

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

Other Council members present were: Councilors Jack Evens, Al Amdahl, and Keith Heitzman. Councilor John R. Harlander was absent.

Also, others present were: Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm., Jeremy Mathiasen, City Engineer, with Stantec, Inc., Joe Mergen, Public Works Supervisor, and Mike Kosik, Editor, Albany Enterprise.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

After due discussion, a motion was made by Keith Heitzman and seconded by Al Amdahl to authorize electronic payments, transfers, and the payment of the following bills: Check Numbers 68711 to 68736 and 17162 to 17190. 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 7th and the special council meeting held on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Tom Kasner, hearing none, declared each approved.

Open forum/public comments: none.

Councilor Jack Evens arrived at the meeting at 6:35PM.

Mr. Mathiasen appeared before the Council to present construction change order number two, an addition to the construction contract of \$7,427, to the 2018 North Lake Storm Water Conservation Improvements. Mr. Mathiasen noted the restoration work on the project exceeded the original bid quantities as a result of a large project staging area needed for the work and due to replacing additional square footage of the adjacent bituminous trail in North Park. Mr. Mathiasen noted on future projects contractors will receive a restoration allowance and that any costs to restoration beyond that amount will be there responsibility. After due discussion, a motion was made by Al Amdahl and seconded by Keith Heitzman to approve change order number two in the amount of \$7,427, a contract increase for Craig Bardson Excavating, Inc., Albany, to the 2018 North Lake Storm Water Conservation Improvements. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Mathiasen informed the Council he and the City were notified by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) that the proposed Forest Avenue Reconstruction Improvements between 1<sup>st</sup> Street and 6<sup>th</sup> Street is eligible to apply for \$150,000 (20% match) Federal Transportation Alternative (TA) funding and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Infrastructure funding. Mr. Mathiasen noted the Council authorized him to prepare a letter of intent on behalf of the City to MnDOT at the October 17<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Mr. Mathiasen noted the said improvements may begin in 2021, but typically applications are not approved the first year; whereby it would then align with the City's Capital Improvement Plan to begin the project in 2023. Mr. Schneider noted the Federal Transportation Alternative (TA) program is very competitive with several cities within Region 7W annually submitting applications. Mr. Mathiasen informed the Council included in the construction improvements is an 8 ft. shared-use path along the south side of Forest Avenue to create a safe pathway for students and community members to walk and bike to the school as per the City's 2017 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. Mr. Mathiasen also noted the application is due January 4th. Mr. Schneider informed the Council that the Albany Chamber of Commerce approved a letter of support at their November 21<sup>st</sup> meeting for the City to include in the application for federal funding. Mr. Schneider also noted that the school district will also submit a letter of support for the application and improvements. Mr. Mathiasen noted minimal engineering fees will be incurred to prepare the application because construction cost estimates and cross-sections are required. Mayor Tom Kasner, with the consensus of the Council, directed Mr. Mathiasen to prepare and submit to MnDOT the Federal Transportation Alternative (TA) funding and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Infrastructure funding applications on behalf of the City for the aforesaid improvements to Forest Avenue.

Mr. Mathiasen also informed the Council that the soil borings and field topography is nearing completion for the proposed 2019 Capital Improvements (7<sup>th</sup> Street north and abutting side streets).

Adam Rushmeyer, Council-elect, arrived for the meeting.

Mr. Mergen informed the Council that the City purchased nearly \$74,000 in Aluminum Sulfate (Alum), a chemical added to the wastewater treatment ponds (34502 Co. Rd. #41), to reduce the amount of pollutants (phosphorus) in the wastewater that is discharged at a controlled rate to the South Branch of Two River as regulated and permitted by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Mr. Mergen noted the City spent \$110,192 for alum in 2017 and annually \$8,500+/- testing for pollutants. Mr. Mergen noted the four-cell stabilization pond system is a Class C facility. Mr. Mergen noted that the following samples of wastewater pollutants are tested at a laboratory prior to discharge, but not limited to, phosphorus, ammonia, fecal coliform, CBOD, Chloride, etc. Mr. Mergen noted that Chloride readings have been higher than normal which is caused by water softeners which may in the future cause the City to upgrade the Water Treatment Plant to treat the water for Chloride. Mr. Mergen noted the total phosphorus limit is 381 Kg/year and discharge total in 2018 was 280 Kg/year. Mr. Mergen also noted years ago the total phosphorus limit was 625 Kg/year, but the MPCA lowered the rate to 381 Kg/year based on previous phosphorus data the City submitted. Mayor Tom Kasner thanked Mr. Mergen for the information and his efforts, including Bob Forster and Gary Winkels, Public Works Employees, in protecting and preserving the waters of Minnesota.

Mayor Tom Kasner informed the Council that the Council should adopt an ordinance to regulate or limit the types of trees that can be planted within the right-of-way or boulevards. Mayor Tom Kasner noted that trees planted years ago in boulevards are creating problems with sidewalks and curbs due to shallow root systems and recommended only specific ornamental trees with deep roots be allowed to be planted in the boulevard. Mr. Schneider noted that other area cities regulate and/or permit tree planting in the boulevard and would support the Mayor's recommendation. Mayor Tom Kasner noted that some residents have planted trees beneath electric wires and as trees mature, the branches cause serious issues with the electrical wires. Mayor Tom Kasner informed the Council that he and Mr. Schneider will prepare an ordinance and present the draft to the Council at a future meeting.

Mr. Evens questioned if the overhead electrical wires at the intersection of 1<sup>st</sup> Street and Railroad Avenue can be placed underground when the proposed roundabout is constructed. Mr. Mathiasen noted that if the electrical wires are three-phase, it's unlikely that XCEL Energy will agree to bury the electrical wires, but he will contact XCEL to confirm.

The Council took notice of a Minnesota Lawful Gambling Off-site application submitted by the Albany Lions Club to conduct a raffle on February 8, 2019 in conjunction with their annual Sweetheart Dinner/Show at Shady's Hometown Tavern and Events Center, 461 Railroad Avenue. After due discussion, a motion was made by Jack Evens who introduced the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION 2018-23  
APPROVING MINNESOTA  
LAWFUL GAMBLING EXEMPT PERMIT APPLICATION  
(Albany Lions)

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 Tom Kasner, Councilors Al Amdahl, Keith Heitzman, and Jack Evens, and none voted against the same whereupon the said Resolution were 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 Tom Kasner informed the Council that the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Oral Health Program and Drinking Water Protection Section presented the City with the 2017 Water Fluoridation Quality Award. Mr. Schneider noted the award is created by the Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention who recognize public water systems that adjust the fluoride concentration in drinking water and achieve a monthly average fluoride level that is in the optimal range for 12 consecutive months in a calendar year. Mayor Tom Kasner thanked Mr. Mergen for his outstanding performance in fluoridation management of the City's public water system.

Mayor Tom Kasner also informed the Council that he and Councilor Keith Heitzman, Employee liaisons, completed the annual performance evaluation for the year 2018 of the City Clerk/Administrator and copies were provided to each Council member. Mr. Schneider noted that performance evaluations are conducted on all City employees as per the City's Personnel Policy. 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 5, 2018 and adjourned the meeting at 7:25 PM.

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Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm.