



**ALBERTVILLE CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 17, 2009
MINUTES**

ALBERTVILLE CITY HALL

7:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the August 17, 2009 regular City Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Klecker invited the audience to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Ron Klecker, Council members Tom Fay, Dan Wagner, John Vetsch, and Larry Sorensen

OTHERS PRESENT: City Administrator Larry Kruse, City Engineer Adam Nafstad, City Planner Alan Brixius, Assistant City Attorney Sarah Schwarzhoff, Public Works Superintendent Tim Guimont, and City Clerk Bridget Miller

ABSENT: City Attorney Michael Couri

RECOGNITIONS – PRESENTATIONS – INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Klecker asked Wright County Commissioner Elmer Eichelberg to update the Council on County issues.

Mr. Eichelberg began by congratulating Albertville on their award of Federal Funding for the I-94 Project. Eichelberg was aware of the hard work that went into the preparation of the documents that were submitted and wanted to let the Council know that the County supported Albertville.

Eichelberg updated the Council on the fact that it is budget time for municipalities, which included the County. Wright County is talking about budget cuts and doing their best to balance the budget.

Klecker, on behalf of the City and Council, wanted to “Thank” the County for their support and cooperation helping staff prepare the documents for funding of the I-94 Project.

CITIZEN FORUM

Klecker acknowledged that there were two (2) individuals that wanted to speak.

Kelly Myers of 408 Elder Court NE in St. Michael introduced herself to the Council as the Albertville Royalty Committee Coordinator. Ms. Myers wanted to “Thank” the Council and the City for their support in the Albertville Royalty program by providing some funding for the Scholarships for the Queen, Princesses and US Savings Bonds for the Junior Royalty.

Myers gave the Council an idea of the various activities that the Royal Court participates in during their reign. The Royal Court attends approximately 25 parades throughout Minnesota, which Miss Albertville represents Albertville at the Winter Carnival and the Minneapolis Aquatennial. Other Community Service projects include: assisting the Albertville Lions at a Pancake Breakfast and at Meat Raffles; assisting the STMA Women of Today during the Spring and or Fall Craft Fair; assist the Salvation Army by ringing the bells at Coborn’s; help a local bank during the “Breakfast with the Bunny” Easter event; the Royal Court is invited by the I-94 West Chamber of Commerce to participate in business openings or ribbon cutting ceremonies; the Senior Royal Court works during at least two (2) of the ‘Feed My Starving Children’ events. New this year, the Senior Court will be reading to kids at “Especially for Children” during reading week. The Senior Court will be attending a Methamphetamine Education and Drug Awareness (MEADA) Coalition Event that will be held at the STMA Middle School(s), in which the gals will be hanging out with the middle school kids and chaperoning them during the movie event.

Myers expressed her concern in hoping that the City will continue supporting the Albertville Royal Court in future years by providing the Scholarships and US Savings Bonds.

City Administrator Kruse stated that during a Budget workshop the funding for the scholarships was cut; however, the Finance Director met with the Friendly City Days Committee Coordinator to discuss the scholarship funding concern. To the best of the Administrator’s knowledge of the discussion, Friendly City Days was planning on funding the scholarships in 2009-2010 for Royal Court. Beyond 2010, it is unclear as to who will be assisting or funding the scholarship and what amount will be budgeted for.

Mayor Klecker let Ms. Myers know that the Council will be going into a continued Budget Workshop following the meeting. During the Budget meeting, the Council will discuss more on how the City could continue supporting the Senior and Junior Royal Court.

Beau Bennell wanted to speak in regards to the Towne Lakes Trail issue that is already on the agenda.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

The following amendments were made to the agenda:

8.H.2. City Planner's 750 foot Billboard Potential

MOTION BY Council member Wagner, seconded by Council member Sorensen to approve the Monday, August 17, 2009 regular City Council agenda to include the following item: 8.H.2. City Planner's 750 foot Billboard Potential. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

August 3, 2009 regular City Council minutes

MOTION BY Council member Wagner, seconded by Council member Sorensen to approve the Monday, August 3, 2009 regular City Council minutes as presented, that will be printed and signed; following signing the minutes will be scanned and the electronic scanned version will be kept on file in the office of the City Clerk that will serve as the official copy. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

✿ CONSENT AGENDA

All items with an asterisk (✿) are considered to be routine in nature by the City staff and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member, staff, or citizen so requests. In such event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda; a separate discussion will take place during the General Order of Business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda that will require a separate motion.

There were two (2) items listed on the Consent Agenda, in which the 8.B.1. Accepting the Public Works Supervisor's Report dated August 11, 2009 was pulled and a separate discussion will take place during the General Order of Business. A separate motion accepting the report will not be necessary; however, the Council may make a motion regarding the Kalland Avenue NE sidewalk issues that is contained within the PW Report.

MOTION BY Council member Vetsch, seconded by Council member Fay to approve the August 17, 2009 Consent Agenda that included the following item: 8.E.1. Authorize the Monday, August 17, 2009 payment of the claims that includes check numbers **027349** to **027407** as presented except the bills specifically pulled, which are passed by separate motion, in which the following item was pulled for further discussion and a separate motion. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

FIRE DEPARTMENT – no comments

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Accept the Public Works Supervisor's Report dated August 11, 2009

Mayor Klecker began the discussion by expressing his disappointment with the workmanship (slope) for the recent installation of the sidewalk along Kalland Avenue NE.

City Engineer Nafstad presented a aerial photo outlining the slopes percentages varied along the recently installed sidewalk on Kalland Avenue NE. Staff was aware there may be issues or concerns with the sidewalk when it would butt-up against the driveways; however was surprised at the amount of slope in the finished product. Slopes ranged from 2% to 12% and a maximum of 2% was required in the contract.

Klecker recalled in previous years that the City Council had concerns with the construction of sidewalks or trails. Council inquired as to whether the sidewalk would remain this way or will something be done to correct it.

The City Engineer, legal council and administration gave Council the impression that in the best interest of the City to correct the sidewalk slope issues. Staff notified the Council that a letter is being drafted to the contractor stating that the sidewalk does not meet ADA Compliance and requires correction. The City will work with the contractor to resolve the problem. Below is the motion that was made:

MOTION BY Council member Wagner, seconded by Council member Sorensen to direct staff to hold the payment to French Lake Curb Co. in the amount not to exceed \$20,419 to install approximately 800 feet of five (5) foot wide sidewalk located on the west side of Kalland Avenue NE between 57th Street NE and Kantar Court NE; and directed staff to work with the contractor to correct the sidewalk issues, and report back to the Council the outcome of the sidewalk concern. Motion carried unanimously.

UTILITIES DEPARTMENT (WWTP) – no comments

BUILDING DEPARTMENT – no comments

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

☛ *Authorize the Monday, August 17, 2009 payment of the claims that includes check numbers **027349** to **027407** as presented except the bills specifically pulled, which are passed by separate motion*

MOTION BY Council member Vetsch, seconded by Council member Fay to authorize the Monday, August 17, 2009 payment of the claims that includes check numbers **027349** to **027407** as presented except the bills specifically pulled, which are passed by separate motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY CLERK – no comments

CITY COUNCIL

Oral Update on the STMA Ice Arena Board meeting

Council member Wagner gave an overview of the August STMA Ice Arena Board meeting. The Arena Board basically adopted or approved the 2010 Budget, in which the Ice Arena fees were increased. The Board continues to discuss the expansion of the Ice Arena and is still considering the ‘pop-up/fabric’ style structure. The STMA Ice Arena is considering leasing the structure until there are sufficient funds put aside to construct a permanent facility.

Oral Update on the Albertville Planning and Zoning Commission meeting

Council member Wagner shared with the Council that the August Planning and Zoning Commission meeting was cancelled due to no development applications.

*Topics for Monday, August 31, 2009 Joint Cities of Albertville-St. Michael and STMA School Board meeting – note meeting begins at **6:00 p.m.** and will be held at the **new STMA High School** (March 30, 2009 Joint Cities of Albertville-St. Michael and STMA School Board minutes)*

City Administrator Kruse received an e-mail that he shared with the Council, in which the City of St. Michael asked to have the meeting re-scheduled to Wednesday, September 30.

Council was in agreement to re-schedule the Joint Cities of Albertville-St. Michael and STMA School Board meeting to Wednesday, September 30, 2009 with the assumption the meeting will be held at the new STMA High School and will begin at 6:00 p.m.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Comp Plan Review of Commercial Industrial Zoning (discussion)

City Planner Brixius reviewed an area in Albertville that was located below 70th Street NE and east of Kadler Avenue NE. Staff would like to know if Council would consider re-zoning the parcels.

