

ALBURNETT CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 9TH, 2021 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council of the City of Alburnett, Iowa met in regular session, **Thursday, September 9th, 2021**, at 7:00 pm at City Hall with Mayor Bethany Sarazin presiding. Sarazin called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken with the following council members present: Joe Trumm, Dave Boesenberg, and Chester Schantz. Council members absent were Brian Mensen, and TJ West. Also present were Steve Graham (Fire Chief), Guy Trimble (Public Works Director), and Danielle Brecht (City Clerk).

Approval of Agenda: Mayor Sarazin called for a motion to approve the agenda; **MOTION** by Schantz (moved), seconded by Boesenberg. All council members present voted AYE (3), **motion carried**.

Sheriff's Report: Deputy Patterson from the Linn County was present to give report; 17 calls for service, required hours met; discussion followed.

Mayor's Proclamation: National Rail Safety Week – Mayor Sarazin made an official Proclamation, declaring September 20th to 26th, 2021 as National Rail Safety Week and encouraged all citizens to recognize the importance of rail safety education.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Sarazin delivered report. Sarazin noted that council member Brian Mensen submitted his notice of resignation from his council seat, effective October 1, 2021. Sarazin thanked Mensen for his time on council. Sarazin also noted at the recent EMA meeting, Linn County approved accepting the county-wide emergency sirens from the DAC as a donation and that the expense would be managed by the county; discussion followed.

Council Reports: Schantz – made a request of residents that they do not let their dogs do their business in other people's yards; discussion followed. Trumm, Boesenberg – no report.

Citizen Comments - Agenda items: none

Citizen Comments - Non-Agenda items: none

Written Reports:

- **Fire Department:** Fire Chief Steve Graham gave report. Topics discussed were a family movie night being held at the new fire station and the status of fire hose testing and inventory; discussion followed.
- **Public Works:** Public Works Director Guy Trimble gave report. Topics discussed were regarding a request for fill dirt from the pile to the west of the new fire station and if the city should expend funds to reestablish internet access at the old fire station for the school to use while renting the facility; discussion followed.
- **City Clerk:** City Clerk Danielle Brecht gave report. Discussion followed.

Consent Agenda: Minutes from 08/12/2021 council meeting, list of claims (08/13/2021 – 09/09/2021), Financials/Treasurer's Reports. **MOTION** by Trumm to approve the consent agenda as submitted; seconded by Boesenberg. All council members present voted AYE (3), **motion carried**.

New Business:

- **Census Results: Discuss 2020 Census results:** Mayor Sarazin addressed the official results of the 2020 Census and the recent media coverage of such results. Discussion followed.
- **Connection for Welder/Generator @ Small Lift Station: Discuss hook-up for use** - Mayor Sarazin recognized Public Works Director Trimble who noted that he was hoping to receive quotes but had not yet and asked to discuss at the next council meeting. Discussion followed.

- **Sidewalk: Discuss sidewalk on north side of Roosevelt St, west of Longworth Ave** – Discussion was held regarding the quoted rate per square foot of concrete from Dan Sherman and the width of sidewalk/trail to be installed. Trimble authorized to discuss quoted cost with homeowners at 102 Longworth Ave for their portion at four-foot width. Preference of continuing sidewalk trail at a six-foot width following this property line.
- **ARPA Funds: Discuss city plan to utilize American Rescue Plan Act Funding:** Discussion followed regarding need to plan how the city will use the funds received for the ARPA and the limited parameters for use. City Clerk to send list of allowable uses to council members and further discussion to be held at next meeting.

Old Business:

- **305 N Main Ave: Discuss quote for approach to parking lot:** Mayor Sarazin noted that this item will be tabled until the next council meeting due to the same council representation being present.
- **Fire Station Blinds: Discuss quote for blinds for training room at new fire station – Quotes from Budget Blinds and MAKA Blinds were discussed. MOTION** by Trumm to purchase blinds from MAKA Blinds in the amount of \$1,568.00, seconded by Schantz. All council members present voted AYE (3), **motion carried.**
- **Nuisance Properties: Discuss concerns relating to nuisance properties and next steps:**
 - **235 N Main Ave:** Discussion was held relating to ordinance violation of an abandoned property and previous deadline not yet met. Property owner Keith Swallom was present at this time during the meeting. Mayor Sarazin recognized Mr. Swallom by asking if he wanted to provide any comments to council. Discussion followed. **MOTION** by Trumm to extend deadline to October 14th, 2021, for property owner to bring house into compliance with building code and have property rented, seconded by Boesenberg. All council members present voted AYE (3), **motion carried.**
 - **135 2nd Street:** Discussion was held relating to ordinance violation of mowing of properties. **MOTION** by Boesenberg to approve city staff to abate nuisance of dense weed growth and mowing of property and assess costs to the property owner if violation exists following deadline as stated in final notice, seconded by Trumm. All council members present voted AYE (3), **motion carried.**
- **Linn County Secondary Roads: Discuss Public Works Director discretionary approval threshold on projects with Linn County Secondary Roads:** Discussion was held regarding approval limit, following approval of updated 28-E with Linn County for secondary road maintenance. **MOTION** by Boesenberg (moved) to approve a discretionary threshold of up to \$5,000.00 for projects with Linn County Secondary Roads as outlined in 28-E Agreement, seconded by Schantz. All council members present voted aye (3); **motion carried.**
- **Capital Improvement Plan: Discuss progress, updates:** Mayor Sarazin noted that this will be an ongoing agenda item to ensure continued discussion.
- **Fire Station Project: Discuss remaining project items:** Mayor Sarazin recognized Public Works Director Trimble who gave update on outstanding items of project. Discussion followed.

Final Comments: Discussion followed.

Motion to adjourn: Mayor Sarazin called for a motion adjourn. **MOTION** by Trumm (moved), seconded by Boesenberg. All council members present voted aye (3), **motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.**

Next regular Alburnett City Council meeting: 7:00 pm on Thursday, October 14th, 2021 - City Hall (103 E 1st Street).

Bethany Sarazin, Mayor

Attest:

Danielle Brecht, City Clerk