

Alturas City Council

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

July 17, 2018 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bobby Ray at 2:00 p.m. **Councilmembers present:** Mark Steffek, Cheryl Nelson, Jim Irvin, and Loni Lewis. **Staff present:** City Clerk Macey Binning, City Treasurer Sara Peet, City Attorney Jeff Hedlund, Director of Public Works Joe Picotte, Police Chief Sid Cullins, Fire Chief Keith Jacques, City Planning Commissioner Bill Hall, IT Sean Buie, and newly appointed City Treasurer Dorothy Long. **Public attending:** 8. All present joined together in the pledge of allegiance followed by an opening prayer by Robert Fendler.

Under the public forum Brian Foster gives an update on the construction progress of the Youth Park. The dug-outs have nearly been completed on the Junior field and the T-Ball field; as well as the perimeter fencing. Infield mix has been completed. July 23rd and 24th the hydro seeding will be installed by the contractor. Contractor will also check sprinkler system timing. The concession stand went out to bid, and the lowest bidder was awarded to Joe Lloyd Construction. Pathways have been started, should be paved by the end of the season.

Lou Miller with Red Cross invited council and staff to attend Red Cross training that will be held September 10th at the Sheriff Annex building. There will be two different courses provided. The first course is psychological first aid training from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The second course will be working with children in a disaster from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

MOTION by Councilmember Steffek, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Irvin to accept resignation of City Treasurer Sara Peet and appoint Dorothy Long as City Treasurer through June of 2022 to fill the unexpired term. **ALL AYES**

City Clerk Binning administers the Oath of Office to newly appointed City Treasurer Dorothy Long.

MOTION by Councilmember Steffek, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Lewis to adopt **Resolution #2018-24** authorizing City Treasurer Dorothy Long to be added to the Plumas Bank signature card, and removing City Treasurer Sara Peet. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Nelson, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Irvin to adopt **Resolution #2018-25** authorizing City Treasurer Dorothy Long and City Clerk Macey Binning to authorize investments of monies in the Local Agency Investments Fund (LAIF). **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Irvin, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Nelson to approve the second reading and adopt of **Ordinance #515** repealing Chapter 16.1 of the Alturas City Code titled *Parks and Recreation* in its entirety, and replacing it with a new Chapter 16.1 titled *Parks and Recreation*. **ALL AYES.**

Director of Public Works Joe Picotte introduced John Van de Bergh and Bridget Harris with the Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC). John and Bridget recently conducted a water rate study for the City of Alturas at no cost. A water rate study should be completed at least every 5 years. John

presented a presentation on the findings of the rate study. Currently the City is out of compliance with Prop 218. John provided a proposal of how the City's rate structure should reflect to comply with Prop 218.

MOTION by Councilmember Nelson, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Steffek approving a 3 year employment contract for Police Chief Sid Cullins effective August 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021. With the amendment on Page 3 Section E "approval of the Department Head" shall be changed to "approval of the City Mayor or Police Commissioner". **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Irvin, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Steffek to approve and move forward with proposed IT budget and upgrading to Virtual Private Server (VPS) for the Alturas Police Department and the City Clerk/Treasurer's office. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Steffek, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Lewis to adopt the consent agenda as follows: a) Approve the minutes for the June 19, 2018 meeting; b) Adopt **Resolution #2018-26** removing inactive water and sewer accounts in the amount of \$412,766. With the amendment that Councilmember Irvin abstains from the minutes of the June 19, 2018 meeting. **ALL AYES.**

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:

Fire Chief Jacques reports it is a busy time for the fire department with weed and nuisance abatement. They currently are conducting hose tests. Fire Chief Jacques also informed the council the rams on the ladder truck have been fixed. The ladder truck will now need to go into inspection to be recertified.

Police Chief Cullins reports the Alturas Police Department has had 29 arrests in the last 30 days. Out of the 29 arrests 8 were felonies. Police Chief Cullins also reports the Alturas Police Department and Modoc County Sheriff Office have been working closely together. They've been able to bust 2 residences for narcotics.

City Treasurer Long reports she is currently learning a lot, and has a few trainings scheduled.

Director of Public Works Picotte recently visited Palo Alto to learn how their sewer pond facility operates. Palo Alto used USDA funds to build facility. Picotte was very pleased with the operations and would like to move forward in that direction. Recent lightning storms resulted in 2 wells out of service. One well was damaged. The swimming pool has been operating smoothly. Picotte announced his department will be short an employee. He has joined forces with workforce to hopefully find a replacement. The Oak and Juniper project is in progress. Grocery Outlet and Storage Units are working on obtaining permits.

City Attorney Jeff Hedlund reports everything is on track for the November election. Jeff would also like to start looking into updating city ordinances to reflect Recreational Marijuana use. Director of Public Works Director Picotte agrees and would like to look at other cities that have updated as examples.

City Clerk Binning inquired about a Brown Act training/refresher course for new staff and council members.

Director of Public Works Picotte announced the City of Alturas pool would like to host an open house and invite city council and staff to attend. Past years Eleanor has hosted open houses to show daily operations of the pool and demonstrate trainings for lifeguards.

Mayor Pro-tem Steffek announced he has attended past City of Alturas pool open houses. Steffek expressed it is a good to attend, to understand daily operations. He was also able to attend the grand opening of the skate park on June 26th. Steffek, Mayor Bobby Ray and Joe Picotte recently met with Cindy Lewis with Senator Harris's office as an introductory meeting; and inquired about opportunities the IRS has for economic development. Steffek also plans on meeting with the Mayor and department heads for budget reviews.

Councilmember Lewis also met with Council Member Nelson and Cindy Lewis with Senator Harris's office. Councilmember Lewis discussed pool funding; opportunity for funding for law enforcement; and welfare reform. Councilmember Lewis inquired if she could represent the City to meet with Modoc County Board to raise her concern about the graffiti at the Veterans Park. Mayor Bobby Ray and Council agreed council member Lewis could represent the City

Mayor Ray would like to meet with council to appoint new Mayor appointments for fiscal year.

At 4:05 p.m., Mayor Ray announced the Council would be meeting in closed session under G.C. Section 554957.6 – Labor Negotiations/General Unit & Safety Unit. Reconvened back to open session at 4:23 p.m. with the following motion.

MOTION by Councilmember Irvin, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Lewis to move forward with LIUNA Pension Fund withdrawal and to adopt Medicare eligible employees and spouses provision. **ALL AYES.**

With no further business to come before Council, meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. to return in regular session on Tuesday, August 21, 2018 at 2:00 p.m., City Hall.

Respectfully,

Macey Binning

Macey Binning
City Clerk