

May 6, 2013

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, Mary Johnson, Leighton (Jim) Wilkie and David Earney. Absent: Robert J. Oium and Larry Farl.

Motion by Johnson seconded by Earney to approve the April 11, 2013 Council Proceeding minutes as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Moham to approve the April 16, 2013 Re-organization Meeting minutes as presented. All members voting yes.

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

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

Citizen comments:

Lois Balk addressed the City Council and announced that Friday, May 10th is City-wide cleanup day. Everyone will meet at City Hall at 8:30 a.m. Lois stated that students from the Alma School will also assist in the cleanup at Pine Street, Orange Street, Beach, Rieck's Lake Park and if time permits, Buena Vista Park and the cemetery. Lois further informed the Council that 13 new planters have been built by Duane Hogue with the assistance of Ross Pearson. Three planters were donated in Memory of Bibi Pearson and then Bev & John Ambuehl and Jack & Gin Thrailkill donated monies for one each. Lois stated that the lunch will be served at Rieck's Park around noon and invited all those that could help out on Friday to meet at City Hall at 8:30. Lois Balk thanked the City of Alma for their support.

Bob Wemette, resident, addressed the Council again requesting the angle parking sign across the street from his residence be moved 100 feet. Wemette stated that he has recorded his observations of cars parking diagonal from March 5 to April 13th. Wemette stated only 73 cars have parked in the diagonal during that time period and that only 5 were for the Methodist church. Wemette stated that moving this sign wouldn't impact the Methodist Church because of their low membership.

Mayor Scow stated that the City cannot choose which church deserves the best parking situation even though one has fewer members.

Wemette commented that he has met even the city police car in this area and has had to pull over so that the squad could pass.

After discussion, Mayor Scow referred this matter back to the Utilities Committee and decide if they need to continue to discuss this issue.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Monica Moham informed the Council that the committee met this morning and approved all vouchers, bills and receipts.

Monica stated that the committee approved continuing with the community gardens project to be administered the same as last year.

Monica informed the Council that the committee approved the final reimbursement for health insurance deductibles with the WPS insurance.

Motion by Moham seconded by Ruff to approve a Combination Class B Beer and Liquor License to Tansy's on Main, LLC-Steven Hornberg, agent. All members voting yes.

Motion by Moham seconded by Earney to approve the change of agent for the Alma Kwik Trip for Amy Pieterick. All members voting yes.

Motion by Moham seconded by Wilkie to approve an Operator License to Sarah Nelson. All members voting yes.

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

UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Chairman Jim Wilkie informed the Council that the committee had met at 9 a.m. this morning and discussed the street work to be done for 2013. After reviewing the condition of the cemetery roads, the committee decided to resurface the cemetery roads and delay resurfacing Orange, Elm and Pine side streets from Hwy 35 to River Street. Seal coating is planned for Beach Harbor Road, Wilkie stated.

Wilkie further informed the Council that the committee was informed of repairs needed for the retaining wall at 2nd and Walnut Street. Brad La Duke will be looking into this matter.

Sidewalk repair was also discussed by the committee.

Wilkie informed the Council that the contract with Ayres Associates for the Elm Street stairway project has been signed.

Mayor Scow commented that he has had a lot of feedback regarding residents not in favor of the City spending the \$195,000 on one set of staircases. Scow stated he has tried to explain that this does not affect the city budget because it is a TIF project, however, with no success.

Bob Wemette commented that his taxes have increased due to the TIF district and its projects.

Motion by Moham seconded by Ruff to approve the Utilities committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

SERVICES/AMBULANCE LIAISON/WUTA LIAISON

Ruff stated that he had attended the Fire Department meeting and was informed that some of the radios are not working after the upgrade to narrow band.

Ruff stated that he attended the Ambulance Board meeting and it was reported that all is going well with the service.

Ruff informed the Council that fireman, David Crandall has retired and his wife, Mary Sue Crandall has retired from the ambulance service after many years.

Ruff informed the Council that he attended the WUTA meeting April 24th with Robert Oium in Madison. Ruff stated that the topic of discussion was nuclear plant storage.

Motion by Wilkie seconded by Moham to approve the Services/ Ambulance Liaison/ WUTA liaison report as presented. All members voting yes.

Mary Johnson stated that she will be attending the Senior Citizens meetings on a monthly instead of a quarterly basis.

Mayor Scow informed the Council that he had went to the Cemetery and was greatly concerned due to the extreme amount of down branches. He felt it could not be cleaned up by Memorial Day with the limited crew the city has. Scow stated, however, as of today the city crew had over half of the cemetery already cleaned up and complimented the crew on the cleanup, the snow removal and the street sweeping cooperative efforts. A round of applause was given to foreman Burce and the city crew.

Chief Todd Ritscher stated that nine cars were towed during the street sweeping process.

Upcoming meetings:

Open Book-----Monday, May 13th 10:00 a.m. to Noon
Board of Review-----Monday, May 13th Noon to 2:00 p.m.

Next council meeting is June 6, 2013.

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