

Alturas City Council

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

August 17, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

The Alturas City Council Mayor Mark Steffek called the regular meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers. **Councilmembers present:** Mark Steffek, Kelly Crosby, Cheryl Nelson, Samantha Wood, and Loni Lewis. **Councilmembers absent:** None. **Staff present:** City Clerk Macey Binning, Chief of Police Sid Cullins, City Attorney Jeff Hedlund, Director of Public Works Joe Picotte, Fire Chief Keith Jacques, Fire Marshal Eric Hunter and IT Specialist Sean Buie. **Public attending:** 4. All present joined together in Pledge of Allegiance.

Under public forum Steve Holdorff updated the City Council with the challenges he is facing with recent restrictions on recycling glass. Due to these restrictions he is having to hold on to the glass material. Mr. Holdorff is required to have 170 mattresses before he can ship his material to a processing center. This is causing complaints against his facility. Mr. Holdorff is working on finding a building for storage for his material to decrease complaints.

Councilmember Crosby recommends informing the public of the status and requirements Mr. Holdorff must meet to help eliminate concerns regarding the facility.

Director of Public Works Picotte expresses his concerns regarding the restrictions that CAL Recycling is imposing and understands how challenging it is for the community. Mr. Picotte knows recycling is vital to the community and would like to help the recycling centers to continue.

Garrett Ingram with Blue Water Recycling wanted to address the same concerns as Mr. Holdorff. Mr. Ingram and his Office Manager Chantel Breiner have been exploring grant opportunities and would like to meet with Mr. Picotte and discuss proposals and ideas.

A written public forum comment was received from Doreen Smith Powers. Ms. Smith Powers would like the City Council to review the City of Alturas Zoning Codes. Ms. Smith Powers proposed the City should remove the fallen trees from recent storm and to trim trees.

Mayor Steffek states that the City of Alturas Zoning Codes are to be reviewed and updated when the City updates the General Plan. The locations that Ms. Smith Powers provided for the fallen trees and trimming trees are located on private property. The City Council will not be able to address that concern.

Mayor Steffek asked for a moment of silence for George W. Andreasen. Mr. Andreasen served on the City Council as Mayor from March, 2002 to June, 2006. Mr. Andreasen served on City Council for 12 years and during his career on the City Council he helped implemented the Main Street lights. Mr. Andreasen was also involved in trying to create the train museum at the mill site.

MOTION by Councilmember Crosby, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Nelson to separate item 5b) Approve minutes of August 9, 2021 special meeting from the consent agenda and make it a separate item. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Crosby, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Nelson approve the agenda with the amendment. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Lewis, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Wood to adopt the consent agenda as follows a) Approve minutes of July 20, 2021 meeting; c) Approve City warrants for June, 2021 in the amount of \$367,395.48; d) Approve City warrants for July, 2021 in the amount of \$838,234.12; e) Adopt **Resolution #2021-47** removing inactive water & sewer accounts in the amount of \$1,139.95; f) Approve ACH reconciliation report for July, 2021 in the amount of \$135,699.63. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Crosby, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Wood to amend the minutes for August 9, 2021 special meeting to reflect Councilmember Crosby motioning to second for adjournment instead of Councilmember Lewis. **ALL AYES.**

Cheryl Kunert, representing Modoc Heritage Foundation, would like to request approval and assistance to hang banners on Main Street to advertise the 2021 Modoc District Fair.

MOTION by Councilmember Crosby, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Nelson to authorize approval and Public Works to assist hanging banners on Main Street to advertise the 2021 Modoc District Fair. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Lewis, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Wood to adopt **Resolution #2021-48** approving the service agreement between the City of Alturas and R. J. Ricciardi, Inc for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 audit services. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Crosby, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Nelson to approve updating all existing Ad-hoc Committees to reflect Department Head titles instead of names. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Crosby, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Lewis to authorize the City Mayor to submit a support letter for Assembly Bill 14 (Aguiar-Curry) and Senate Bill 4 (Gonzalez) to support increasing Broadband funding opportunities for Local Governments. **ALL AYES.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilmember Crosby reports Superior California Economic Development (SCED) will have a meeting August 19, 2021. SCED has been supportive in meeting with the Economic Vitality group during their “Moving Modoc Forward” meeting. Councilmember Crosby was pleased to hear Garrett Ingram’s ideas and looks forward to sharing these ideas to this group. August 18, 2021 SCED will discuss the processing plant which seems to have a lot of support from local constituents.

