

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ALDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

December 12th, 2018

The Alden City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, December 12th, at 6:30 PM. Council members present were Mayor Reyerson, Riebe, VanEngelenburg, Wichmann, and Duncan. City Staff present were Chief Thunstedt, Wuerflein and Scholten. Also present were Greg Hitchcock, Heath Reindal, Gary Newman, Frank Purdy, Abby Leach of Leach Law, and Tessa Hemmingsen.

Mayor Reyerson called the meeting to order.

Approved as presented were the Minutes of the November 14th Council Meeting, along with the November Treasurer's Report and transfers, Hours Report, Fire Department Report, and the Public Works Report.

Chief Thunstedt presented the Fire Report. He updated the council on new and existing equipment for the department. Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Riebe and carried with non opposed, to pre-approve equipment purchases for the remainder of 2018 not exceeding the 2018 budgeted amount for the fire department.

Wuerflein presented the Public Works Report. He explained to the council there were damages to city property during the TH 109 project. Wuerflein stated he has sent a bill to MNDot for the damages, but has not received an adequate response from MNDot or the contractor. It was decided Wuerflein, Scholten, and City Attorney Abby Leach would move forward with attempting more contact. Wuerflein and the council then discussed the generator issues out at the lift station and how to proceed.

One correspondence item was reviewed, which was a thank you letter from William Guggisberg thanking the City of Alden for the opportunity to work for the city the past 3+ years. The council acknowledged their appreciation for Mr. Guggisberg as he helped the city with water and sewer duties throughout an employee transition period.

On behalf of the Alden American Legion Post 404, Gary Newman expressed his concern regarding City Ordinance No. 124 relating to gambling monies. After some discussion, the council decided through the process of updating the city ordinances, the council would add additional language to the ordinance. The language would exempt non-profit organizations from the ordinance, which requires organizations to pay 10% of gambling monies back to the city.

City Attorney Abby Leach spoke to the council about the property at 280 Euclid, which was damaged during a house fire earlier in 2018. In April of 2018, the council had made an agreement with the property owner at that time to have the property repaired to inspection standards or demolished by October 1st, 2018. Because that date has passed, Attorney Leach explained to the city how to proceed with getting the house demolished.

Following a brief discussion of the proposed 2019 Budget and Tax Levy, motion by Wichmann, second by Riebe and carried with non opposed, to approve the 2019 Budget in the amount of \$512,390. Motion by Riebe, second by Wichmann and carried with non opposed, to adopt the 2019 Tax Levy as follows:

<u>LEVY PURPOSE</u>	<u>LEVY AFTER AIDS</u>
GENERAL FUND	182,980
FIRE PROTECTION	12,000
GO-BOND 2011	<u>11,020</u>
TOTALS	206,000

Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Wichmann and carried with non opposed, to approve payment of pay request #1 to Beemer companies in the amount of \$103,649.75, and pay request #2 to Beemer Companies in the amount of \$194,237.00, after receiving appropriate PFA funding.

Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Wichmann and carried with non opposed, to approve and adopt the following resolution: RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE THE POLLING PLACE FOR 2019. The full resolution will be on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Duncan and carried with non opposed, to waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability.

The council discussed the current Snow Removal Policy. City Attorney Abby Leach gave the council some language to consider adding when the council updates the city ordinances.

Scholten updated the council on the process of adopting the MN Basic Code.

Then the council discussed current bulk water rates. The council decided with the current Water Plant Improvement Project and increasing water rates for residential and commercial water services, bulk water rates should increase for 2019 as well. Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Riebe and carried with non opposed, to raise bulk water rates to \$15.00 per 1000 gallons of bulk water usage, with a \$30.00 or 2000 gallon minimum, beginning with 2019 bulk water usage.

The council discussed the 2018 City Audit. Motion by Wichmann, second by VanEngelenburg and carried with none opposed, to approve the proposal from the auditing firm of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP for the 2018 City Audit at the estimated cost of \$8000.

