

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ALCESTER CITY COUNCIL

The Alcester City Council held their regular City Council Meeting on Tuesday, July 19, 2022. Council President, Lukas Driesen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the following Council members present: Linda Talbott, Darla Reppe, Cyndi Peeples and Kyle VandenHull. Also present during the meeting were Patricia Jurens, Abigail Moore, Chief Schuller, Officer Lass, Dale Pearson, Vickie Larsen, Gordon Richard, Sam Nelson, Tanya Miller, Pat Kast, Carmen Kast, and Richard Beeler. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Darla Reppe made a motion to approve the agenda; Cyndi Peeples seconded it. Four voted aye.

For Public Input – Vickie Larsen addressed the Council with concerns regarding the agenda, Alcester Bar Bid, Community Center hiring, and Discretionary Tax Ordinance. City Attorney Sam Nelson answered Ms Larsen's Discretionary Tax questions. Pat Kast addressed the Council regarding a Community Center key and comments of a possible fire lane. Darla Reppe offered concerns regarding the pool hours – that should be extended for 2023, the pool drain cover was fixed, and any patron behavior issues the lifeguards experience – the lifeguards have permission to contact the Police Department for assistance. Darla Reppe also shared comments regarding a cemetery stone, and the last night for business for the Alcester Bar will be August 6, 2022 per Theresa Deem. The Alcester Hudson School District would like three trees removed from the Alcester Community Center. Linda Talbott shared comments regarding the POS System, direct deposit, and compensation for a Community Center volunteer. Linda Talbott requested Sam Nelson review our nepotism policy. Carmen Kast addressed the Council regarding signage at the old golf clubhouse. Lukas Driesen addressed the Council with comments regarding five sprinkler heads that need repaired at the golf course, comments no grass clippings should be placed around the new trees, gravel road / dust control outside FCS and a road settling on Broad Street. This concluded Public Input.

For the Wastewater Facility Plant Upgrade – Tanya Miller, Banner Engineering was available for additional questions / concerns regarding the bid of the project. The Council discussed several options of how to address the \$1.8M in overbid. After much discussion – Kyle VandenHull made a motion to reject the current bid and rebid at a later date; Linda Talbott seconded it. President Driesen called for a Roll Call Vote; Peeples, Talbott, Reppe and VandenHull all voted aye. Motion carried. This concluded the Wastewater Facility Plant Upgrade.

For Police Department – Chief Schuller presented information regarding a joint program between AHHS and the City to have an SRO available at the school and city at an expense to each entity approximately \$30,000 per year. There is a Federal Grant available to get the program started – but that would not be available until 2024. This concluded the Police Department topic.

For Legal Update – Mr Nelson provided a brief update on nuisance property 505 Ofstad Street and 307 Iowa Street. At 7:31 pm, Linda Talbott made a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(3) – Legal; Cyndi Peeples seconded it. Four voted aye. President Driesen called the Council out of Executive Session at 7:40 pm. This concluded Legal Updates.

Linda Talbott made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance No 2022-03 Discretionary Taxation, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 10.03 Discretionary Taxation of Real Property 2018 Ordinances of the City of Alcester, South Dakota; Darla Reppe seconded it. Four voted aye.

Regarding the COVID Guidelines, the recommended updates were provided to the Council for their approval. One line was added – which matches the South Dakota Department of Health COVID Guidelines to test on day 5. Darla Reppe made a motion to approve the Modified COVID Guidelines and to remove the “Test on Day 5”; Linda Talbott seconded it. Four voted aye.

For Chairperson Updates - Street – none. Cemetery – looks good but 1 dead tree and one dead branch need to be removed. Water – none. Wastewater – none. Library – none. Golf Course / Community Center – the trees AHHS would appreciate removed. Finance Office – none. Liquor Store – the city obtains a quote for bathroom floor repair, be willing to change the locks and clean before new renters take over. This concluded Chairperson updates.

For Golf Course / Community Center hiring – Darla Reppe made a motion to approve hiring Emma Erickson, server, at \$7.00 per hour; Linda Talbott seconded it. Four voted aye. This concluded the Golf Course / Community Center hiring.

For Finance Office Updates – Cyndi Peeples made a motion to approve moving the August 15th meeting to Tuesday, August 16th 6 pm, 500 Dakota Street; Linda Talbott seconded it. Four voted aye. Performance Reviews completed were Wanda Halverson (FY), Austin Schuller (FY), Michael Croy (FY), Rhonda Bushby (HY), yet to be completed: Lonnie Johnson (FY), Dale Pearson (FY), and Pat Jurens (FY).

For reminders and updates - Council Meeting, August 1, 2022 at 6 pm (Bar Bid Opening 6:30 pm, Off-Sale Public Hearing 7 pm); Union County Fair- August 4-6, 2022; Library Book Study-August 15, 2022; AHHS First Day of School – August 18, 2022. This concluded Finance Office updates.

HRC Update – Linda Talbott commented that a unit was sold and HRC would like the city to consider removing trees on the 505 Ofstad Property. This concluded HRC update.

Union County Fair Update – Darla Reppe stated the next Fairboard meeting is Thursday, July 21, 2022. Some discussion on bleachers – possibly consider renting from Hawarden. This concluded Union County Fair Update.

No Executive Session needed.

Linda Talbott made a motion to adjourn; Cyndi Peebles seconded it. Four voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

The following are the 2022 Salaries per hour: Erickson, Emma-\$7.00

CITY OF ALCESTER
Daniel Haeder, Mayor

ATTEST:
Patricia Jurrens, Finance Officer