



## Minutes of the Regular City Council Session – September 18, 2023

The City Council of the City of Aledo met in Regular Session in the Council Chambers at the Aledo City Hall building on September 18, 2023. MAYOR PRO-TEM DIXON called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. The roll was called, whereupon the following answered present:

Aldermen NOEL BUSH, BARRY COOPER, DENNIS DIXON, JAY DOHERTY, MARK FRIESE, CARMEN RUH, and LINDA SARABASA. Mayor CHRISTOPHER HAGLOCH and Alderman ANDREW WEEKS were excused.

Also present was MICHAEL CHAUSSE, City Administrator, TREVOR FISK, Interim Chief of Police, JUSTIN BLASER, Director of Public Works & Utilities, LINDSEY DUNN, Aledo Main Street, and JAROD DALE, City Clerk.

The media was represented by Jim Taylor, WRMJ.

### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**Public Comment:** No Public Comment.

**Communication & Correspondence:** Lindsey Dunn, Aledo Main Street appeared before the Committee of the Whole to update the City Council on AMS activities. It was reported, A community connection meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 19 at Aledo Advanced Rehab. Main Street Farmer's Market continues every Thursday until September 28. Aledo Antique Days & Car Show had 199 car show entries, 40 tractor entries, 68 tractor pullers, 15 pin-up contestants, 9 antique vendors, 27 craft/farmers market, and 6 food/food trucks. A schedule of events for the upcoming Art Collective schedule was provided to Council. The Art Walk to be held Thursday, September 21 at 6:00 p.m., a museum open house to be held on September 22 and the Art Gala to be held on Saturday, September 23 with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. at the Graham Building. Also, the Aledo Fall Fest to be held on Saturday, October 14 with vendors present and kids activities. Also, the Visit MerCo Ride 17 to also be held with music by Lewis Knudsen at Aledo Main Street from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.; Carson Hall at Dancer's Creek from 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.; Will Franck at Ferg's Public House from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.; and Monica Austin in the Central Park Bandshell from 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

**Requests & Petitions:** Street Closure / Parade: Mercer County High School Homecoming Parade – October 5, 2023 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.



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**Public Works Activity Report:** DPW Blaser reported a preliminary layout design for Sponsler’s Manor Third Addition has been reviewed by City Staff with the survey of property to be completed next. The project is being completed by Hutchison Engineering. Also, the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) application is being finalized with support letters requested. Final application to be submitted by October 2.

**Aledo Police Department Activity Report:** CHIEF Fisk reported a meeting was held by Mercer County States Attorney Grace Simpson with the Mercer County Sheriff’s Department and city police leaders on 09-08-23 concerning the Safe-T Act. The Safety, Accountability, Fairness and Equity Today Act is an Illinois statute that makes a number of reforms to the criminal justice system affecting policing, pretrial detention and bail, sentencing and corrections. The meeting was held to specifically discuss pretrial detention and bail. This Act deals with the elimination of cash bail or money bond for detained individuals. In the new system, the role of cash payments will be eliminated and judges will determine whether detained individuals pose a risk if released. Pretrial release can be denied by a judge after a hearing when it is determined that the defendant poses a specific, real and present threat to a person or had a high likelihood of willful flight. The ACT had been challenged as unconstitutional in court and a temporary stay was ordered on the implementation in December of 2022. On July 18, 2023 the Supreme Court upheld the provision ending cash bail and set the date of September 18, 2023 as the new implementation date. SA Simpson covered the police responsibilities for implementing the ACT as it pertains to traffic, misdemeanor and felony arrests.

The Department provided security for the Central Park Grooves – Cow Tippers concert. Coverage was provided for the event by Sgt. Adam Baker.

**Administrative Report:** ADMINISTRATOR Chausse reported on an overview of highlights of what the Administrator (and others) have worked on since the last council meeting:

- Met with Thomas Trapp from CivicPlus concerning renewal of services
- Meet with Ty Cutkomp with concerns on the Central Park Project
- We have E-Cycle site staffed with adult volunteers and students from the HS.
- Worked on the Solid Waste and Recycling RFP
- Worked on cleaning up the Neighborhood Vehicle Permit application
- Worked on revising and renaming the “Call Center” on the city’s website
- Attended the YMCA Legacy Dinner as a representative of the city.
- Spoke with attorney concerning a staff issue as well as on the NV path.
- Had Wednesday weekly meeting with the department heads
- Attended the Hazardous Mitigation Meeting @ Mercer County Health Department
- Met with Cindy Parchert, Finance Director for budget discussion.
- Worked on wages and salaries for PW employees
- Attended the Park District Board Meeting – Sunday 9/10



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- Had a call with Denise Bulat with the Bi-State Regional Commission
- Reached out to Casey's – Closing on building 9/19, they have reached out to the buyer and requested that they (buyer) reach out to the city with their plans for the building
- Attended the Aquatic Center Campaign Committee meeting
- Explored training options with CivicPlus on editing the website
- Met with Mayor and DPW to discuss the site plans for the Sponsler addition

**City Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Reports has been marked exhibit "B", attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

**Mayor's Report:** MAYOR PRO-TEM Dixon read a proclamation declaring the evening of October 31, 2023, between the hours of 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. as trick or treat hours within the City limits of Aledo.

**Committee Report:** A Joint Personnel & Finance Committee meeting to be held on September 25, 2023 at 6:00 o'clock p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

### REGULAR COUNCIL SESSION

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag,

#### **PUBLIC HEARING: THE INTENT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALEDO, MERCER COUNTY, ILLINOIS TO SELL GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS (ALTERNATIVE REVENUE SOURCE), SERIES 2024 (SE 2<sup>ND</sup> AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS)**

Open Public Hearing – MAYOR PRO-TEM Dixon opened the public hearing at 6:31 p.m.

MAYOR PRO-TEM asked for public comment related to the City (the "Corporate Authorities") intent to sell alternate bonds as authorized in the Local Government Debt Reform Act, as amended, in the amounts of not to exceed \$4,000,000 (the "Bonds") for construction of improvements to the City's infrastructure consisting of the reconstruction of SE 2nd Avenue and related improvements, including replacement of water and sewer mains and gas utility lines located within the project area, and for the purposes of paying costs for professional services, financial, bond registrar and paying agent, bond reserve, and accounting costs.

MAYOR PRO-TEM noting there being no public comment, requested a motion to adjourn the public hearing.



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Motion was made by ALD. FRIESE and seconded by ALD. DOHERTY to adjourn the public hearing. A Roll call vote was recorded as follows:

YEAS: Bush, Cooper, Dixon, Doherty, Friese, Ruh, and Sarabasa. NAYS: None. Motion carried. 7 yeas, 0 nays.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion was made by ALDERMAN SARABASA and seconded by ALDERMAN COOPER to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 05, 2023.
- Approval of Finance: Invoice Listing – AP17.
- Approval of a Street Closure / Parade: Mercer County High School Homecoming Parade – October 5, 2023 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

A Roll Call vote was recorded as follows:

YES: Cooper, Doherty, Friese, Ruh, Sarabasa, Weeks, and Bush. NO: None. Motion carried. 7 yeas, 0 nays.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No Report.

**ACTION ITEMS:** No Report.

**OLD BUSINESS:** No Report.

**NEW BUSINESS:** No Report.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, motion was made by ALDERMAN SARABASA and seconded by ALDERMAN RUH that the meeting be adjourned. A Unanimous voice vote followed in agreement. Meeting was adjourned at 6:34 P.M.

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Jarod Dale, City Clerk

Minutes approved by Council action October 02, 2023.

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Jarod Dale, City Clerk