

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, October 4, 2017, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue for the said City.

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

Also present were: Tom Schneider, Clerk/Adm., Ozzie Carbajal, Police Chief, Albany Police Department, Mike Kosik, Editor, Albany Enterprise, Jeremy Mathiasen, City Engineer, with Stantec, Inc., Bob Forster, Public Works Department, Dannielle Zierden, Police Administrative Assistant, and Albany High School students present were: Morgan Stommies, Courtney Buerman, Owen Meyer, Anna Wesen, Montana Notch, Taylor House, Hayden Kulzer, and Tiffany Freyman.

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

After due discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kasner and seconded by Al Amdahl to authorize electronic payments, transfers, and the payment of the following bills: Check Numbers 67698 to 67716 and 16689 to 16704. 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 September 20th and hearing none declared them approved.

Open forum/public comment: Bill Fiedler, 870 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. #4, appeared before the Council to question language in Ordinance 52 that prohibits the use of 4-wheelers within the City limits. Mr. Fiedler noted that the definition of an All-Terrain Vehicle may include other recreational vehicles which are permitted on City streets and recommended that a 4-wheeler be allowed on City streets as well. Mr. Carbajal noted that a golf cart and a side by side are alternative vehicles that are permitted on City streets if appropriate permits/licenses are obtained. Mayor Daron Gersch thanked Mr. Fiedler for attending the meeting and City staff will review the language in the ordinance to determine if there are inconsistencies.

Mr. Mathiasen presented to the Council a Cooperative Construction Agreement between the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) and the City of Albany related to the 2018 1<sup>st</sup> Street Reconstruction Improvements on State Highway #238 from 136 feet north of Railroad Avenue to 850 feet north of Lake Avenue. Mr. Mathiasen noted that the improvements include grading, bituminous surfacing, ADA improvement construction, sidewalk, curb/gutter, water main, sewer main, w/s services, and storm sewer; whereby the City's estimated amount for City owned utility improvements is \$275,000. Mr. Mathiasen noted that a revised cost estimate will be prepared following that actual bid received for the project improvements. After due discussion, a motion was made by John R. Harlander who introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION 2017-11

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
And  
CITY OF ALBANY  
COOPERATIVE CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT

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, Al Amdahl, John R. Harlander, and Keith Heitzman and none voted against the same whereupon the said Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted. The full text of the said Resolution and Agreement is on file at the office of the City Clerk/Administrator for public inspection during regular office hours.

Mr. Mathiasen presented to the Council a video of the semi-truck demonstration of the two mini-roundabouts recently constructed by MnDOT in the City of St. James, MN. Mr. Mathiasen noted that Mayor Daron Gersch, Councilor Keith Heitzman, and Mr. Schneider, attended the demonstration on September 29<sup>th</sup> to view the traffic pattern of semi-trucks using the roundabouts and spoke to MnDOT engineers, the City Engineer, business owners, and residents of the community. Mayor Daron Gersch, with the consensus of the Council, directed Mr. Mathiasen to prepare examples of layouts or designs for a roundabout at the intersection of 1<sup>st</sup> Street and Railroad Avenue. No action was taken on a final street improvement design for the aforesaid intersection.

Mr. Mergen presented to the Council a list of property owners who have not paid their utility bill after receiving several past due notices. Mr. Mergen noted that he will make final contact with each and if no response, the water service will be shut off pursuant to Ordinance 30.

Mr. Mergen informed the Council that he completed water sampling for lead and copper as per the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidelines for community potable water which are taken once every five years.

Councilor Tom Kasner, Albany Area Fire Board Liaison, informed the Council that the Albany Fire Department received the 2016 Life Safety Achievement Award from the National Association of State Fire Marshals Fire Research and Education Foundation, in partnership with Grinnell Mutual. Mr. Kasner noted that the award is related to the Department's fire prevention accomplishments in 2016. Mayor Daron Gersch commended Mr. Kasner and the firemen for doing a wonderful job in protecting human life and property in the community and surrounding area.

Councilor John R. Harlander, Street Department Liaison, informed the Council that he, Mr. Mergen, Matt Gannon, Sergeant Albany Police Department, Mr. Schneider, and Tom Dumont, MnDOT, met with Jean Pundsack, 211 Railroad Avenue, at City Hall on October 4<sup>th</sup> to listen to her concerns about Railroad Avenue pedestrian crosswalks/signage, and traffic (agricultural/vehicles/semi-trucks) speed. Mr. Harlander noted that Mr. Dumont thought improvements to the crosswalk at the intersection of 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Railroad Avenue can be considered; whereby Mr. Mergen will provide the City with estimated costs in the near future.

Mr. Schneider recommended to the Council that a public hearing be scheduled to consider a proposed assessment for two single-family residential lots, forfeited properties that have been sold, within the Whispering Oaks at Two River for costs related to the installation of utilities, streets and other municipal improvements in the year 2005. After due discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Daron Gersch and seconded by Tom Kasner to schedule a public hearing at 6:30 PM or as soon as possible on Wednesday, November 1st, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue to consider an assessment for the two lots in the Whispering Oaks at Two River subdivision. 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, October 18, 2017 and adjourned the meeting at 7:40 PM.

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Tom Schneider  
Clerk/Adm.