

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 21, 2018, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue for the said City.

Other Council members present were: Councilors Tom Kasner, Al Amdahl, John R. Harlander, and Keith Heitzman. None were absent.

Also present were: Diane Jesh, Administration Assistant, Jeremy Mathiasen, City Engineer, with Stantec, Inc., Ozzie Carbajal, Albany Police Chief. Others present were: Kylie Bartz and Becky Bartz.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

After due discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by John R. Harlander to authorize electronic payments, transfers, and the payment of the following bills: Check Numbers 68074 to 68095 and 16905 to 16916. 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 7th and hearing none declared them approved.

Open forum/public comment: none

Residents present for the meeting were Rita Gasperlin, Shirley Bauer, Kelly Stueve-Roering, Darren Roering, Dwight Kohout, Russ Wolf, Joyce Wolf, Kevin Dorman, Rita Dorman, Tamara Daniels, and Deb Solarz.

Pursuant to due notice, Mayor Daron Gersch called a public hearing into session at 6:32 PM to consider objections, if any, to the proposed assessments for the following 2018 1st Street and Utility Improvements (TH238/1st St. from 150' north of Railroad Avenue to 850' north of Lake Avenue and the alley east of 1st Street): street, sidewalk, storm sewer, sanitary sewer, water main, and services. Mr. Mathiasen noted the purpose of the proposed improvements are as follows: 1) The estimated age of the sanitary sewer and water main pipes is forty plus (40+) years old and that this would be the most cost efficient time to replace the aged pipes being the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) was replacing the street; 2) The existing sanitary sewer lines are exhibiting some cracking, settlement, and significant root intrusion; and 3) The water main is undersized and should be a minimum eight-inch (8) diameter. Mr. Mathiasen presented to the Council and public the scope of work to be done, construction schedule, project costs, and methodology used to calculate individual assessments for individual properties. Mr. Mathiasen noted that the total construction costs are \$1,181,799 and the total assessment proceeds are \$175,235. Mr. Mathiasen also noted that the assessments can be paid in full without interest until April 23, 2018 and if not paid by this date, interest will begin to accrue at the time of the adoption of the resolution (March 21st) for the final assessments calculated over a period of 15 years at 3.0% interest. Mr. Mathiasen answered questions from the public such as, but not limited to, dust, extra work done on private property, access to school property, disruptions, trees, street lights, etc. Mr. Mathiasen noted that MnDOT will prepare a newsletter and scheduled an Open House at City Hall to be held in May for the property owners to attend to discuss further questions. Mr. Mathiasen presented to the Council a letter the City received from Sara Goodrum, 41 Railroad Avenue, informing the Council that the improvements are no benefit to her and objected to her proposed assessment. Mr. Mathiasen noted that Ms. Goodrum does have a benefit being her sanitary sewer is connected to the City's sewer main. Mayor Daron Gersch closed the public hearing at 7:08PM. After due discussion, a motion was made by John R. Harlander who introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION 2018-05
ADOPTING FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLE
2018 1st Street and Utility Improvements

The motion for the foregoing Resolution was seconded by Keith Heitzman and after a full discussion thereon and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Mayor Daron Gersch, Councilors Tom Kasner, John R. Harlander, Keith Heitzman, and Al Amdahl and none voted against the same whereupon the said Resolution was 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.

Councilor Tom Kasner informed the Council that Verizon is proposing to use the City's conduit which lies in the north and/or south boulevard beneath the sidewalk on Railroad Avenue for the purpose of operating their small cell structures on two of the ornamental poles on Railroad Avenue. Mr. Kasner noted that the City already has electrical wires in the conduit on the north side of Railroad Avenue and the south side may be a better option being no cables are present in the south conduit. Mr. Kasner noted that the other option being considered by Verizon is to directional bore their cable beneath the sidewalk on Railroad Avenue, but that would require sidewalk removal and replacement in certain areas. Mr. Harlander noted that the City should charge a fee to Verizon to use the south conduit and questioned what the cost is per foot to directional bore a cable. Mayor Daron Gersch, with the consensus of the Council directed Mr. Mathiasen to determine what the value might be for the City to allow Verizon to use the City's conduit on the south side of Railroad Avenue.

Councilor Tom Kasner, Fire Department Liaison, noted that another fire department and a few individuals have shown an interest in purchasing Unit 15, the 1997 Rescue Suburban. Mr. Kasner noted that the Albany Fire Department, Inc. prefers to sell the said vehicle to another fire department rather than an individual; whereas no advertising to sell the vehicle as surplus property is required.

Councilor John R. Harlander informed the Council that former Councilor and Acting Mayor John Greer was elected as a Supervisor to the Albany Township Board at their annual election that was held on March 13th.

Mr. Carbajal informed the Council that the City received a request for the installation of a "STOP" sign at the intersection of Midland Avenue and 3rd Street. No action was taken by the Council.

Mayor Daron Gersch announced the next regular Council meeting for 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, April 4, 2018 and adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Diane Jesh, Adm. Assistant