

City of Alcester
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday April 16th, 2024 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Driesen called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Council members present: Darla Reppe, Kerry Hedden, Brian Johnson, Julia Sundstrom, and Kendra Hatle

Others present: Finance Officer David Hodgson, Deputy Finance Officer Kris Hedden, Trudy Hedden, Lisa Hodgson, Howie Closson, Theresa Deem, Lynn Bren, Tanya Miller, Brian Hemmingson, Patrick Kast, Joy Hemmingson, and Attorney Austin Felts arrived at 6:02pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B Johnson moved and J Sundstrom seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried. Unanimous.

K Hatle moved and K Hedden seconded to approve meeting minutes from Tuesday April 2nd & Thursday April 4th. Motion carried. Unanimous.

For public input Mayor Driesen addressed the council regarding this being his last meeting as mayor. He encouraged the council to continue to put the needs of the city ahead of the wants and expressed his desire for the city to continue to do well and prosper. Theresa Deem thanked the mayor for his service and his efforts to better the community. Next Howey Closson first thanked the mayor for his work for the city. He then addressed his home to update the council on his plans and progress on fixing up his home. This concluded public input.

Council discussed the inspection report on the city water tower provided by Maguire Water. There are several items that are recommended to be repaired immediately and other recommended updates and repairs in the report. Discussion held on proposed contract for repairs and requirement to bid the tower repairs due to the cost. Several questions were asked by council. Finance Officer Hodgson and Tanya Miller from Banner Associates answered these as able. More information and research are needed before a request for proposal can be brought forwarded to bid the contract. These will be brought to council as soon as available at a future meeting. No action taken at this time.

Tanya Miller, Banner Associates Engineer presented change order number 6 to the council next due to unforeseen issues with underground pipes needing to be replaced. Next Tanya presented pay application number 11 to Industrial Process Technology for work done the prior month on the Waste Water Treatment Plant in the amount of \$150,057.07. Banner Associates invoices 42175 for \$15,506.56 and 42119 for \$751.81 we then discussed for work done by the engineering teams for the Waste Water Treatment Plant and the Waste Water Collection System Phase 1 project.

K Hatle moved and J Sundstrom seconded to approve change order number 6. Motion carried. Unanimous.

B Johnson moved and K Hatle seconded to approve pay application number 11 to Industrial Process Technology for \$150,057.07. Motion carried. Unanimous

K Hatle moved and D Reppe seconded motion to approve paying Banner Associates invoice 42175 for \$15,506.56. Motion carried. Unanimous.

K Hedden motioned and J Sundstrom seconded to approve paying Banner Associated invoice 42119 for \$751.81. Motion carried. Unanimous.

Council was then given a presentation by Lynn Bren from SD Public Assurance Alliance as an option for consideration for the city umbrella insurance policy. Discussion was held on the options of remaining with the current provider or changing to the Public Assurance Alliance. K Hatle moved and B Johnson seconded to approve changing the city coverage to the SD Public Assurance Alliance effective May 1, 2024. Motion carried. Unanimous.

Finance Officer Hodgson then present renewal options to the council for city employee health insurance coverage. Options for coverage were discussed and the premium increases and their effect on the budget were laid out and discussed in detail. K Hatle moved and D Reppe seconded to approve changing the health insurance coverage to the Blue Cross Blue Shield co-pay plan presented effective at the time of renewal. Motion carried. Unanimous.

J Sundstrom moved and B Johnson seconded to enter into Executive Session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(3) to discuss sale of surplus property at 101 E 2nd St. Motion carried. Unanimous. Mayor Driesen declared the council in Executive Session at 7:01pm. Mayor Driesen declared the council out of Executive Session at 7:25pm. K Hatle then moved and K Hedden seconded to approve sale of 101 E 2nd St, Legal Description of North 55' of Lots 9,10,11,12 Block 19 Original Alcester City South Dakota, Parcel ID 01.01.19.1015 to Adam Waterman at the purchase price of \$159,000 with a roll call vote. Mayor Driesen then proceeded with roll call vote with D Reppe, J Sundstrom, K Hatle, and K Hedden voting aye. B Johnson abstained. Motion carried.

Finance Officer Hodgson presented the council with the first quarter financial statement with Budget to Actual revenue and expense report and Revenue Summary by Fund report. Finance officer Hodgson then reminded council and the public the next Park Revitalization meeting would be held at the city office Thursday April 25th at 6:30pm. Reminder that spring clean-up would be May 3rd through may 12th with dumpsters available downtown. Next Finance Officer Hodgson encouraged council and the public to continue to sign-up for the city alerts system through TextMyGov. Finally, Finance Officer presented a donation request from the A-H School 7-8th grade SLICE Class to assist with the purchase of teddy bears for the Union County Sheriff's Office to give to children involved in calls. D Reppe moved and B Johnson seconded to approve donating \$100.00 to the A-H School SLICE Class project. Motion carried. Unanimous.

J Sundstrom then presented the updated city logo options from prior meeting. Attorney A Felts mentioned the council might consider removing the cross from the building in the logo due to known prior lawsuits concerning separation of church and state. After discussion K Hatle moved and D Reppe seconded motion to adopt option 1 presented as the official City Logo with removing the cross from the building in the image. Motion carried. Unanimous.

For the Clubhouse K Hatle moved and D Reppe seconded motion to approve hiring Tiffany Plummer as part-time clubhouse attendant as \$13.50 per hour effective immediately. Motion carried. Unanimous.

D Reppe then presented new options for placing porta potties on the golf course. After discussion the item was tabled. No action taken.

Finance Officer Hodgson then presented the council regarding landscaping for the clubhouse, discussing that he was approached by a donor wanting to help fund a project and has been able to secure L.G. Everist to donate all rock material to the landscaping. After further discussion of donors covering costs, council agreed with proceeding with the landscaping.

K Hatle then moved and B Johnson seconded entering into Executive Session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(3). Motion carried. Unanimous. Mayor Driesen declared council in Executive Session at 7:56pm. Mayor Driesen declared council out of Executive Session at 8:20pm.

D Reppe then presented Mayor Driesen with a thank you and certificate of appreciation for his work as alderman and mayor for the city.

J Sundstrom moved and B Johnson seconded motion to adjourn council. Motion carried. Unanimous. Mayor Driesen declared council adjourned at 8:22pm.

CITY OF ALCESTER, SOUTH DAKOTA

Lukas Driesen
Mayor

ATTEST:

David Hodgson, Finance Officer