

February 6, 2014

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

6:00 p.m.

Mayor Robert Scow called the regular monthly meeting of the Common Council of the City of Alma to order.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Clerk Linda Torgerson took roll call with the following members present: Mayor Robert Scow, Gary Ruff, Monica Moham, Larry Farl, Mary Johnson, Leighton (Jim) Wilkie and David Earney. Absent: Robert J. Oium.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Moham to approve the January 6, 2014 Council Proceeding minutes as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Moham seconded by Wilkie to approve the Financial Report as presented. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Farl to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. All members voting yes.

Citizen's comments: None.

UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Chairman Jim Wilkie informed the Council that the committee had met on January 22, 2014 and discussed Well #2 update, Lift Station #5 status and the Elm Street Staircase project. The committee approved \$2,750 to Ayres and Associates for re-bidding of the Elm Street project. In order to do the repairs to Alley Street, Ayres stated that a survey is needed and cannot be done until the snow is gone which means that the street and the staircase project cannot be done at the same time.

Wilkie informed the Council that the committee met on February 5, 2014 regarding the possibility of negotiating a price per cubic yard for the hauling of sand on Beach/Harbor road for the Grand Encampment project by the Corps of Engineers.

Wilkie stated that the contractor, Mike Wilcox, was in attendance as well as several community members.

The committee decided to retain the .15/cu yard for sand hauled on Beach/Harbor road instead of a flat fee and with the stipulation that the contractor pay for all road damages.

Wilkie stated that the committee discussed the concerns of the freezing water and sewer pipes that are occurring throughout the City of Alma and that calls were made, notices were posted and delivered door-to-door to notify the residents.

Mayor Scow suggested that an article be placed in the Winona paper and the Buffalo County Journal. Linda will take care of this matter.

Wilkie informed the Council that the committee approved anyone involved with the snow removal process for the City to have the ability to tow vehicles.

Motion by Farl seconded by Earney to approve the Utilities Committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

Monica Moham stated that the city crew has done a wonderful job with the snow removal. Mayor Scow concurred.

Agenda Item 6: Presentation by Kevin Cassidy re: resolution opposing rezoning across from CFC school.

Kevin Cassidy, resident, gave a history of the frac sand proposals given by Glacier Sands. Cassidy stated that they are currently requesting a re-zoning of property across from the Cochrane-Fountain City School. Glacier Sands is proposing a one lane bridge to one piece of property and on the other side a train round about, Cassidy stated. Cassidy further stated the following:

- The crossing would just be at STH 88
- No wash plant is being proposed
- 120 car train will be utilized every other day
- Jobs would not be created because special crews are needed for the train round about operation
- Most of jobs created are from Minnesota
- Glacier Sands consists of a network of mines that would feed into this property
- 150 trucks will travel down STH 37 to Wabasha
- 150 trucks will travel up STH 37 to Mondovi
- 300 – 40 ton trucks (going and coming) could pass through the City daily

Cassidy stated that there is WI Stats. that provide a 10-day time period to protest after a Public Hearing is held. There will be a Public Hearing on this issue on Tuesday, Feb. 11th. The resolution must be presented to the County Clerk within 10 days of the public hearing, Cassidy commented.

Cassidy stated that he feels that the re-zoning will be pushed through by retiring county supervisors and it is important to attend the Mar. 4th County Board meeting. If the re-zoning is protested, then it must pass by a ¾ vote of the Board and if not protested, the majority vote is all that is needed, Cassidy stated.

Mayor Scow thanked Cassidy for his presentation and recommended that this matter be placed on the March agenda for possible action on a resolution.

Wilkie stated that the Council could protest the traffic and be specific on how this will affect the City of Alma.

Attorney Jon Seifert stated that a resolution states an opinion of the Council and is not law like an ordinance.

FINANCE/TAX & LICENSE COMMITTEE

Farl, acting chairman, stated that the committee met and approved all vouchers, bills and receipts.

Motion by Moham seconded by Johnson to approve the Finance/Tax & License committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Chairman Larry Farl informed the Council that the committee had met and approved retaining the boat launch fees at South Landing and Breckow's Landing and that a donation box will be placed at the marina landing.

The arbitrators regarding the boat launch fees at the marina landing felt that the language of the Harbor Lease Agreement indicated that there would be no charge for boat launch fees at the marina landing and the arbitrators upheld this language.

Motion by Wilkie seconded by Ruff to approve the Parks and Recreation committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

SERVICES/AMBULANCE COMMITTEE

Ruff stated that the Services Committee had not met, however, he did attend the Ambulance Board meeting at which time the board was informed that the ambulance squad will have stronger guidelines.

Motion by Moham seconded by Farl to approve the Services Committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

Attorney Jon Seifert recommended that the Council read the Municipality this month because there is a very informative article on Libraries and Library Boards.

Motion by Earney seconded by Farl to go into CLOSED SESSION under exemptions set under Wis. Stats. 19.85 (1)(g) conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advise concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation to which it is or is likely to become involved. All members voting yes.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Earney seconded by Ruff to reconvene into Open Session. All members voting yes.

Mayor Scow announced that the next council meeting will be Thursday, March 6, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Johnson to adjourn. All members voting yes.