

Alturas City Council
Regular/Special Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers
April 20, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20 and N-29-20 dated March 12, 2020 and March 17, 2020, The Alturas City Council Mayor Mark Steffek called the regular special meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers and via teleconference. **Councilmembers present:** Mark Steffek, Kelly Crosby, Cheryl Nelson, and Loni Lewis. **Councilmembers absent:** Samantha Wood. **Staff present:** City Clerk Macey Binning, City Treasurer Dorothy Long, Chief of Police Sid Cullins, City Attorney Jeff Hedlund, Fire Chief Keith Jacques, and Assistant Director of Public Works Kim Dodds. **Public attending:** 11. All present joined together in Pledge of Allegiance.

Under public forum Leslie Gonzales addressed City Council with her concern of a nuisance property in her neighborhood. Ms. Gonzales inquired on the City process to address this issue.

Fire Chief Jacques informed Ms. Gonzales that the Alturas Fire Department has an ordinance in place to address the concerns she has and to contact the Fire Marshal Eric Hunter and he can assist.

Garrett Ingram informed the City Council he has submitted a business license to open a recycling center at the previous recycling location. Mr. Ingram was following up on the process, and plans to open May 1, 2021.

City Clerk Binning informed Mr. Ingram that they've received his business application and it is in the process. Ms. Binning also informs Mr. Ingram that the site will require a use permit, which Jenn Andersen is currently processing and will be in contact.

City Clerk Binning recommends Council to amend the agenda to allow Modoc Middle School and Modoc High School students to present their proposed community service project to the City Council first to allow students proper time for transportation.

MOTION by Councilmember Crosby, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Lewis to amend the agenda to allow item #5 Discussion/action: Modoc Middle School and Modoc High School students presenting a proposed community service project to the City Council to be item #4 on the agenda to allow students proper time for transportation. **ALL AYES.**

Tanja Ramming Modoc High School Counselor and Coordinator of Advancing Modoc Youth introduced Modoc Middle School students via zoom and present Modoc High School students Phoenix Richards, Kenda Hopkins, Morgan Warnock, and Cayla Castellanos. Mrs. Ramming explained that Advancing Modoc Youths goal is to encourage Modoc High School students to receive a higher education and then return back to Modoc County. She stressed the importance of growing your own and how it is vital for Alturas. The Modoc High School students participated in picture frame project. The goal of this project is to see less desirable areas within Alturas and find the beauty within. They hope by cleaning Alturas and showing the beauty within others will appreciate and see Alturas as desirable.

One of the areas that the students focused on was the bridge on South Main Street. Currently, there is graffiti and trash. The Students proposed covering the graffiti and adding a mural to begin beautification of downtown Alturas.

Councilmembers thank the students and Mrs. Ramming for their presentation and agree this is a great project. However, the bridge located at South Main Street belongs to Caltrans. The City would be happy to help them with the process of contacting Caltrans.

MOTION by Councilmember Crosby, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Lewis to support the proposed project by Advancing Modoc Youth contingent upon Caltrans approval. Once project is in motion the City Council will revisit on funding availability for the project. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Nelson, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Lewis to adopt the consent agenda as follows a) Approve minutes for March 16, 2021 meeting; b) Approve minutes for March 22, 2021 special meeting; c) Approve City warrants for March, 2021 in the amount of \$202,081.72; d) Adopt **Resolution #2021-21** removing inactive water & sewer accounts in the amount of \$498.51; e) Approve ACH reconciliation report for March, 2021 in the amount of \$137,411.89. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Crosby, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Nelson to approve of a Proclamation to designate April as earthquake Preparedness Month. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Lewis, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Nelson to appoint Kim Dodds as interim Director of Public Works until position is filled. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Nelson, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Lewis to adopt **Resolution #2021-22** authorizing adding an addendum to the Assistant Director of Public Works original Employment Agreement dated May 20, 2020. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Crosby, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Lewis to adopt **Resolution #2021-23** authorizing adding an addendum to the Finance Director's original Employment Agreement dated October 15, 2019. **ALL AYES.**

MOTION by Councilmember Lewis, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Nelson to adopt **Resolution #2021-24** Authorizing the Mayor to sign the Substitution of Trustee and Full Reconveyance for APN 003-226-40. **ALL AYES.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS: - NONE

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:

IT Specialist Sean Buie provided Council with an overview of the City's IT needs. He also informed Council that at the last Department Head meeting it was discussed Staff and Council would like to review and prioritize these needs.

