

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ALDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 10, 2017

The Alden City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, May 10th, at 6:00 PM. Council members present were Reyerson, Riebe, Wichmann, and Duncan. City Staff present were Chief Harpham, Chief Thunstedt, and Scholten. Also present was Charles Millington and Sheriff Kurt Freitag. VanEngelenburg was absent.

Mayor Reyerson called the meeting to order.

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

Scholten brought forth information regarding the Cemetery Fund in the April Treasurer's Report. Due to the lack of current cemetery funds to support the costs of landscaping and upkeep at the cemetery, the Council decided to transfer the entire cemetery savings money to the cemetery checking account. Motion by Riebe, second by Wichmann and carried, to transfer \$6,576.61 from the Cemetery Savings to the Cemetery Checking.

Chief Harpham presented the Police Report. He stated rental inspections went well and requested the Council make a decision as to when Harpham is to take over inspections. The Council decided to continue using Albert Lea's Inspection Department for the remainder of 2017 and for Harpham to continue training.

In conjunction with the Police Report, Charles Millington presented information regarding a tower he would like to put up on his property at 269 Washington Ave. The tower would stand 37 feet tall with a concrete base. Motion by Wichmann, second by Duncan and carried, to approve the placement of the 37 foot tower on the property at 269 Washington Ave.

Chief Thunstedt gave the April Fire Report, which included a motion by Wichmann, second by Duncan and carried, to approve Chief Thunstedt's request to add Jason Hemmingsen to the Alden Fire Department roster. The Fire Report also included a motion by Riebe, second by Duncan and carried, to approve prepayment of training invoices or vouchers before the June Council Meeting. Chief Thunstedt ended the report with information regarding different grants the department will be applying for to help offset the cost of new equipment.

The Public Works Report included several items. Wuerflein updated the Council on the force main project, stating decision has been made to end the new pipe outside of the lift station. He went on to inform the Council about the proposal of upgrading the pumps at the lift station to help during rain events. Wuerflein then stated he received a quote for \$3000 per tree removal at North Park. The Council decided to wait until next year to begin removing any trees.

One correspondence item was reviewed, which was a letter from Mary Frank. After some discussion, motion by Wichmann, second by Riebe and carried, to remove any late charges added to Frank's bill from the reading period of June '16 - September '16.

Sheriff Kurt Freitag came before the Council to present information regarding the National Incident-Based Reporting System. After lengthy discussion, motion by Riebe, second by Duncan

and carried, to approve and adopt the presented Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Alden and the Freeborn County Sheriff's Office regarding NIBRS. The entire Joint Powers Agreement will be on file and available in the City Clerk's office.

Motion by Wichmann, second by Duncan and carried, to approve and adopt the following resolution:

**Resolution Approving Plans and Specifications
and Ordering Advertisement for Bids
City of Alden**

WHEREAS, pursuant to a resolution passed by the Council March 29, 2017 the Engineer has prepared plans and specifications for the 2017 Street and Alley Improvements of Morin Road and the east and west alleys of Broadway Street between Main Street and Water street for the improvement of street and alley reconstruction, parking area and subsurface drain improvements and has presented such plans and specifications to the council for approval;

1. Such plans and specifications, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of hereof, are hereby approved.
2. The City Clerk shall prepare and cause to be inserted in the official paper (and an online trade publication, QuestCDN) an advertisement for bids upon the making of such improvement under such approved plans and specifications. The advertisement shall be published for 21 days, shall specify the work to be done, shall state that bids will be received by the Clerk until 2:00 PM on June 7, 2017, at which time they will be publicly opened in the Council Chambers of the City Office by the City Clerk and Engineer, will then be tabulated, and will be considered by the Council at 6:00 PM on June 14, 2017, in the Council Chambers of the City Office. Any bidder whose responsibility is questioned during consideration of the bid will be given an opportunity to address the Council on the issue of responsibility. No bids will be considered unless sealed and filed with the Clerk and accompanied by a cash deposit, cashier's check, bid bond or certified check payable to the Clerk for 5% (percent) of the amount of such bid.

Adopted by the Council this 10th day of May, 2017.

