

Regular Meeting of the Alcester City Council

The Alcester City Council held a regular City Council Meeting on Tuesday February 6th, 2024.

Mayor Driesen called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the following Council Members present: Darla Reppe, Kerry Hedden, Kendra Hatle, and Julia Sundstrom. Brian Johnson was absent. Also, present were Finance Officer David Hodgson, Deputy Finance Officer Kris Hedden, Lonnie Johnson, Charles Bausch, Chris Kropenske, Vickie Larsen, Shaleen Allen, Kama Johnson, Lisa Hodgson, Landon Nygard, Aaron Larsen, and Tom Van Rooyen.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Julia made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Darla and all voted aye

No Alderman interviews were needed. Motion was then made by Kerry and seconded by Kendra to approve the meeting minutes from January 16th, 2024 meeting. All voted aye.

For Public input, Vickie Larsen spoke regarding her request to the state for a forensic audit of the city and encouraged the council to pursue this. She also mentioned that the state could archive important records at their cost to reduce onsite storage needs. Aaron Larson spoke of his concerns of the recent contract with the county sheriff and the lack of public ability to provide input prior to a decision being made rather than all being done in executive session. He also suggested looking into taking excess funds from the police budget savings due to said contract and holding these as a contingency if needed for future police need of the city. Kama Johnson spoke regarding the downtown bar and the potential of the city losing a bar being detrimental to the overall health of the town. She also mentioned the revenue lost of not having a bar. This concluded public input

For the Water Meter Project Chad Hansen of Core & Main introduced his team and they presented two options for the city to consider for their project. Their equipment would be placed over existing touchpad readers on the exterior of homes. Several questions were asked and answered and a bid proposal for both options was given to the council for their consideration.

For Public Safety Sheriff Limoges and Chief Deputy Prouty introduced themselves and addressed the council on the status of the transition. Several questions were asked and answered from the attendees. Discussion was held regarding the inventory remaining at the Police Department. The Sheriff's office presented a list of items they would be interested in if the council surpluses the inventory and what they would suggest leaving in the office for the city to retain ownership of. A motion was then made by Kerry to approve inventory of the Alcester Police Department as surplus. Seconded by Julia and all voted aye. The motion to approve the sale of surplus property and sale of the Dodge Ram PD vehicle were tabled and no action taken.

For Bar update Finance Officer has Appraisal Solutions Inc. tentatively scheduled for February 29th 2024 to appraise the building at a cost of \$2,950.00. Discussion was then had regarding whether the council should decide to open the bar back up as a municipal bar/liquor store versus opening it up to re-bid for lease. No action taken at this time. Finance Officer Hodgson then reviewed the final inventory done with 1 More Bar and final open invoices remaining.

For Clubhouse/Golf Course a motion was made by Darla to approve purchasing an ad in the SD Women Magazine for Morningside Event Center for up to \$525.00 for two months. Seconded by Julia and all voted aye. Next a motion was made by Kendra to approve purchasing and annual ½ page ad for \$580.00 in the Sioux Links Golf Magazine. Seconded by Darla and all voted aye. Motion was then made to approve hiring McKenna Huenik as a server at \$7.87 per hour effective immediately. Seconded by Julia and all voted aye. Next Landon and Darla presented two options from FASTSIGNS for a new sign at Clubhouse/Event Center. After discussion both options a motion was made by Darla to approve proposal #103246 for \$48,676.00 from the 2nd Penny and Clubhouse donation budgets. Seconded by Julia and all voted aye. Motion was then made by Darla to approve amending the 2024 resolution of fees to change High School and College membership rates so they do not increase after 5/15. Seconded by Kendra and all voted aye. Motion then made by Julia to approve decreasing the All-Day Gold rate, with cart, from \$60.00 to \$40.00 and add that this excludes after 4p.m. on Tues & Thurs for golf league. Seconded by Darla and all voted aye.

For Finance Office Darla made a motion to approve January warrants. Seconded by Kendra and all voted aye. January Warrants: Bomgaar's \$516.00, Mid-American Energy \$3,682.42, D&K DOOR \$708.00, IRS \$8,952.33, Ingram Library Services \$404.56, SD Retirement \$17407.56, Wellmark 3,354.72, SD Unemployment \$285.43, Sun Life Financial \$64.36, Square Inc. \$191.16, Visa \$2,267.25, SD Dept of Revenue \$2470.39, Southeastern Electric \$1,677.29, Johnson Brothers \$487.24, John Conkling Dist. \$1,890.85, Sysco Lincoln \$6151.74, Dakota Beverage \$828.10, Performance Foods \$3,692.86, Alliance Communications \$634.00, American Engineering Testing \$3,700.75, Appera \$1,093.88, Berg Auto Mall & Trucking \$1,471.41, Chesterman Co. \$955.75, Core & Main \$1313.59, DANR \$850.00, Iowa Information Inc., \$418.00, Loren Fischer Disposal \$160.34, Meierhenry Sargent LLP \$2,503.50, Mid-American Research \$159.00, New Century Press \$446.58, Olson's Ace Hardware \$168.96, One Office Solution \$322.35, Pete's Produce \$158.41, SD Municipal League \$14,634.00, SECOG \$1,546.00, SiteOne Landscape Supply \$1,325.00, South Lincoln Rural Water \$5,288.40, USA Blue Book \$154.16, A-H Schools \$550.00, , Applied Software \$365.15, Dakota Custom Turf \$7,900.00, EcoLab \$91.68, ELO \$300.00, Hiawatha Golf Club – Canton \$8,000.00, L.P. Gill Landfill \$1,635.79, Nathan Hults \$600.00, Total Stop Food Store \$741.82, Truesdell Oil Company \$1,410.65, CATALIS PWE \$780.90, Alcester Industrial Park \$1,000.00, American Engineering Testing \$3,700.75, City of Alcester \$1578.96, Demco \$143.15, Verizon \$80.02, Banner Engineering \$1,436.58, Justice Fire & Safety \$764.63, Muller Auto Parts \$322.03, SD Lottery \$100.00, Premier Bank \$620.00 (HSA Contribution & ACH filing fees), Tyler Kjose \$180.00 contract labor, Dave Larson \$55.88 reimbursement applicators license fees, Maximum Promotions \$438.08, Critters Dive Bar Pizzas \$300.00, South Dakota Discovery Center \$1,827.44, Payroll \$30,202.57, Q4 2023 Cell Phone Stipend \$420.00

Finance officer Hodgson reminded all present that the Election for City Government will be held on Tuesday April 9th at the city office at 500 Dakota St and that petitions for vacancies can be obtained at the city office. Petitions must be returned no later than 5:00p.m. Friday February 23rd. Finally finance officer Hodgson reviewed current vacancies up for election: Mayor 3-year term and all Alderman seats for Ward 1, 2, and 3 are open for either a 1-year term or a 3-year term. Requirements of eligibility are to live in the ward, have resided in Alcester for at least 3 months, registered to vote in the ward, and not being a city defaulter.

For Union County Fair Darla gave an update on the upcoming fair will be held August 1st through 3rd and will include a Rodeo but the Tractor Pull will be held on the Sunday following the fair. She also discussed the recent fair board meeting and that a member of the Alcester City Council and the Alcester Chamber of Commerce are required to sit on the Fair Board per the original lease agreement between the City and the County. Kendra then made a motion to approve donating \$500.00 to the Union County Fair for 2024. Seconded by Kerry and all voted aye.

For Waste Water Update a motion was made by Julia to approve pay application #9 to Industrial Process Technology in the amount of \$63,658.71. Seconded by Darla and all voted aye. Motion was then made by Kendra to approve payment of invoice #41786 in the amount of \$3,608.63 to Banner Engineering for work completed in January. Seconded by Kerry and all voted aye. Motion made by Julia to approve reimbursement to Jon Serck for invoice from Dan's Drain and Duct Cleaning in the amount of \$446.04 due to city line being clogged. Seconded by Kerry and all voted aye. Motion made to approve payment of invoice #9016 from Dan's Drain and Duct Cleaning in the amount of \$860.00 for city line being clogged. Seconded by Darla and all voted aye. Motion made by Darla to approve job title change for Lonnie Johnson from Street Superintendent to Superintendent of Public Works. Seconded by Kendra and all voted aye. Motion made Kendra to approve advertising for Assistant Superintendent of Public Works position. Seconded by Julia and all voted aye.

For Union County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning finance officer Hodgson updated the council that he and EMS Director Jeff Nohava attended the initial meeting at Union County Courthouse to review and update the 5-year plan. Meetings to be held monthly through May.

For Street Department Lonnie Johnson asked the city council to consider increasing the hourly wage for Contract Labor. After discussing a motion was made by Julia to approve changing Contract Labor rate to \$17.00/hour for non-CDL operations and \$20.00/hour for CDL operations for snow and asphalt driving. Seconded by Darla and all voted aye. Discussion was then held on a request to purchase a new and bigger chainsaw for the city to manage trees. A motion was then made by Darla to approve the purchase of new Stihl MS 500i or 661 chainsaw for up to \$1,700.00 from the golf course and street budgets. Seconded by Kerry and all voted aye.

For Text Alert System the proposal was reviewed with finance officer Hodgson discussing the array or uses for the system throughout the city. After discussion Kendra made a motion to

approve TextMyGov proposal for text alert system in the amount of \$2,800.00. Seconded by Darla and all voted aye.

No Executive Session was needed and a motion was then made by Julia to adjourn City Council. Seconded by Kerry and all voted aye. Mayor Driesen declared the council adjourned at 8:15p.m.

City of Alcester

Lukas Driesen, Mayor

ATTEST:

David Hodgson, Finance Officer