

ALTURA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 14, 2023

- Call to Order Mayor, John Mask called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Brad Brouwer, Kathie Burns, Paige Ellinghuysen, and Yvonne Ruhoff were present. Joan Jensen, Ken Kieffer, Brad Romaine, Jess Romaine, Sienna Romaine, Steve Lueck, Nick Koverman, Don Dvorak, Mitch Walch, Gabby Walch, Preston Walch and Jody Wiza were present.
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Monthly Minutes Kathie Burns made a motion to accept the last month's minutes. Brad Brouwer seconded. Motion carried.
- Monthly Disbursements/Receipts Brad Brouwer made a motion to accept the City and Fire disbursements and receipts. Yvonne Ruhoff seconded. Motion carried.
- Planning Commission The Commission had an open hearing for Mitch Walch for long term and short term rental. The Commission had recommended approval but then the driveway needed to be 20 ft from the right of way. Mitch presented another site plan with the parking going to the North of the building. Kathie Burns made a motion to approve. Yvonne Ruhoff seconded on the condition the parking needs to comply with the specifications in the ordinance. Motion carried.
- Maintenance Report The Maintenance Report was given by Dan. If our snow removal ordinance is not followed, citations will be issued by the Winona County Sheriff's office. We have a 22% loss in water. The State recommends 10%. There is 1 water leak that will be repaired in Spring.
- Fire Department Dan Horvat, Chief, asked for approval for Kaleb Speltz to join the department. Kathie Burns made a motion to approve. Paige Ellinghuysen seconded. Motion carried. The Fire Board meeting went well. The Board is supportive of the ambulance and want them to continue operation. There is a grant submitted for the SCBA's. Paige Ellinghuysen made a motion to transfer 75% of the 2022 Fire Relief donation of \$75000 to the Fire Equipment Fund. Kathie Burns seconded. Motion carried. Dan asked the Council about a part time maintenance person. There is grant money available to hire a firefighter who could take on other responsibilities. Yvonne Ruhoff made a motion to approve \$1000 for the grant writer to pursue the grant. Brad Brouwer seconded. Motion carried.
- Ambulance Department Jess Romaine reported there were 7 calls this month. The light pack is 9 years old and has been repaired but the parts are getting obsolete. The ambulance is working on the repair list for Osseo Ford. The office is being remodeled for out-of-town volunteers to help out the service.
- Treasury Report The Treasurer's Report was given by the Clerk. Paige Ellinghuysen made a motion to approve. Yvonne Ruhoff seconded. Motion carried.
- Old Business
Memorial Committee Joan Jensen presented the flag entries. The Council chose one. Landscaping and shrubs will hopefully be in place prior to the dedication.

Small Cities Dev Program

Nick Koverman was in attendance to present information on the grant that was awarded to Rollingstone/Altura. Altura has the capacity of 8 houses and a rental unit to be issued over the next 16 months. Grants of \$25000 will be issued and are forgivable after 10 years. Brad Brouwer made a motion to adopt resolutions 2023-01 and 2023-02 and the Drug Free workplace policy. Yvonne Ruhoff seconded. Motion carried.

New Business

Financial Statement

Brad Brouwer made a motion to approve the 2022 financial statement. Kathie Burns seconded. Motion carried.

Overdue pet licenses

Yvonne Ruhoff made a motion to issue citation for pet licenses not paid. Kathie Burns seconded. Motion carried.

Feral Cats

The Clerk mentioned a resident complained about feral cats. This was noted by the Council.

Altura Hometown Fest

The Clerk gave the Council an update of what the Committee has been working on and events that are proposed. Brad Brouwer made a motion to donate \$1500 to the Fest. Kathie Burns seconded. Motion carried.

Wage Adjustments

The Council will discuss next month.

SEMLC meeting recap

The Clerk reported the SEMLC meeting discussion was on the Relief Association Gambling and Cybersecurity.

Wasn't Me

Jody Wiza was in attendance to pick up liquor license application for a new buyer of her establishment. She is hoping to close April 1.

Adjourn

Brad Brouwer made a motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Yvonne Ruhoff seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Sandra Pasche
City Clerk

John Mask
Mayor