Council that there will be a pre-construction meeting held at 9:00 am on Wednesday, April 3rd at City Hall for the 2013 Railroad Avenue (TH #238) Improvements.

Councilor John Greer, Police Department Liaison, informed the Council that on March 18th the Police Committee interviewed four candidates for the position of Albany Police Chief; whereby the said Committee recommended that a conditional job offer be offered to Joel Klein and if he declines, Osvaldo Carbajal be offered a conditional job offer. Mr. Schneider informed the Council that salary and benefits will be comparable to other nearby municipalities and consistent with the City's Pay Equity Program for the said position. After due discussion, a motion was made by John Greer and seconded by Laurie Dingmann to approve a conditional job offer to Joel Klein contingent upon Mr. Klein's successful completion of a background check, psychological examination, physical examination, drug and alcohol test. All voted for the motion and it carried.

After due discussion and upon the recommendation from the Police Committee, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by Mayor Daron Gersch to approve a conditional job offer to Osvaldo Carbajal, candidate number two, if Mr. Klein declines his job offer contingent upon Mr. Carbajal's successful completion of a background check, psychological examination, physical examination, drug and alcohol test. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Schneider presented to the Council a proposed cost estimate to purchase thirty-one Christmas decorations and garland to attach to each light pole on Railroad Avenue from 1st Street to 9th Street. Mr. Schneider noted that the Albany Jaycees and Albany Lions are funding the project which will include a

raffle in the fall to raise funds for the project. After due discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by John Greer to authorize the City to purchase the new Christmas decorations with the understanding that the two organizations will reimburse the City for the said decorations. All voted for the motion and it carried.

The Council took notice of the following written offer submitted by Joseph Peternell, Albany, to purchase from the City Lots 1-6, Block 2, Haberman's 1st Addition, formerly known as Municipal Well Number 2: \$1.00, in addition a fee not to exceed \$10,000 to pay off all existing assessments and to pay for all sewer and water access fees including a water meter. Mr. Schneider informed the Council that the property is 150' x 142' and the former well house building remains on the property. Mr. Schneider also noted that in 2006, the City paid nearly \$14,000 for street and utility improvements constructed on 6th Street and Meyer Avenue. Mr. Greer questioned if there were other vacant lots in the City privately owned that are being offered for sale. After due discussion, a motion was made by John Greer and seconded by Mayor Daron Gersch not to accept the aforementioned offer submitted by Mr. Peternell. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mayor Daron Gersch announced the next regular Council meeting for 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, April 3, 2013 and adjourned the meeting at 7:20 PM.

Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm.