

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

December 7, 2015

The Municipal Council of the City of Alpena met in regular session in the City Hall on the above date and was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Mayor.

Present: Mayor Waligora, Councilmembers Nielsen, Nowak, Sexton and Johnson.

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES

The minutes of the regular session of November 16, 2015, and the closed session of November 16, 2015 were approved as printed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Councilmember Nowak, seconded by Councilmember Sexton, that the following Consent Agenda items be approved:

1. Bills Allowed – in the amount of \$565,519.02 be allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk authorized to sign warrants in payment of same.
2. Approval of a \$25,000 Budget Amendment to Cover the Cost of Second Avenue Bridge inspections, with \$20,000 from Fund Balance.
3. Approval of an Early Childhood Block Party/Child Health Fair in the City Hall Parking Lot on June 10, 2016.
4. Approval of 2016 Municipal Council Meeting Schedule.

Carried by unanimous vote.

REPORT ON NOVEMBER 3, 2015 GENERAL ELECTION

The City Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director reported on the November 3, 2015 General Election, Dial-A-Ride passed at a vote of 462 to 208, the Mayor and two Councilmembers seats were re-elected with over 500 votes, all seats were uncontested. Currently Alpena has 8,085 registered voters with only 676 voters showing up at the polls or 8.36%. The cost of this election was approximately \$10,900 with the majority of the cost being precinct workers wages of around \$4,600, ballots and memory cards of \$3,043, city wages of \$1,300, newspaper notices of more than \$1,000, and the balance going to the rental of the buildings, board of canvassers, and mailing costs.

CONSOLIDATION OF ELECTION PRECINCT 1 AND PRECINCT 2

The City Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director reported on the consolidation of

Precinct 1 and Precinct 2 in an effort to save on resources. As per City Charter 14.5, the Election Commission, which consists of the Mayor, City Attorney and the City Clerk, has the task of operating the elections for the City. The City currently has 6 Precincts with 8,065 voters, each Precinct has the same amount of registered voters with Precinct 6 having the most with approximately 1,600 voters. By combining Precinct 1 and 2 they would have a total of approximately 2,500 voters. State of Michigan law allows each Precinct to have up to 2,999 voters. Historically Precincts 1 and 2 have had the lowest voter turnout. By combining these Precincts the City would save on supplies, labor and equipment, the savings would be approximately \$1,000 to \$1,500 per election not including equipment, such as tabulators and laptops. The City Clerk explained that with the introduction of the laptop poll book it has become difficult to find workers willing to learn it. By merging these Precincts it would reduce the number of workers needed. The voting location would remain the same and new voter identification cards will be sent out to registered voters in Precinct 2. The City Clerk will need to submit the request for the merger of the Precincts to the State of Michigan by January 2016 for the change to take effect for the March 8, 2016 Presidential Primary.

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-12

APPLICATION FOR A NEIGHBORHOOD ENTERPRISE ZONE CERTIFICATE

FOR STEVE STRALEY, DBA ALPENA FURNITURE

Moved by Councilmember Sexton, seconded by Councilmember Nielsen, that Resolution No. 2015-12, a resolution granting approval of an application for a Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Certificate for Steve Straley, doing business as Alpena Furniture, be approved.

Carried by unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-14

FOUR-WARD NORTHEAST MICHIGAN

Moved by Councilmember Sexton, seconded by Councilmember Nielsen, that Resolution No. 2015-14, a resolution of support for a public four year university in Northeast Michigan, be approved.

Carried by unanimous vote.

On motion of Councilmember Sexton, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, the

Municipal Council adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

MATTHEW J. WALIGORA
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Karen Hebert
City Clerk