Motion by Wichmann, second by Duncan and carried with none opposed, to approve the bills as follows:

Adams, Bryce - Nov. cell phone allowance, boot allowance 105.00; Albert Lea Steel - loader snowplow repairs 273.20; Alden Advance - yearly subscription 25.00; Arnold's of Alden - IH tractor repairs, snowblower repair 107.25; Austin Office Products - 2 new office chairs 502.12; Beemer Companies - pond berm repair 2058.75; Bolton & Menk - 2017 Morin Rd/Downtown Alleys Improvement Project 1587.50; Bomgaars - sweeper repairs, Ford tractor 3 pt. Parts 31.76; EFTPS - Nov. federal payroll tax deposit 2486.09; Fastenal - water repair 7.62; Frontier - Dec. phone service 142.93; Gopher State One Call - Nov. line locates 9.45; Guggisberg, William - Nov. mileage 74.00; Jerry Kroeger - gravel 285.10; John Hulloper Construction - concrete in front of city hall for firemen display 3243.75, concrete for spillway for downtown west alley 1156.00; MIDCO - 11/17 - 12/16/18 shop office internet service 105.00; MN Dept. of Health - 4th qtr. Water testing fee 508.00; MN Energy - 10/15 - 11/13/18 gas services 746.01; MN Revenue - Nov. state withholding tax 463.70; PERA - 11/5 - 12/2/18 employee retirement contribution 1601.46; Raleigh's Ace Hardware - ice melt, white vinegar 90.48; Scholten, Lexi - food for General Election judges 22.50; Staples Enterprises - Nov. fuel purchases 423.70; Sweeper Services - sweeper repairs 2195.78; Thompson Sanitation - Nov. garbage service 3089.86; USABLE Life - Dec. premium 49.60; Utility Consultants - sewer testing, shipping 173.50; Visa - hotel @ Winterizing Water System training, water testing supplies 146.08; Wuerflein, Jerome - Nov. cell phone allowance, mail water samples 54.70; Alden Pool & Municipal Supply Co. - chemicals 1828.80; Beemer Companies - Pay Est. #1 WTP Improvement Project 103,649.75, Pay Est. #2 WTP Improvement Project 194,237.00; Fastenal - shop supplies 31.20; Freeborn Mower Coop - 11/1 - 12/1/18 electric services 2177.50; Morin Lake Days - Mayo Foundation - MLD Fun Run 350.00; MRO Systems - paint, freight 69.71; PERA - annual & Nov. OT employee retirement contribution 110.81; Senior Resources of Freeborn County - support of senior programs 500.00; SMIF - contribution 250.00; TransWorld Network - Nov. & Dec. long distance service - office 8.65; Xerox - copier service agreement 58.47; wages & Nov. OT, less ded: Bryce Adams 2118.46; Shirley Newman 958.92; Alexis Scholten 2653.92; Jerome Wuerflein 2928.15; William Guggisberg - Nov. 193.93; Jerome Wuerflein - Nov. OT 185.82; Mayor: Jerry Reyerson 1847.00; Council: Jon Duncan 1385.25, Shawn Riebe 1385.25, Janelle VanEngelenburg 1385.25, Jeff Wichmann 1385.25; City Treasurer: Alexis Scholten 343.40; Cemetery Actuary: Alexis Scholten 64.39, Jerome Wuerflein 64.38; Cemetery Treasurer: Alexis Scholten 21.46. FIRE DEPT: Fire Safety USA - gloves, pick head axe, shipping 570.43, lifting bag set, air bag, shipping 12,645.00; Freeborn County Coop - Nov. fuel purchases 118.29; MIDCO - 11/17 - 12/16/18 internet service 105.00; S&H Diesel - service unit #929 - 1995 Chevy

Kodiak pumper, freight 1215.50, service unit #926 - 2015 Ford F550 rescue truck 264.00, service unit #927 - 1996 Ford F350 foam truck 274.05; Thunstedt, Jim - 2018 mileage 165.00; Weigel, Paul - framing (Fire Dept. 1902) 118.95; Thunstedt, Jim - Alden Fire Dept. pictures developed at Walgreen's 121.56; Ignaszewski, Kyle - small engine fuel 30.00; wages, less ded: Fire Chief: Jim Thunstedt 1385.25; Asst. Fire Chief: Joe Bolinger 461.75, Paul Weigel 461.75; Fire Captains: Dan Erickson 230.87, Ross Skov 230.87; Secretary - Rick Loock 92.35.

Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Riebe and carried with none opposed, to adjourn at 8:53 PM.

Jerry Reyerson
Mayor

Alexis Scholten
Clerk-Treasurer