The Council discussed the opportunity of replacing the lights in the City Office with LED bulbs, which would be included as part of the school LED light project. Motion by Riebe, second by Wichmann and carried, to approve the replacement of lights in the City Office and conference room at an estimated cost of \$1,072.72.

Motion by Riebe, second by Duncan and carried, to approve the resubmitted 2016 Pay Equity Report.

There was discussion regarding proposed changes to Ordinance No. 88, which regulates the growth of weeds and grasses. The proposed changes included a flat fee for the City mowing a property, instead of a per hour fee. Also added was weeds and grasses are to not exceed the length of 8 inches. Motion by Riebe, second by Wichmann and carried, to amend Ordinance No. 88 to reflect the proposed changes. The full ordinance will be available and on file at the City Office.

Motion by Riebe, second by Duncan and carried, to approve the bills as follows:

Alden Advance - March council minutes, 2016 Drinking Water Report 542.27; Bolton & Menk - 2017 Morin Rd. & Alley Improvement Project 9577.00, 2017 Force Main Project 8812.00; City of Albert Lea - 2017 rental inspection admin fee, placarded 3 houses 645.00; EFTPS - April Federal payroll tax deposit 2262.73; Expressways -April fuel purchases 400.91; Freeborn Mower Coop - % - 4/4/17 electric service 1945.45; Frontier Communications - May phone services 245.85; Gopher State One Call - April line locates 13.50; Great Lawn Services - April mowing & trimming @ city & cemetery 1560.00; Harpham, Kris - April cell phone allowance 30.00; Karl's CarQuest Auto Parts - shop supplies 43.98; Lakeside Auto - tire & tube for Ford tractor 362.52; League of MN Cities Ins. Trust - 2017 Worker's Comp final audit 1315.00; MCFOA Region VI - registration for regional meeting - Lexi 15.00; Midco Comm - 4/17 - 5/16/17 shop/police office internet service 157.50; MN Energy - 3/14 - 4/12/17 gas services 752.87; MN Revenue - April state withholding tax 456.39; PERA - 4/10 - 4/23/17 employee retirement contributions 1102.78; R&R Flooring - carpet tiles for Alden City Hall 2500.00; Team Lab - street paint, freight 1020.00; Thompson Sanitation - April garbage service 3089.86; Titan Machinery - loader repair, freight 331.49; TransWorld Network - March long distance service - city garage 6.30; US Able Life - May premium 53.70; Utility Consultants - sewer testing, shipping 622.50; Wuerflein, Jerome - April cell phone allowance 30.00; Xerox Corporation - copier service agreement 95.16; Freeborn Co. Hwy Dept. - permit for work in county hwy right-of-way 100.00; Guggisberg, William - April mileage 24.00; Merritt, Debby - 5/6/17 hall deposit refunded 100.00; MN Dept. of Labor & Industry - registration fee for air compressor 10.00; PERA - 4/24 - 5/7/17 & April OT employee retirement contribution 1137.89; Postmaster - 100 \$.49 & 100 \$.34 postage stamps 83.00; Raleigh's Ace Hardware - shop supplies, rain gauge, lift station repair 42.67, N. Park restroom repairs, kneepads 42.72, water repairs at 246 S. Broadway 161.22; TransWorld Network - April & May long distance service - office 7.28; Visa - printer ink 7 memory card for police, postage for nuisance notices, postage to mail water samples, felt for city hall chairs, international tax fee 439.21; Wages & April OT, less ded: William Guggisberg - April 156.99, Kristin Harpham 3015.46, Kristin Harpham - April OT 137.10, Shirley Newman 983.26, Alexis Scholten 2343.33, Jerome Wuerflein 2679.48. FIRE DEPARTMENT: Broskoff Structures - grain rescue tube 3125.00; Budget Signs - supplies 45.00; Emergency Medical Products - equipment & handling fee 134.73, Fire Safety - fire boots, shipping 190.00, PX Bullard helmet, shipping 217.50; Mirelli, Rich - training mileage 416.50; SE MN Emergency Medical Services - consortium membership 400.00; Tomschin, Brad - V belt purchased at Karl's CarQuest 9.87.

Motion by Riebe, second by Duncan and carried, to adjourn at 8:15 PM.