

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ALDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

9 December 2020

The Alden City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, 9 December 2020, at 6:31 PM. Present was Mayor Greg Hitchcock and council members Mr. Reindal, Mr. Wichmann, and Mr. Duncan. Ms. VanEngelenburg was absent. City Staff present were Jim Thunstedt, Jerome Wuerflein, and Spencer Wacholz.

Mayor Hitchcock called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approved as presented were the Minutes of the November Meeting, along with the November Treasurer's Report and transfers, and the Hours Report.

Chief Thunstedt reported the department had 0 fire calls and 2 medical calls in November 2020. The county meeting was via Zoom. The state Fire Marshal Division presented an interactive MN map for each fire department to update COVID-19 status. New recruits will start FF I & FF II training December 7th. First responders have successfully renewed their certification. The Pumper 929 passed the pump test. Chief Thunstedt requested to add Ron Redman to active status effective 12/10/2020. Wichmann made the motion, Reindal 2nd with the motion passing. Reindal motioned, Duncan 2nd, to accept the Fire Report; motion carried.

Public Works Superintendent, Jerome Wuerflein reported the state of the snowplow truck. Wuerflein gave multiple potential replacements to the council to peruse. Wichmann made the motion, Duncan 2nd, to allow Wuerflein to continue with research and purchase a new snowplow truck, with a budgeted amount of \$55,000 by no later than 12/31/2020, motion carried.

Reindal made the motion, Wichmann 2nd, to give authority to transfer funds for needed to purchase the snowplow truck no later than 12/31/2020, motion carried. Duncan motioned, Wichmann 2nd, to accept the Public Works Report.

After some discussion, Wichmann motioned, Reindal 2nd, to increase the cost of living to 2% of the current wages for city employees starting 1 January 2021, motion carried.

Following a discussion of the proposed 2021 Budget and Tax Levy, motion by Reindal, Wichman 2nd, to approve the 2021 Budget with an adjustment to set the General Tax for the Fire Department to \$14,400, motion carried. Motion by Reindal, Wichmann 2nd, to adopt the 2021 Tax Levy at 7%.

<u>LEVY PURPOSE</u>	<u>LEVY AFTER AIDS</u>
GENERAL FUND	\$172,527
FIRE PROTECTION	\$14,124
BONDS – 2017	<u>\$53,029</u>
TOTALS	\$239,680

The council designated the Alden Community Center as the city's polling place for 2021, motion was made by Wichmann, 2nd by Duncan, motion carried.

Wichmann made a motion, 2nd by Reindal, to allow Clerk Wacholz to lease a PostBase 20 from FP Mailing Solutions, motion carried.

The council want to also bring attention to the residents of Alden to please clean up their pet excrement.

The bills provided for the month have been accepted by motion from Reindal 2nd by Duncan, motion carried. The following bills for the month are as follows:

Bryce Adams	\$4.60
Fastenal Company	\$5.89
Freeborn County Co-Op	\$18.01
Frontier	\$223.35
Gopher State One Call	\$16.20
Karl's Carquest	\$161.97
Lakeside Auto	\$400.00
League of MN Cities	\$811.00
Minnesota Energy	\$667.93
Parker Hemmingson	\$113.92
Raleigh's Ace Hardware	\$34.97
Reindal Electric	\$130.00
Ron's Plumbing	\$95.00
Staples Enterprises	\$158.48
US Bank	\$633.53
Vadim Municipal	\$720.00
Vesco, Inc	\$80.42
Utility Consultants	\$4,844.00
WW Goetsch Associates	\$10,575.00

Wichmann motioned to adjourn meeting, 2nd by Reindal.

Mayor Hitchcock adjourned meeting at 8:35 pm.