Staff continued by stating the Land Use map was last updated in 2002, in which the Planning and Zoning Commission along with the City Council were in agreement with the zoning of the land. Brixius commented that some Council members may recall in 2002, John Darkenwald prepared and presented a Preliminary Plat for the land abutting the Albertville Premium Outlets and the Northwest Commercial Park additions that were approved. During the preparation for the Preliminary Plat, Mr. Darkenwald had contracted with a firm to conduct an AUAR Study. On the Plat it was noted how 67th Street NE would continue from Keystone Avenue NE to Kadler Avenue NE.

Staff is looking for Council direction as to whether to review the current Comprehensive Plan; and, discuss as to whether the land should be re-zoned. Staff asked for a motion directing them to prepare and present an amendment to the 2002 Comp Plan, which would consist of preparing and presenting the Comp Plan to the Planning and Zoning Commission for review and approval; following the Planning Commission approval the Comp Plan Amendment would be presented to the Council for review and approval. Brixius stated the cost would be nominal in the \$2,000 range.

MOTION BY Council member Sorensen, seconded by Mayor Klecker directing staff to prepare an amendment to the 2002 Comp Plan for presentation, review, and Planning and Zoning Commission approval to consider re-zoning the northwest section of Albertville; following Planning and Zoning Commission approval the 2002 Comp Plan Amendment will be presented, reviewed, and approved by the City Council. Motion carried unanimously.

Billboard Spacing Along the I-94 Corridor to 750 feet Consideration

City Planner Brixius presented a layout that demonstrated how many additional billboards could be constructed along the I-94 corridor per Council's request. Brixius noted that if the Council decided to amend the City Code reducing the billboard spacing to 750 feet that about three (3) additional billboards could be located along the I-94 corridor

The Council and staff discussed the pros and cons of allowing additional billboards. The following motion was made:

MOTION BY Council member Vetsch, seconded by Council member Wagner to relax the I-94 Billboard Spacing to 750 feet, presenting the consideration to the Planning and Zoning

Commission for review and approval; following Planning Commission approval present to the City Council for approval. Council member Vetsch and Wagner voted aye. Mayor Klecker, Council members Fay, and Sorensen voted nay. Motion denied.

ENGINEERING

Accept the quote from Oman Brothers, Inc., in the amount of \$3,200, to complete the bituminous trail segment located on Outlot B of the Towne Lakes 6th Addition conditioned upon the cost of the improvement be reimbursement to the City of Albertville from the Towne Lakes Association

OR

Accept the quote from Oman Brothers, Inc., in the amount of \$3,200, to complete the bituminous trail segment located on Outlot B of the Towne Lakes 6th Addition with park trail funds

Mayor Klecker re-opened the discussion regarding the construction of a bituminous trail segment located on Outlot B of the Towne Lakes 6th Addition that was tabled at the Monday, August 3, 2009 regular Council meeting.

City Engineer Nafstad began the discussion by stating it is the Council's intention to complete the trail on Outlot B in the Towne Lakes 6th Addition. At the August 3, 2009 Council meeting, staff was directed to discuss the funding of the trail project with the Towne Lakes Addition Developer. At this time, the developer does not see why they should be binding to pay for the construction of the trail. With the change of ownership the Towne Lakes Association inherited a fairly substantial outstanding debt of the previous owner; therefore, unable at this time to help out with the finances of the trail construction.

Bean Bennell of 11656 East Laketowne Drive NE wanted to let the Council know that he was appreciative of staff's cooperation in keeping him and the Association in the loop as to what was being discussed. Mr. Bennell didn't realize it would be such a big ordeal to complete the small section of the trail. Throughout Bennell's presentation to the Council, Bennell reiterated how beneficial the trail system is to the Towne Lakes neighborhood. Bennell said there are a lot of residents that utilize the sidewalks and trails.

