

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ALDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

November 8th, 2017

The Alden City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, November 8th, at 6:00 PM. Council members present were Reyerson, Riebe, Wichmann, VanEngelenburg and Duncan. City Staff present were Chief Thunstedt, Wuerflein and Scholten. Harpham was absent. Also present were Ben Rosol and Wes Brown, both of Bolton & Menk, Inc., Maria Bernal and Amy Purdy.

Mayor Reyerson called the meeting to order.

Approved as presented were the Minutes of the October 11th Council Meeting and October 25th Public Hearing, along with the October Treasurer's Report, Transfer of Funds, Hours Report, Police Report, Fire Department Report, and the Public Works Report.

The Police Report was reviewed. After review, the council decided they would hold a Special Meeting on Wednesday, November 15th, 2017 at 6:00 PM to discuss the police position.

In conjunction with the Police Report, Maria Bernal presented to the council her concern with the water not being turned on at a property she is in the process of purchasing. After lengthy discussion, the council approved the water to be turned on at 326 Euclid. The council agreed Bernal has until the date listed on the condemnation letter to get the property cleaned and passed by inspected or the property will be condemned.

Chief Thunstedt informed the council the Fire Department received \$2000.00 from the Freeborn-Mower Cooperative Services Operation Round-Up Program. The money will be used for pager updates and for communication equipment. Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Duncan and carried, to pay any pager or communication equipment bills before the December council meeting, if needed. Thunstedt went on to inform the council he will be purchasing the washer/extractor and drying cabinet in November since the prices will go up in December.

Wuerflein presented the Public Works Report. He informed the council of some repairs that have gone on at the water plant and requested the council consider moving forward with creating plans for a new water plant. After some discussion, it was decided Wuerflein and Reyerson would meet with Bolton & Menk, Inc. to go over possible plans.

Wes Brown and Ben Rosol of Bolton & Menk, Inc. presented updates to the council regarding the Morin Road & Alley Improvement Project. Brown explained the current status of the overall project and said the overall project would not be completed until spring of 2018. After a very lengthy discussion including many concerns, motion by Riebe, second by VanEngelenburg and carried, to withhold current pay estimate to

Ulland Brothers Inc. until the December council meeting. The penalty withholding amount will also be discussed at the December meeting.

Scholten presented information regarding the TH 109 Project, which is projected to begin spring of 2018. She informed the council MnDOT is requesting the City's payment for the project to be due in full by April 1st, 2018.

Scholten then informed the council of a party interested in possibly purchasing the vacant lot at 373 Euclid, but the party is concerned about the hefty assessment tied with the property. After some discussion, the council decided they would be willing to review the party's proposal with intent of the property and possibly work out an agreement with the assessment.

Motion by Riebe, second by Wichmann and carried, to approve and adopt the following resolution: A RESOLUTION DIRECTING DELINQUENT UTILITY CHARGES BE PLACED ON THE 2018 PROPERTY TAX ROLLS. The full resolution will be on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Motion by Riebe, second by Wichmann and carried, to approve and adopt the following resolution: A RESOLUTION DIRECTING DELINQUENT MOWING CHARGES BE PLACED ON THE 2018 PROPERTY TAX ROLLS. The full resolution will be on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Motion by Wichmann, second by Duncan and carried, to approve a 3% wage increase for City employees beginning 2018.

Motion by Riebe, second by Wichmann and carried, to approve and adopt the following resolution: RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE THE POLLING PLACE FOR 2018 ALDEN, MINNESOTA. The full resolution will be on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Scholten informed the council of a time change for the Truth In Taxation Hearing. It will need to be held at 6:00 PM on December 13th with the regular council meeting to follow at 6:30 PM.

Motion by Riebe, second by Duncan and carried, to approve the request to close the City Office on Friday, November 24th, 2017.

Amy Purdy presented a complaint to the council in regards to her drinking water. She stated the water often smells of chlorine with a foul, metal smell. After some discussion, Wuerflein said the smells could be consistent with the pump issues at the water plant. Wuerflein and Purdy will be in contact if the problem persists.

Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Wichmann and carried to approve Scholten's vacation request for December 1st - 8th.

Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Wichmann and carried, to approve the bills as follows:

Albert Lea Steel - shop supplies 35.00, snowplow truck repair 117.00; Alden Advance - Sept. council minutes 146.00; Arnold's of Alden - water valve repair 4.30; Bolton & Menk - 2017 Morin Rd. & Downtown Alleys Improvement Project 20,570.76, 2017 WasteWater Treatment Facility Forcemain Replacement 7700.50; Bomgaars - snowplow truck & pickup repairs, shop supplies 117.69; EFTPS - Oct. Federal payroll tax deposit 2313.47; Fastenal - scale for at the water plant, shipping 281.26; Freeborn Mower Cooperative - 9/5 - 10/4/17 electric service 1467.59; Gopher State One Call - Oct. Line Locates 6.75; Harpham, Kris - Oct. cell phone allowance 30.00; Matt Levorson Productions - video & photography editing for web page 160.50; MHSRC/Range - EVOC Law Enforcement training fees 405.00; Midcontinent Comm. - 10/17 - 11/16/17 shop/police office internet service 157.50; MN Energy - 9/13 - 10/16/17 gas services 273.71; MN Revenue - Oct. state withholding tax 455.70; PERA - 10/9 - 10/22/17 employee retirement contributions 1092.34; Postmaster - 100 \$.49 postage stamps 49.00; Raleigh's Ace Hardware - snow plow repairs, shop supplies 35.04, shop supplies 77.31, shop supplies, hall cleaning supplies 44.91; US Able Life - Nov. premium 57.30; Visa - mail water samples, police ammo & 2 mags, web page expenses 426.98; Wuerflein, Jerome - Oct. cell phone allowance 30.00; Albert Lea Steel - snowplow wing repair 48.26; Drain Works - jet sewer line @ manhole #62 field south of W. Main 570.00; Expressways - Oct. fuel purchases 90.86; Freeborn County Coop Oil - Oct. fuel purchases 90.86; Frontier Comm. - Nov. phone services 195.96; Great Lawn Services - Sept. mowing/trimming city & cemetery 2340.00, Oct. mowing/trimming city & cemetery 1560.00; Guggisberg, William - Oct. mileage 40.00; Jim & Dudes Plg & Htg - water plant repair 1466.00; John Hullopeter Cons. - storm sewer repair @ Emerson/Hall & Humes/Wilson 2432.28; Karl's CarQuest - carb cleaner, lamps for plow truck, welding wire, socket 68.83, supplies for generator at lift station 99.10; Northern Country Coop - pesticide for dandelion control 49.47; PERA - 10/23 - 11/5/17 employee retirement contribution 1099.25, Oct. OT employee retirement contribution 14.35; Raleigh's Ace Hardware - snowplow wing repair 28.36; Thompson Sanitation - Oct. garbage service 3089.86; TransWorld Network - Oct. & Nov. long distance service - office 5.10; Xerox Corp. - copier service agreement 60.84; wages & Oct. OT, less deductions: William Guggisburg - Oct. 175.46; Kristin Harpham 3015.46; Shirley Newman 953.37; Alexis Scholten 2281.67; Jerome Wuerflein 2736.16, OT 88.00. FIRE DEPARTMENT: Midcontinent Comm. - 10/17 - 11/16/17 internet service 52.50.

Motion by Riebe, second by Wichmann and carried, to adjourn at 8:11 PM.