

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ALDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

July 12th, 2017

The Alden City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, July 12th, at 6:00 PM. Council members present were Reyerson, Riebe, Wichmann, VanEngelenburg and Duncan. City Staff present were Chief Thunstedt, Wuerflein, Newman and Scholten. Also present were Scott Hemmingsen and Mark Newman. Chief Harpham was absent.

Mayor Reyerson called the meeting to order.

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

The Police Report was reviewed. The Council granted permission for Harpham to continue with Youth Hunter Education and Firearms Safety Class, which will begin in September.

Chief Thunstedt informed the Council of two training opportunities the department participated in, which included grain bin rescue and basement fires. There was also discussion regarding an annual contribution from the City to the Fire Department, which will be discussed further at the Budget Workshop later in the month.

Wuerflein presented the Public Works Report. He stated the replacement of dysfunctional water meters is in process. Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Wichmann and carried, to approve Wuerflein's vacation request for August.

Scholten presented the Council with information from Freeborn County regarding tax forfeited properties. The City has the opportunity to purchase and resell the properties or obtain them for City use. The Council decided to table the decision until the Special Meeting on July 19th.

The Council discussed the option to combine the bonds for the Forcemain Project and the Alley/Morin Road Improvement Project.

The Council then discussed sewer rates and whether or not to raise rates to help pay for the Forcemain Project. Motion by Riebe, second by Wichmann and carried, to raise the sewer rate to \$4.25 per 1000 gallons of water usage, with an additional \$9.00 sewer surcharge per quarter, effective the 2017 3rd quarter utility billing cycle.

Motion by Riebe, second by VanEngelenburg and carried, to not waive the outstanding utility bill for 246 S Broadway due to the property owner requesting the water to be shut off, then turned on.

Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Riebe and carried, to amend Ordinance No. 114 Section 2 to reflect the change when a cemetery plot is sold back to the City, 50% of the original purchase price will be refunded, effective on all past and future Alden Municipal Cemetery plot purchases.

Scott Hemmingsen expressed concern about paying assessments for the alley from Water Street to East Main Street. He also made the Council aware of his concern regarding traffic during the reconstruction of State Highway 109.

Mark Newman discussed with the Council his concern regarding standing water near his property at 236 Powers Avenue N. After lengthy discussion, it was decided Freeborn County should be contacted to gather more information.

Motion by Riebe, second by VanEngelenburg and carried, to approve the bills as follows: Albert Lea Steel - sprayer repair 11.00; Alden Advance - May Council minutes, WWTF Forcemain Replacement Bid 183.18; Bolton & Menk - 2017 Morin Road/Alley Improvement Project 10,355.50, 2017 Forcemain Replacement Project 7584.75; Bomgaars - shop tools, water tank @ cemetery, Ford tractor & sprayer repairs 348.04; Bureau of Criminal Apprehension - annual remote access for police 180.00; Calibre Press - Tactics in traffic police training 149.00; Dave Syverson - key fobs & keys for squad vehicle 371.51; EFTPS - June Federal payroll tax deposit 2296.54; Frontier Communications - July phone services 245.85; Gopher State One Call - June line locates 20.25; Guggisberg, William - June mileage 32.00; Hagmann, Dennis - sell back 1 cemetery plot 100.00; Harpham, Kris - June cell phone allowance 30.00; Karl's CarQuest Auto Parts - shop supplies, Toro repair 13.69; Midcontinent Communications - 6/17 - 7/19/17 shop/police office internet service 157.50; Midwest AquaCare - weed/algae control treatment of Morin Lake 1890.00; Midwest Radar & Equipment - police license renewal - Kris Harpham 90.00; MN Energy - 5/12 - 6/13/17 gas services 385.23; MN Pipe & Equipment - water meter, flange kit, freight 779.04, curb box, freight for school athletic field 56.69; MN Revenue - June state withholding tax 459.31, 2nd Qtr sales tax 1326.00; Morin Lake Days - MN Community Foun. donation for parade/fireworks 3000.00; PERA - 6/5 - 7/2/17 employee retirement contributions 2229.08; Petty Cash - notary stamp fee, postage 17.59; Postmaster - 100 \$.49 & 300 \$.34 postage stamps 151.00; Potter, Stuart - sell back 2 cemetery plots 300.00; Raleigh's Ace Hardware - city hall water heater, shop supplies, garbage cans 74.05; Southwest Crisis Center - Dynamics of Domestic Violence police training 25.00; Thompson Sanitation - June garbage service 3089.86; US Able Life - July premium 53.70; Wells Mirror - sponsor Morin Lake Days ad 30.00; Wuerflein, Jerome - June cell phone allowance 30.00; Xerox Corporation - copier service agreement 101.60; Arnold Companies - TIF July 2017 tax settlements 8845.52; City of Albert Lea - 20 rental inspections, 1 min. housing inspection 562.50; Expressways - June fuel purchases 385.58; Great Lawn Services - June 2017 mowing/trimming cemetery & city 3120.00; Manke's Outdoor Eq. & App. - Toro repair, shipping 305.95; PERA - June OT employee retirement contribution 70.88; Quill Corporation - bathroom tissue 32.49; TransWorld Network - June long distance - office 6.57; Verizon - July wireless internet for squad computer 35.01; Visa - Toro repairs, door tags, water testing supplies, paint, mowing postage 461.75; Wages & June OT, less ded:

Kristin Harpham 3015.46, June OT 230.34; William Guggisberg - June 138.52; Shirley Newman 1135.58; Alexis Scholten 2346.95; Jerome Wuerflein 2679.48. FIRE DEPARTMENT: Freeborn County Coop Oil - June fuel purchase 26.61; Midcontinent Communications - 6/17 - 7/16/17 internet service 52.50; Safety & Security Consultation Specialists - foam class including CAFS 500.00; Hemmingsen, Parker - training mileage for fire dept. 823.90; Safety & Security Consultation - grain bin rescue training 1200.00; Thunstedt, Jim - badges & nameplates, shipping 583.49.

Motion by Riebe, second by Duncan and carried, to adjourn at 8:24 PM.