

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 Tom Kasner at 6:30 o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue for the said City.

Other Council members present were: Councilors Keith Heitzman, John R. Harlander, Adam Rushmeyer, and Al Amdahl. None were absent for the meeting.

Other's present were: Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm., Jeremy Mathiasen, City Engineer with Stantec, Inc., St. Cloud, MN, Police Chief Ozzie Carbajal, Joseph Mergen, Public Works Supervisor, and Tim Hennagir, Staff Writer, the Star Post.

The council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The council took notice of approval of payment of bills. After due discussion, a motion was made by Keith Heitzman and seconded by Adam Rushmeyer to approve/authorize payroll (3432-3442), electronic payments (900059-900064), transfers, and the payment of the following bills: Check Numbers 72262 to 72304. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mayor Tom Kasner called for any corrections or additions to the minutes of the regular meeting of the council held on November 2nd and hearing none declared them approved.

Open forum/public comments: none

Mr. Schneider informed the council the Municipal and General Election was held on Tuesday, November 8th. Mr. Schneider noted Rita Stenlund, the Head Election Judge, and the other election judges, did a wonderful job assisting voters on election day. Mr. Schneider also noted all the election judges attended several training sessions held by the Stearns County Auditor prior to the election. Mr. Schneider presented to the council the following as compiled from the official returns:

Persons Registered as of 7AM:	1,636
Persons Registered on Election Day:	45
Number of accepted regular, military, overseas absentee and mail ballots:	98
Number of federal offices only absentee ballots:	6
Total number of persons voting:	1,163

<u>Mayor (one 2-year term):</u>	<u>Votes</u>
- Tom Kasner	871
- write-in	10

<u>Councilor (two 4-year terms):</u>	<u>Votes</u>
- Adam Rushmeyer	639
- Allan Amdahl	507
- Bruce Winter	463
- write-in	6

After due discussion, a motion was made by Keith Heitzman and seconded by John R. Harlander to ratify the said Election results including the approval of Tom Kasner for the office of Mayor, Adam Rushmeyer for the office of councilor, and Allan Amdahl, for the office of councilor. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Pursuant to due notice, Mayor Tom Kasner called the public hearing into session at 6:34 o'clock in the evening to consider and possibly adopt the proposed assessment for unpaid city charges incurred in relation to Ordinance 30. Mr. Schneider noted a public notice was published in the Star Post on November 2nd. Mr. Schneider also noted attempts to collect the unpaid amount have been unsuccessful and recommended the council certify the amount to the county auditor. No comments were received. Mayor

Tom Kasner closed the public hearing at 6:36 PM. After due discussion and upon the recommendation by Mr. Schneider, a motion was made by Al Amdahl and seconded by Adam Rushmeyer to certify to the Stearns County Auditor-Treasurer, the unpaid water bill at 1201 Highlands Drive, in the amount of \$12,643.20 to be payable in one (1) installment collectable as a special assessment in the year 2023. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Pursuant to due notice, Mayor Tom Kasner called the public hearing into session at 6:37 o'clock in the evening to consider and possibly adopt the proposed assessment for unpaid city charges incurred in relation to Ordinance 77. Mr. Schneider noted a public notice was published in the Star Post on November 2nd. Mr. Schneider also noted attempts to collect the unpaid amount have been unsuccessful and recommended the council certify the amount to the county auditor. No comments were received. Mayor Tom Kasner closed the public hearing at 6:38 PM. After due discussion and upon the recommendation by Mr. Schneider, a motion was made by John R. Harlander and seconded by Keith Heitzman to certify to the Stearns County Auditor-Treasurer the unpaid lawn mowing charge at 347 Countryside Lane, in the amount of \$250.00, to be payable in one (1) installment collectable as a special assessment in the year 2023. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Mathiasen presented to the council Payment Voucher No. 6 for the 2022 Capital Improvement Project. Mr. Mathiasen noted the concrete steps on 3rd street have not been constructed and is considering other options such as temporary steps or hiring other contractors to complete the work. After due discussion and upon recommendation from the city engineer, a motion was made by Adam Rushmeyer and seconded by John R. Harlander to approve Payment Voucher No. 6 to Breitbach Construction Company, Elrosa, MN, in the amount of \$94,438.53. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Mathiasen presented to the council Payment Voucher No. 4 for the 1st Street (TH238) and 8th Street (TH238) Sidewalk Improvements. Mr. Mathiasen noted the contractor has completed the work and minimal punch list items can be completed in 2023. After due discussion and upon recommendation from the city engineer, a motion was made by Al Amdahl and seconded by Keith Heitzman to approve Payment Voucher No. 4 to Craig Bardson Excavating, Albany, MN, in the amount of \$27,451.58. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Mathiasen also presented to the council Payment Voucher No. 2 for the Golf View Drive Lift Station Improvement Project. Mr. Mathiasen noted the standby generator arrived on site after shipping delays and expected start up next week. After due discussion and upon recommendation from the city engineer, a motion was made by John R. Harlander and seconded by Adam Rushmeyer to approve Payment Voucher No. 2 to Liberty Electric, Albany, MN, in the amount of \$90,202.50. All voted for the motion and it carried.

