

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ALDEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 14, 2017

The Alden City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, June 14th, at 6:00 PM. Council members present were Reyerson, Riebe, Wichmann, VanEngelenburg and Duncan. City Staff present were Chief Harpham, Chief Thunstedt, Wuerflein, Newman and Scholten. Also present were Greg Hitchcock, Dwayne Abbe, Brian Jacobs, Troy Newman and Ross Skov.

Mayor Reyerson called the meeting to order.

Approved as presented were the Minutes of the May 10th Council Meeting, along with the May Treasurer's Report, Transfer of Funds, Hours Report, Police Report, Fire Department Report, and the Public Works Report.

Chief Harpham presented the Police Report. After some discussion regarding rental housing inspections, the Council decided if repairs are needed on rental properties, Chief Harpham will be in charge of distinguishing allowed amount of time to make the proper repairs. Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Duncan and carried, to approve Harpham's vacation request.

Chief Thunstedt reported bordering departments of the Manchester Fire Department will be providing mutual aid to Manchester during fire and medical calls after 6:00 PM on weekdays due to unavailability. Thunstedt also reported a new paging system is in process for Freeborn County and went on to discuss different trainings the department has recently participated in.

In conjunction with the Fire Report, Ross Skov presented PERA information to the Council, which included a request to increase the benefit level (per year of service) from \$700 to \$1000. Motion by Wichmann, second by Duncan and carried, to approve and adopt the resolution: A RESOLUTION OPTING TO INCREASE THE BENEFIT LEVEL FOR FIREFIGHTERS WHO ARE VESTED IN THE VOLUNTARY STATEWIDE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER (SVF) RETIREMENT PLAN. The full resolution will be available and on file in the City Clerk's office.

Wuerflein presented the Public Works Report, which included him informing the Council the school sidewalk project is scheduled to begin Monday, June 19th. Motion by Wichmann, second by VanEngelenburg and carried, to sell the flail mower by advertisement through the Alden Advance and Craigslist.

Scholten presented many generous donations to the cemetery.

Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Wichmann and carried, to approve the snowmobile trail permit to maintain the Freeborn County Snowmobile Trail System, which runs near the "Welcome to Alden" sign on the south end of Alden.

Dwayne Abbe expressed concern to the Council regarding water issues on Morin Road.

Wes Brown of Bolton & Menk presented the project recommendation and bid abstract for the 2017 Street & Alley Improvement Project. Based upon the tabulation of actual unit prices, the low bidder for the project was Ulland Brothers, Inc. of Albert Lea, Minnesota, at a bid price of \$494,020.30. Brown went on to report it would be in the City's best interest to proceed with the improvements and award the contract to Ulland Brothers, Inc. in the above said amount.

Motion by Wichmann, second by VanEngelenburg and carried, to approve and adopt the resolution: RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BID. The full resolution will be available and on file in the City Clerk's office.

Monte Eastvold of Northland Securities and Shannon Sweeney of David Drown Associates, Inc. presented information to the Council regarding financing options for the 2017 Street & Alley Improvement Project. After lengthy discussion and many questions, the Council decided to schedule a special meeting on June 21st, 2017 at 4:30 PM to further discuss financing options for the improvement project.

Greg Hitchcock came before the Council to discuss the alley north of Washington Avenue. He stated the alley is not being used properly and vehicles are traveling through the alley at high speeds. The Council decided they would discuss the matter with Chief Harpham in attempt to resolve the issues.

Motion by Wichmann, second by Duncan and carried, to approve the sale back to the City of two cemetery lots owned by Stuart Potter and one cemetery lot owned by Dennis Hagmann.

The Council scheduled the 2018 budget workshop for July 19th at 6:00 PM.

Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Duncan and carried, to amend Ordinance No. 88, which pertains to grass and weeds, to give property owners five business days from the date of the mailed letter of notice to eliminate grass and weeds in violation of the ordinance.

Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Riebe and carried, to approve Scholten's vacation request for the end of June.

Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Riebe and carried, to approve Newman's vacation request for August.

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

Alden Advance - April council minutes, bid for St. & Alley Imp. Project 150.21; Bolton & Menk - 2017 Morin Rd. & Downtown Alleys Improvement Project 20,312.50, 2017 Forcemain Replacement Project 4,680.00; Bomgaars - water repairs at 246 S. Broadway 30.71; Drain Works - inspect & clean sewer lines (1) lift station behind 236 Powers & south, (2) west end of West Main, (3) alley behind 330 S. Broadway & south 1403.75; EFTPS - May federal payroll tax deposit 2271.07; Freeborn County Coop Oil - May fuel purchases 348.59; Freeborn Mower Coop - 4/4 - 5/3/17 electric service 1690.03; Frontier Communications - June phone services 245.85; Gopher State One Call - May line locates 10.80; Guggisberg, William - May Mileage 47.00; Harpham, Kris - May cell phone allowance 30.00; Jim & Dudes - faucet repair @ beach house & drinking fountain repair @ N. Park 109.94; Karl's CarQuest Auto Parts - penetrating oil 137.16; MCFOA - 7/1/17 - 7/1/18 membership fee - Lexi 40.00; MN Assoc. Of Small Cities - membership dues 413.85; MN Dept. of Health - 2nd Qtr. water testing fee 489.00; Midcontinent Communications - 5/17 - 6/16/17 shop/police office internet service 157.50; MN Energy - 4/13 - 5/8/17 gas services 362.62; MN Revenue - May state withholding tax 456.80; Northern Country Coop - herbicide for broadleaf control 58.14; PC Doctor - service call & repair city office computer - Lexi 143.75; PERA - 5/8 - 6/4/17 employee retirement contributions 2202.47; Postmaster - post office box fee 70.00; Quill - multifold towels, garbage liners, bath tissue, markers 146.25; Raleigh's Ace Hardware - water repairs at 246 S. Broadway, key & key tags, cable for bulk water repair, tool repair 103.63; Thompson Sanitation - May garbage service 3089.86; TransWorld Network - May & June long distance service - office 8.29; US Able Life - June premium 53.70; Utility Consultants - sewer testing, shipping 612.50; Visa - water samples postage, 246 S. Broadway repairs, grass seed, certified mowing letters, postage for St. & Alley Project permit 235.72; Wuerflein, Jerome - May cell phone allowance 30.00, clothing allowance 33.22; Xerox Corporation - copier service agreement 47.41; Freeborn Mower - 5/3 - 6/5/17 electric service 1932.85; Great Lawn Services - 5/3 - 6/3/17 mowing/trimming cemetery & city 3900.00; Jerry Kroeger - gravel 914.73; PERA - May OT employee retirement contribution 79.32; TransWorld Network - May long distance service - garage 6.12; Verizon - April/May/June wireless internet for squad computer 105.07; Wages, less ded: William Guggisberg - May 212.40; Kristin Harpham 3015.46; Kristin Harpham - May OT 257.76; Shirley Newman 1057.92; Alexis Scholten 2292.54; Jerome Wuerflein 2679.48. FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fire Safety USA - foam 490.00; Freeborn County Coop Oil - May fuel purchases 122.56; Karl's CarQuest Auto Parts - canned 2-stroke fuel 6.79; Midcontinent Communications - 4/17 - 5/16/17 internet service 52.50, 5/17 - 6/16/17 internet service 52.50.

Motion by VanEngelenburg, second by Wichmann and carried, to adjourn at 8:43 PM.