

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ALDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

February 12, 2020

The Alden City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, February 12, 2020, at 6:01 PM. Present was Mayor Greg Hitchcock and council members Mr. Reindal, Mr. Wichmann, and Mr. Duncan. Absent was Ms. VanEngelenburg. City Staff present were Jim Thunstedt, Jeanne Meyer, and Shirley Newman. Also in attendance were Dan Reindal, Cheryl Reynolds, Sarah Nelson of Intego Insurance Services, and Kory Newman.

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

Approved as presented were the Minutes of the January 8th Council Meeting, along with the December Treasurer's Report and transfers, the Hours Report, Fire Department Report and Public Works Report.

Fire Chief Jim Thunstedt reported that the Alden Fire Department and Freeborn Fire Department staff will do ice rescue training this Saturday, at Lake Morin. The Alden Fire Dept. FEMA grant has been submitted to FEMA, for Fire Dept. equipment. Alden Fire staff Joe Bollinger retired, and we graciously thank him for his years of service to the Alden Fire Department.

Public Works Superintendent, Jerome Wuerflein was absent, and council decided to discuss progress of the New Water Treatment plant, nearing completion. Council voted to retain \$10,000, from the water project, until all is completed. Motion by Wichmann, 2nd by Duncan, and motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Hitchcock acknowledged a thank you note from Freeborn County Historical Museum Library & Village.

CITY BUSINESS

The council discussed water bill dispute from 207 Hemmingsen. Council reviewed, and came to conclusion; water /utility late fee, approximately \$79, for this matter will be waived, once account has been brought current. Motion by Reindal, 2nd by Wichmann, and motion passed.

Dan Reindal and Cheryl Reynolds each spoke about the Alden Cemetery Volunteer Group, regarding upkeep/ clean up/fundraiser plans for the cemetery. The volunteer group is collecting donations people wish to give the Alden Cemetery for the maintenance and upkeep of the cemetery. Donations maybe dropped off at the City office at anytime, from March 1st, thru May 31, 2020. The Alden Area Community Foundation has kindly agreed to match any donations to the Alden City Cemetery, up to \$2,500. More information regarding fundraising/cleaning/upkeep of the city cemetery will follow. The council thanked Dan Reindal and Cheryl Reynolds, for their efforts and time for volunteer work for the Alden City Cemetery.

Sarah Nelson, from Intego Insurance Services Inc. updated the council on the City of Alden insurance renewal for the new year. Sarah was able to save the city premium funds and at the same time, insure Alden is adequately covered for all insurance needs. Sarah also reported the City of Alden was claim free this past year.

Council reviewed mowing contracts for the City of Alden for 2020. The city is in the 2nd year of the contract with Advanced Outdoor Services for city cemetery mowing, and recommends that Public Works - Jerome Wuerflein communicate with Advanced Outdoor Services regarding city mowing.

The Joint Powers Agreement representatives Greg Hitchcock and Heath Reindal, will meet Feb. 19th, with Alden-Conger Public School officials. Plans are to discuss and renew an agreement.

Resolution for the removal of property of 280 Euclid St. Parcel# 21.002.0100, passed and to hold a public meeting at the City council chambers, 174 Water Street, Alden, MN on March 11th, at 6:00 p.m. Motion by Wichmann, 2nd by Reindal, and motion passed. Full Resolution will be on file in the City Clerk's office.

The council reviewed the Resolution Election Judges for 2020. There will be 3 elections held this year, March 3rd, August 11th, and November 3rd, 2020. There was election judge training at Freeborn County, on February 5, and there will be head election judge training on Feb. 19, 2020. Motion by Duncan and 2nd by Reindal, and passed for the Resolution of 2020 Election Judges. Full Resolution will be on file in the City Clerk's office.

Motion by Wichmann, 2nd by Reindal, and carried with none opposed, to approve payment of pay request #8 to Beemer Companies in the amount of \$38,000. and approve pay request #3 to Dakota Supply in the amount of \$4,120.55; after receiving appropriate PFA funding.

The 2019 Audit is in progress, by CliftonLarsonAllen LLC. They informed staff, regarding the PFA loan used for financing the Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project triggers additional recording requirements. Those requirements include a depreciation/evaluation report, of the Water Treatment Plant and water assets. Mayor Hitchcock requested that this matter be tabled, until the next council meeting, when Jerome Wuerflein, Public Works, will be available to answer questions regarding this subject.