Fire Chief Jacques informs the Council Fire Marshal Eric Hunter will be flying to Minnesota the first week of May to complete an inspection on the new Fire Engine. Once completed the Fire Engine will be

transported to Modesto, CA for a final inspection and should be delivered to the City by the end of May 2021. The Alturas Fire Department will be starting their weed abatement program.

Mayor Steffek asks Fire Chief Jacques what his prediction is for this fire season.

Fire Chief Jacques responds they are predicting severe year with dry conditions. Mr. Jacques also reports soon the burn permits will be suspended.

Police Chief Cullins reports that the Alturas Police Department has received a new patrol vehicle. Though, when it was delivered Chief Cullins tested the vehicle and found the patrol lights were not functioning. Chief Cullins is working to resolve this issue before adding the patrol vehicle to the fleet.

City Clerk Binning notifies the Council she will be scheduling a work session in the near future to review IT needs and policy amendments.

Interim Director of Public Works Kim Dodds informed Council that Public Works is currently preparing the Alturas Municipal Pool to open for the season. Mr. Dodds reports that the airplane hangar that was destroyed by the wind storm is also in the process of being replaced. Mr. Dodds spoke to the insurance adjuster Fred Yancey and was informed Aztec Engineering inspected the damages and it was determined it could not be repaired, so it will be replaced. Which gives a great opportunity to add an ADA compliant bathroom. Mr. Dodds has been in contact with Modoc County Road Department Mitch Crosby and they've discussed future collaborated projects. The East Street project is planned to start late May.

Councilmember Lewis shares she attended the Modoc County Transportation Commission meeting and it was discussed the vandalism at the Modoc Transportation park will be covered under their insurance. Mrs. Lewis informs the Council with COVID-19 funding MCTC will be able to purchase another bus.

Mayor Steffek asks if there is any update from the Mill site?

City Attorney Hedlund updates Council the last communication was Glenn Zane needed written permission from prior lease holder to release the lease to Glenn Zane. Otherwise the City will need to take legal action.

Councilmember Lewis requests City Clerk Binning to help set up a meeting with Glenn Zane.

Councilmember Crosby would like a progress report on the fee schedule, especially after viewing the utility bills for the facility.

City Treasurer Long reports Councilmember Wood has been diligently working on the fee schedule and was obtaining comparable fee structures from nearby cities and counties.

Councilmember Crosby has been attending the Superior California Economic Development (SCED) sessions to create a strategic plan. They are now outreaching and having local meetings. Currently a draft of the goals and action plan has been created and Mrs. Crosby can share with the Councilmembers. Mrs. Crosby would like to see one of the goals to be engaging local stakeholders to tie into new broadband. Another goal in the draft is to broaden interest and opportunities for young professionals to thrive within the region.

Mayor Steffek attended the April 13, 2021 Modoc LAFCO meeting and reports that at the June 8, 2021 Modoc LAFCO meeting a public hearing will be held for dissolution of the Daphnedale Service District and creation of the Alturas Municipal Sewer District. During this public hearing residents of Daphnedale can protest the process.

City Attorney Hedlund inquires if Modoc LAFCO has completed their Municipal Service Review.

Mayor Steffek isn't positive and will contact Mr. Benoit.

Mayor Steffek informs Council there is a vacant seat for Modoc LAFCO public member alternate. If they know of anyone interested, please direct them to John Benoit. Mayor Steffek also received a letter of resignation from John Dederick. Mr. Dederick represented the City on the Modoc County Library Advisory Board. This resignation will be effective April 22, 2021. The Modoc County Library Advisory Board will advertise the recruitment. Mr. Steffek also received a letter from the City of Mammoth Lakes thanking the City for transferring expiring entitlements to them so they could complete their project.

With no further business to come before City Council. **MOTION** by Councilmember Crosby to adjourn the meeting at 3:28 p.m. and to return in regular session on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 2:00 p.m., City Hall. **SECONDED** by Councilmember Nelson. **ALL AYES.**

Respectfully,



Macey Binning
City Clerk