The council took notice of the proposed draft of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and the city of Albany. Mr. Mathiasen noted the document is related to the statewide monitoring of Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl substances or PFAS, substances that have been widely used in industrial, commercial, and residential applications, are resistant to breakdown, and are found virtually everywhere in our environment. Mr. Mathiasen informed the council the MPCA would like the document executed no later than next week and did make some concessions and adjustments following the city's comments and comments from other communities. Mr. Mergen noted the first of four influent samples from the Wastewater Treatment Plant will be due in March 2023 and the MPCA will fund partial testing requirements. After due discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Tom Kasner and seconded by John R. Harlander to authorize the city to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the MPCA and the city of Albany. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Councilor Keith Heitzman, Albany Golf Club Liaison, presented to the council the Albany Golf Club's checkbook register. After due discussion, a motion was made by Keith Heitzman and seconded by Adam Rushmeyer to approve electronic payments, transfers, and the payment of the following: checks 40324-40355. Voting for the motion were Councilors Keith Heitzman, Al Amdahl, John R. Harlander, and Adam Rushmeyer, and none voted against. Mayor Tom Kasner abstained and the motion carried.

Councilor Adam Rushmeyer, Planning Commission Liaison, informed the council the city received one application from an individual who would like to be appointed to the vacant four-year term on the Planning Commission. Mr. Schneider informed the council a notice seeking qualified individuals was published in the Star Post on November 2nd. Mr. Schneider also noted there is still a vacancy on the board for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023 and recommended the council appoint Nathan Ronning, 121 Schwinghammer Drive, to the Planning Commission. After due discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Tom Kasner and seconded by Al Amdahl to appoint Nathan Ronning, 121 Schwinghammer Drive, as a board member on the Planning Commission effective immediately for a term ending December 31, 2026. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Schneider informed the council Xcel Energy’s application for the DC Fast Charging Electric Vehicle (EV) Station is due next week and questioned if any council members had any preference for the location of a unit in the city parking lot adjacent to the city administration building. Mr. Harlander recommended the EV charging station be installed in the southeast corner of the city parking lot. After due discussion, a motion was made by Al Amdahl and seconded by Adam Rushmeyer to authorize Mr. Schneider to complete the said application to include the location of the EV charging station to be located in the southeast corner of the city parking lot. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Schneider also informed the council a vacant lot that had been forfeited to the state of Minnesota years ago for non-payment of property taxes recently sold in the 2005 Whispering Oaks at Two River subdivision. Mr. Schneider informed the council there was a total of thirty-four (34+/-) lots that had been forfeited to the state of Minnesota due to failure to pay property taxes by the developer, and noted only one (1) lot forfeited to the state remains in the aforesaid subdivision.

Mayor Tom Kasner informed the council he and Councilor Keith Heitzman, Employee liaisons, completed the annual performance evaluation for the year 2022 of the city Clerk/Administrator and copies were provided to each Council member. Mayor Tom Kasner, with the consensus of the Council, expressed satisfaction with the city Clerk/Administrator’s job performance. There were no additions or corrections. The performance evaluation will be filed in his personnel file.

Mayor Tom Kasner announced the next regular council meeting for 6:30 o’clock in the evening on Wednesday, December 7, 2022, and adjourned the meeting at 7:10 PM.

Tom Schneider
Clerk/Adm.