The 2020 Fee schedule was reviewed and discussed by council. The fees schedule will be updated with changes to fees regarding "Water Meters" CURRENT COST PLUS TAX; and "Cemetery Lots" SECOND BURIAL TO A LOT WOULD BE AN ADDITIONAL \$50.00 . Motion made by Wichmann, and 2nd by Duncan, motion passed to adopt new 2020 fee schedule.

Mr. Kory Newman, whom owns parcels #21-005-0310 & 21-005-0161, in the city of Alden; spoke to council, regarding his request to put up a residential shed/building on his property. Council approved Kory to proceed, notwithstanding with the needed steps to adding a structure on his property, by contacting Alden Public Works- Jerome Wuerflein, for city planning/zoning reasons/permit(s), and building permit(s) through Freeborn County Planning & Zoning.

Motion by Duncan, 2nd by Reindal, and carried with none opposed, to approve the bills as follows:

BILLS – FEBRUARY 12, 2020

Adams, Bryce - January cell phone allowance	30.00
Alden Advance - January council minutes, 2020 budget	231.29
Arnold's of Alden - loader repairs	40.45
Bolton & Menk - Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project-12/14 - 1/10/20	2,115.00
Bomgaars - tow rope, bolts	61.67
Cardmember Service - Powr Social Feed Premium subscription – website,	53.89
Bryce's clothing allowance & boot allowance,	1,073.23
Microsoft Windows 10, loader repairs, tow rope,	-
shipping, late charge, 2020 MCFOA Annual	
Conference - Jeanne	
CliftonLarsonAllen - services thru 12/31/19, technology & client support fee	5,775.00
Dakota Supply Group - Pay Est. #3 - 2019 Water Meter Replacement Project	8,627.99
EFTPS – January Federal payroll tax deposit	2,582.15
Freeborn County Historical Society - membership program	100.00
Freeborn Mower - 1/1 - 2/1 electric services	2,723.63
Frontier - February phone services	213.47
Gopher State One Call - January line locates	1.35
- 2020 Annual Facility Operator Fee	50.00
J & P Repair - plow truck repair, service call	275.00
Karl's CarQuest Auto Parts - plow truck repairs, supplies	122.59
League of MN Cities Ins Trust-2020 property/casualty/liability insurance premium	14,396.00
- 2020 Workers' Compensation insurance premium	9,357.00
Meyer, Jeanne - city clerk business cards	24.70
Midcontinent Communications - 1/17 - 2/16/20 shop office internet service	105.00
- 1/13 - 2/12/20 emergency phone at water plant	35.75
MN DNR Ecological & Water Resources - MPARS Water Permit	166.73
MN Energy - 12/16/19 - 1/20/20 gas service	1,379.20
MN PFA - Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project interest payment	5,940.19
MN Revenue - January state withholding tax	447.89
- January sales tax	950.00
PERA – 12/30/19 - 2/9/20 employee retirement contributions	2,526.60
Postmaster - 100 - \$.55 & 300- \$.35 postage stamps	160.00
Quill - office supplies, supplies	221.45
Raleigh's Ace Hardware - ice melt, water plant liquid soap	59.80
Rooftop Restoration - trees removed at cemetery & by Morin Lake	4,975.00
Staples Enterprises - January fuel purchases	1,029.75
State of MN Dept. of Public Safety - MN Hazardous Materials & Chemical fees	100.00
Thompson Sanitation - January garbage service	3,230.30
Titan Machinery - loader repairs	1,117.14
TransWorld Network - Jan. & Feb. long distance service - office	9.79
USABLE Life - February premium	69.30
USTI - W2s & 1099s, envelopes, shipping	124.00
VanEngelenburg, Janelle - paint & project supplies for city hall	546.72

Wuerflein, Jerome - January cell phone allowance	30.00
Xerox Corporation - copier service contract	87.62
- copier service contract	130.86

Wages, less ded:	
Bryce Adams	3,454.68
Jeanne Meyer	3,658.19
Shirley Newman	1,934.10
Jerome Wuerflein	4,667.46

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Clarey's Safety Equipment - repair SCBA fill	511.95
Fire Safety USA - Trucks #927 & #929 repairs	1,613.75
Freeborn County Coop Oil - January fuel purchases	38.06
Freeborn County Fire Assoc. - annual dues	100.00
Midcontinent Communications - 1/17 - 2/16/20 internet service	105.00

Council approved motion by Reindal, 2nd by Wichmann, and carried, to adjourn at 7:53 p.m.

Greg Hitchcock
Mayor

Jeanne Meyer
Clerk-Treasurer