Mayor Steffek invites Council to attend the Moving Modoc Forward meeting which will be August 25, 2021 at the Lazy B. Mayor Steffek reports the Daphnedale Service District dissolution has been recorded and the Municipal Sewer District has been created. The next LAFCO meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 19, 2021 after the City Council meeting.

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:

Fire Chief Jacques informs Council that Fire Marshal Hunter is learning how to operate all functions of the new fire engine. Fire Marshal Hunter is currently working on the second round of the nuisance abatement program. They've been noticing a few of the problem properties have recently been purchased and the new owners are working on maintenance.

Councilmember Lewis inquires on the status of gifting the surplus fire engine to another Fire Department.

Fire Chief Jacques responds after doing research the surplus fire engine was worth \$5,000.00 and has a few issues. They plan on proceeding with gifting the fire engine to Local Fire Department with full disclosure of the issues they've encountered.

IT Specialist Sean Buie informs Council of updates that will need to occur in the next year within City Hall.

Police Chief Cullins reports the Alturas Police Department has made 155 arrests out of the total arrests 59 were felonies. The total number arrests compared to the previous year show during this time the Alturas Police Department had 184 arrests out of the total arrests 54 were felonies. Chief Cullins tried to pull a report that shows if they were drug and alcohol related. However, he is not confident in the report and will keep trying to provide statistics for this.

Mayor Steffek would like to have these statistics to see if they should enact a collaboration with other agencies to reduce the numbers and make Council aware of the impact within the community.

Councilmember Lewis inquires if the Alturas Police Department will provide a School Resource Officer for this school year.

Chief Cullins replies the Alturas Police Department will provide a School Resource Officer.

Director of Public Works Joe Picotte reports the East Street project is moving accordingly. The grinder will be at the site, and by the end of the week asphalt should be down. Followed by putting in water valves. Mr. Picotte has a scheduled meeting with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) August 26th. This meeting is to discuss future projects and will help determine future dollar figures. Mr. Picotte is concerned with a one potential project. The project will require the City to upfront more money than in the past but it will be reimbursable. Mr. Picotte also inform the Council he is working on a grant opportunity for the Water Department and has been in contact with Pace Engineering. One issue within the Water Department is that Public Works has to run the wells manually. The telemetry system is obsolete and you can no longer order parts. This may need to be addressed before the grant. However, Mr. Picotte is hoping to break this grant into components which will help upgrade the entire system. Including water meters and hydrants. Well 6 is currently nonoperational. Mr. Picotte is looking into repairing this as well. The Regional Board has reviewed and approved the preliminary Waste Water Treatment Plant construction. The next step will be to monitor wells at the site. The City currently has \$30,000.00 with fines and penalties. However, the Regional Board is willing to allow the City to use the fine and penalty money towards offsetting the cost of the monitoring wells. The total amount has not yet been determined. Mr. Picotte plans on setting up a meeting with Garrett Ingram in the near future to discuss proposed projects and future recycling opportunities.

Mayor Steffek states that when the amount is determined to provide the numbers for the 2021/2022 budget.

Councilmember Lewis would like to welcome Mr. Picotte back. Mrs. Lewis is concerned that with the Dixie Fire and evacuations within Susanville is the City of Alturas facilities ready for an evacuation center?

Mr. Picotte thanks Councilmember Lewis for thinking ahead, and replies that the City facilities are ready. They could even use the pool showers if needed.

Councilmember Nelson spoke to Les Schwab and they would like to speak to Mr. Picotte regarding their building and painting.

Councilmember Wood reports she was unable to attend the August 11th Planning Commission meeting. However, the Planning Commissioners approved a new sign permit. Mrs. Wood also attended the First Responders Soft Ball game that helped raise money for the local kids to attend volley ball camp. This event was organized by the Alturas Police Department Officers and Dispatcher.

With no further business to come before City Council. **MOTION** by Councilmember Crosby to adjourn the meeting at 3:26 p.m. and to return in regular session on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 2:00 p.m., City Hall. **SECONDED** by Councilmember Nelson. **ALL AYES.**

Respectfully,



Macey Binning
City Clerk