MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ALDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

18 May 2022

The Alden City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, 18 May 2022, at 6:00 PM.

Present was Acting-Mayor Jeff Wichmann and council members Mr. Reindal, Mr. Duncan. Ms. VanEngelenburg. City Staff present were Jim Thunstedt, Jerome Wuerflein, and Spencer Wacholz. Lori Nelson was also present.

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

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

Chief Thunstedt reported the department no fire calls and one medical call for April. The county meeting was a table top exercise with multiple agencies. The scenario was a person that drives a vehicle through a crowded area and the response to the aftermath. The Fire Department had a control burn of a large brush pile on 21 April. EMR Consortium training was held 20 April that included adult and pediatric cardiac arrest. The contract and down payment for the new used fire truck has been sent to Fire Safety USA. VanEnglenburg motioned, Reindal 2nd, to accept the Fire Report; motion carried.

Public Works Superintendent, Jerome Wuerflein reported the water tower was painted on 9 May. The crack sealing bid is $13,100.00 with the chip seal puts the bid around $50,000.00. Wichmann motioned, Duncan 2nd, to move forward with the bid; motion carried. The members of the local 4H club picked up sticks and debris at the cemetery. Olson Excavating was present in town to clean storm basins. Discussion about the roof status on the Community Center, part of the Fire Department, and Museum was had. VanEnglenburg motioned, Reindal 2nd, to fix the roofs; motion carried. VanEnglenburg motioned, Wichmann 2nd, to accept the Public Works Report.

Clerk Wacholz presented liquor license renewal for the American Legion Post 404. Reindal motioned, VanEnglenburg 2nd, to renew liquor license for the Legion; motion carried.

Some discussion about Morin Lake Days was had.

Clerk Wacholz presented information on the funds available from the federal government through the American Rescue Plan Act. The council instructed Clerk Wacholz to check if current projects qualify and report back.

Clerk Wacholz also presented other financing options for the Fire Department for turnout gear. The possibility of taking out an equipment bond was discussed as was a bond for both the fire truck and turnout gear.

Lori Nelson asked a couple of questions to the council and clerk about the status of the ordinance enforcement agreement the city has with the City of Albert Lea. Clerk Wacholz provided pertinent information to all present on the status and situation. Letters were to be mailed to ordinance offenders on 19-20 May.

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

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| Alden Advance | $132.49 |
| Arnold’s | $98.20 |
| Bomgaars | $373.42 |
| Clarey’s Safety | $365.00 |
| Fastenal | $52.97 |
| Fire Safety  | $30,000 |
| Fountain Refrigeration | $25.58 |
| Freeborn County Coop | $535.20 |
| Freeborn County Shopper | $444.00 |
| Freeborn Mower Coop | $2,460.65 |
| Frontier | $216.17 |
| Gopher Sate  | $13.50 |
| Hawkins | $20.00 |
| J&P Auto | $769.00 |
| Lakeside Auto | $195.00 |
| League of MN Cities | $16,263.00 |
| Midcontinent | $363.43 |
| Minnesota Energy | $1,721.96 |
| Morin Lake Days | $1,200.00 |
| Peterson Kolker Haedt & Benda | $199.75 |
| Raleigh’s Ace | $22.47 |
| Robyn Wacholz | $46.95 |
| Softline Data | $395.00 |
| Sothern Lock & Glass | $237.09 |
| Team Lab | $1,015.00 |
| Thein Well | $275.00 |
| Thompson  | $3,230.30 |
| US Bank | $1,463.34 |
| Utility Consultants | $851.46 |
| Spencer Wacholz | $30.00 |
| Jerome Wuerflein | $30.00 |
| Wyatt Ladwig | $55.51 |
| Cheesman Painting and Exterior Maintenance | $660.00 |

Discussion about the status of current contractor for mowing city property was discussed. Clerk Wacholz, at the request of Mayor Reyerson, called James Cheesman during the council meeting to describe the situation. After the discussion, Wichmann motioned, Reindal 2nd, to lease mower from Arnold’s of Alden to help keep up with mowing; motion carried. The council discussed the possibility of hiring a new contractor. Reindal motioned, Wichmann 2nd, to give power of hiring a contractor to the joint efforts to Clerk Wacholz and Public Works Superintendent Wuerflein to a maximum of $650 per mowing for cemetery and trimming; motion carried. Reindal motioned, VanEnglenburg 2nd, to cancel the agreement between the City of Alden and Cheesman Painting and Exterior Maintenance; motion carried.

Clerk Wacholz presented Resolution 2022.03: Approving 2022 Election Judges for the Special Election. Reindal motioned, Wichmann 2nd, to pass Resolution 2022.03; motion carried. A copy of Resolution 2022.03 is available in the clerk’s office.

Wichmann motioned to adjourn meeting, 2nd by Duncan.

Mayor Reyerson adjourned meeting at 8:01 pm.