

## **Alturas City Council**

### **Regular Meeting**

City Hall Council Chambers

December 18, 2018 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bobby Ray at 2:00 p.m. **Councilmembers present:** Bobby Ray, Jim Irvin, Mark Steffek and Loni Lewis. **Councilmembers absent:** Cheryl Nelson. **Staff present:** City Clerk Macey Binning, City Attorney Jeff Hedlund, Director of Public Works Joe Picotte, City Treasurer Dorothy Long, Police Chief Sid Cullins, Fire Chief Jacques and Fire Marshall Eric Hunter. **Public attending:** 4. All present joined together in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Under the public forum Brian Foster gave an update on the construction progress of the Youth Park. The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the project has been completed and the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase will start in 2019. The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase included fencing and hydro seeding. Storm drains have been started and pipe has been placed in certain areas. The junior and high school dugout benches should be completed by February 2019. They are in the process of purchasing scoreboard and bleachers for the junior field. The new Concession has been awarded to G&S Glass who is Gordon Rice. Construction of the concession stand will stay in budget for the Rotary. Construction of the new concession building will begin in the spring. In October pathways from 4<sup>th</sup> Street to Junior Show Grounds were paved. 4<sup>th</sup> street entrance is making progress. Archway for entrance is in the final design stage. In the future would like to have gates installed on certain entrances. Early January fencing will be tied in. 2019 construction on the high-volume field will be taking place. Brian asked for the Director of Public Works help coordinating with the activity groups.

Loni Lewis wanted to thank the Alturas Fire Department and the Alturas Police Department for their help when their house had a fire. They were very thankful for their help.

Matthew Blankenship presented his Eagle Scout project to the City Council. Blankenship planned to hang banners that had the past and present Modoc High School Serviceman on them. He was going to coordinate with the City Public Works Department to create a schedule to hang banners.

Mayor Ray asked Blankenship to work with Director of Public Works Picotte on a more detailed proposal, and present it at the next City Council meeting.

Loni Lewis commended Matthew Blankenship for such a great project.

**Public Hearing:** The Alturas City Council will consider the first reading of an ordinance repealing portions of Chapter 30 of the Alturas City Code relating to “Recreational Areas” and changing the program name from “County of Modoc Tobacco Education” to “Modoc County Tobacco Policy and Education”. This matter will now be heard.

Tobacco Project Director Bill Hall explained to Council it is the same ordinance that was brought to Council in November. However, the name needed to be changed to Modoc County Tobacco Policy and Education.

With no further comments, the hearing is closed at 2:24 p.m.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Irvin, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Lewis to approve the first reading of Ordinance #516 repealing portions of Chapter 30 of the Alturas City Code relating to “Recreational Areas” and changing the program name from “County of Modoc Tobacco Education” to “Modoc County Tobacco Policy and Education”. **ALL AYES.**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Steffek, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Irvin to approve the second reading of Ordinance #517 repealing Chapter 9 Section 7 “purchases exceeding ten thousand dollars” to “purchases exceeding twenty-five thousand”. Also repealing Chapter 9 Section 7 “local bidder whose bid exceeds the lowest responsible bid by more than five hundred dollars.” to “local bidder whose bid exceeds the lowest responsible bid by more than one thousand dollars.” **ALL AYES.**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Steffek, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Irvin to adopt **Resolution #2018-43** authorizing submittal of a Regional Used Oil Payment Program application as the lead agency, related authorizations and identification of regional participants. **ALL AYES.**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Lewis, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Irvin to adopt **Resolution #2018-44** authorizing submittal of an application, acceptance of an allocation of funds, and execution of a grant agreement with the California Department of Transportation, for an Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Matching Grant. **ALL AYES.**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Steffek, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Lewis to adopt **Resolution #2018-45** authorizing submittal of an application for a Federal Airport Improvement Plan (AIP) Assistance Grant. **ALL AYES.**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Irvin, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Steffek to adopt **Resolution #2018-46** approving the Fifth Amendment to the Garbage Service Contract between USA Waste of California, Inc. and the City of Alturas. **ALL AYES.**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Steffek, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Irvin to adopt the consent agenda as follows: a) Approve minutes for November 20, 2018 meeting; b) Approve City warrants for November 2018 in the amount of \$ \$213,753.49; c) Adopt **Resolution #2018-47** removing inactive water & sewer accounts in the amount of \$171.70. **ALL AYES.**