The Council debated back and forth as to how to proceed, in which the following motion was made:

MOTION BY Council member Sorensen, seconded by Council member Wagner to accept the quote from Oman Brothers, Inc., in the amount of \$3,200, to complete the bituminous trail segment located on Outlot B of the Towne Lakes 6th Addition using City Park Trail Funds and directing staff to send a letter to the Towne Lakes Association asking either the Association or individual Towne Lakes residents to make a donation to the Parks and Trail fund in an effort to make up for some of the unbudgeted costs. Donations are not required but appreciated as the project was planned to be installed and paid for at the developer's expense when they did the next phase of development. Motion carried unanimously.

CSAH 37 Turn-lane / Potter request

City Engineer Nafstad stated that per Council direction at the July 6, 2009 Council meeting, staff met and reviewed Mr. Potter's request for a right-turn lane off of CSAH 37 at MacKenzie Avenue NE.

Nafstad stated that in general, studies have shown that turn lanes reduce the potential for accidents and have both operational and safety benefits. Turn lanes provide an area for deceleration and storage, which reduces potential conflict between through and turning traffic. Turn lanes also increase capacity and improve the level of service of an intersection.

Staff stated that a detailed cost estimate has not been prepared for a right-turn lane; however, excluding potential costs associated with right-of-way acquisition and utility relocation, it is reasonable to presume that the cost for such a project could amount to or potentially exceed \$55,000. Staff continued by explaining that through discussions with Wright County, the County supports the turn lane and recommends the improvement. Staff learned, during the process, that funding assistance is not typically granted from the County for turn lanes onto local roads.

Staff concluded by stating these roadway features are implemented or required at the time of development. If the City desires to pursue a right-turn lane improvement in advance of additional MacKenzie Avenue NE development, a feasibility report should be prepared to better identify costs and project funding sources.

It is the consensus of the Council that due to costs the CSAH 37 does not merit a right-in turn lane onto MacKenzie Avenue NE at this time; however, in the future when the land is developed there will be a need to install a right-turn lane.

LEGAL – no comments

ADMINISTRATION – no comments

ANNOUNCEMENTS and or UPCOMING MEETINGS

Mayor Klecker acknowledged the upcoming meetings and calendar of events. The Monday, August 31, 2009 joint meeting has been cancelled and re-scheduled for Wednesday, September 30, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. and will be held at the new STMA High School.

August 2009

24 6:00 p.m. Joint Powers Water Board meeting
**31 6:00 p.m. Jt. City of Albertville; City of St. Michael and
STMA School Board meeting (new STMA High School)**

September 2009

- 7 all day** **Independence Day observed – City Offices closed**
- 8 1-4 p.m.** **Local Board of Appeal & Equalization (John & Larry)**
- 8 7:00 p.m.** **City Council meeting (TUESDAY)**
- 9 7:00 p.m.** **Planning and Zoning Commission meeting**
- 14 6:00 p.m.** **STMA Ice Arena Board meeting**
- 21 7:00 p.m.** **City Council meeting**
- 28 6:00 p.m.** **Joint Powers Water Board meeting**
- 28 7:00 p.m.** **Committee of the Whole Workshop (tentative)**

October 2009

- 5 7:00 p.m.** **City Council meeting**
- 12 all day** **Columbus Day observed – City Offices closed**
- 12 6:00 p.m.** **STMA Ice Arena Board meeting**
- 12 7:00 p.m.** **Family-Youth Community Cooperative (FYCC)**
- 13 7:00 p.m.** **Planning and Zoning Commission meeting**
- 19 7:00 p.m.** **City Council meeting**
- 26 6:00 p.m.** **Joint Powers Water Board meeting**
- 26 7:00 p.m.** **Committee of the Whole Workshop (tentative)**

November 2009

- 2 7:00 p.m.** **City Council meeting**
- 9 6:00 p.m.** **STMA Ice Arena Board meeting**
- 10 7:00 p.m.** **Planning and Zoning Commission meeting**
- 11 all day** **Veterans' Day observed – City Offices closed**
- 16 7:00 p.m.** **City Council meeting**
- 23 6:00 p.m.** **Joint Powers Water Board meeting**
- 26 all day** **Thanksgiving Day observed – City Offices closed**
- 30 tentative** **Jt. City of Albertville; City of St. Michael and STMA School Board meeting (location to be determined)**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY Council member Sorensen, seconded by Council member Fay to adjourn the Monday, August 17, 2009 regular City Council meeting at 8:35 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Bridget Miller, City Clerk (recording secretary)