#### **COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:**

Fire Chief Jacques informs Council they have been very involved in community projects lately such as the Christmas tree lighting and bonfire. They also participated in the Toys for Tots basketball game. New air compressor has been installed. Burn suspension has been lifted and burn permits are required year-round.

Police Chief Cullins reports in the last month the Alturas Police Department has had 23 arrests, out of the arrests 9 were felonies and 14 misdemeanors. In 2017 there was a total of 213 arrests. In 2018 there was a total of 257 arrests.

City Treasurer Long informed Council the City is being provided a training program called Target Solutions offered through Golden State Risk Management Agency. This will be a huge benefit to the City. Department heads will be able to assign trainings to employees, most trainings will be free. However,

certain trainings may have expense but the City will still save in travel costs and time. Ms. Long also mentioned shop with the cops was a success. Ms. Long was very pleased with the organization and planning that was put into it.

Director of Public Works Picotte mentioned the waste water treatment plant had an inspection by the Regional Water Board a few weeks ago. This inspection happens every 5 years. They submitted an application to discharge in the river. Fines and penalties may occur from 2014/2015. Overall inspection went well, they were pleased with process of testing that has been happening in house. Picotte asked the Regional Water Board if they could meet in the future with the Council and give them an overview of the waste water treatment plant. Still moving forward with switching to sewer ponds. By switching to the sewer ponds chemicals and required tests will be cut down. Picotte is also getting a quote from Sierra Controls for a telemetry and waste water pump system. Our current system is starting to fail and alerts are not being sent which can be very costly to the City. Pothole mix will be here soon, and public works will be starting on that project. Airport is closing out a few grants. Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) met last week and went over projects that were submitted. Picotte submitted two projects on behalf of the City. One was to update fire hydrants and the other is to replace water meters. Funding has not yet been awarded.

Councilmember Lewis asked Picotte if he is teaming up with TEACH on the mill project.

Director of Public Works Picotte confirmed he is working with TEACH on the mill project along with other agencies. They are still setting meetings up with the US Forest Service. Our last meeting didn't have an impact.

City Attorney Hedlund recommends that the City attend under public forum as a stakeholder in the Forest plan, once the US Forest Service updates that plan. Could be beneficial to the mill project.

Mayor Ray also asked Picotte when the Regional Water Board came, was it also for the sewer rate increases.

Picotte responded that it was not for sewer rate increases.

Mayor Ray recommended that we start working with consulting agencies to increase rates in the future.

Picotte has potential grant funding that could possibly pay for a consultant to conduct the sewer rate increase report. Or he could use Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) which recently conducted the water rate increase report.

Councilmember Irvin gave a LAFCO update. They will keep Daphendale on the agenda for LAFCO. They have established a board of 4 members now and are moving forward.

Mayor Pro-tem Steffek provided the Council and staff a printout of an article regarding Governor Brown signing a Historic Water Use Efficiency bill. Steffek wanted to make Council and staff aware that even urban areas will be impacted by this bill. Steffek also wanted to thank the Alturas Police Department on a job well done with the shop with a cop.

Councilmember Lewis mentioned a wrestling tournament was hosted in Alturas and everyone was complimenting what a great town Alturas is and with great hospitality. She was very proud of our City.

Mayor Ray asked Council if he could write a letter on their behalf to thank former employee Paula Jessup for her service at the City.

With no further business to come before Council, meeting adjourned at 3:34 p.m. to return in regular session on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 2:00 p.m., City Hall.

Respectfully,

*Macey Binning*

Macey Binning  
City Clerk