

Nov. 9, 2017

PUBLIC HEARING

5:30 P.M.

Mayor Jim Wilkie opened the public hearing to the public regarding the proposed 2018 budget.

Hearing no testimony for or against the proposed 2017 budget, Mayor Wilkie closed the hearing.

Nov. 9, 2016

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

6:00 P.M.

Mayor Jim Wilkie 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 Jim Wilkie, Corey Hanson, Gary Ruff, Monica Moham, Larry Farl, Mary Johnson and Ron Geiselhart. Absent: David Earney.

Motion by Moham seconded by Ruff to approve the Council Proceeding minutes of October 5, 2017 as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Geiselhart to approve the October Financial Report as presented. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

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

Citizen comments: No one wished to make comments that weren't on the agenda.

Agenda Item 8: Discuss Resolution-Coordination with Federal and State Agencies.

Jay Verhulst, Vilas County, addressed the Council regarding how deal with State and Federal agencies.

Verhulst stated that a local government has the ability to have the Corps of Engineers meet with them at the City level. He stated that the City needs to invoke the Resolution of Coordination to resolve costs and effects of the dredged material. Verhulst stated that he would come to assist the City and only ask for reimbursed expenses. He stated that the City will have to develop a land use plan and recognize the concept of coordination in their plan.

Mayor Wilkie stated that the draft resolution would allow the City to use this concept and this would apply to the State as well.

Verhulst commented that the Federal Land Management Act states that the closest level of government to the economic impact have precedence.

Mayor Wilkie stated that the Corps dredging will affect tourism and the condition of Beach Harbor Road.

Nancy Mistele, Wisconsin Department of Administration, addressed the Council regarding her position in offering assistance to the City of Alma in dealing with the Corps of Engineers regarding the dredging. Nancy deals with the economic disturbances this will cause on the State level. She stated that she has access to agencies and have helped many in the private sector.

Mayor Wilkie thanked Jay Verhulst and Nancy Mistele for their attendance and guidance on this matter.

Brian Treadway, Dairyland Power Site Manager at Alma, addressed the Council regarding the explosion that took place at the plant.

Treadway stated that it was human error that caused the explosion and explained how the explosion occurred. No one was injured during this event.

Treadway reassured the City that this type of human error would not occur again and that measures have been taken regarding this matter. He further stated he is working with the fire department to educate them on the layout of the plant and what areas they can and cannot enter during such an emergency.

Treadway gave an update on the demolition of Plant One. He stated that the only thing remaining is the stack and the metal that was removed from the plant. Plans to take down the stack, hopefully in 2018, are being planned. The barge permit will be good through the year 2025 Treadway stated, however, but the dock can only be used for specific items, not sand.

Brian Treadway stated that the lettering from the plant could not be saved.

Mayor Wilkie thanked Brian Treadway for his attendance and information.

Carl Schwartz presented the City of Alma with a plaque, book, street signs and flag designating the City of Alma as a bird city. Schwartz stated that the City of Alma is one of 107 cities he has made these presentation to and thanked the City of Alma for participating in the Bird City program.

Kathy Goodman stated that the City of Alma must adopt the Bird City Resolution annually and she will assist the City.

Mayor Wilkie thanked Carl Schwartz for his presentations to the City.

FINANCE/TAX & LICENSE/ZONING COMMITTEE

Chairman Gary Ruff informed the Council that the committee met this morning and approved all vouchers, bills and receipts.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Farl to adopt the proposed 2018 budget for the City of Alma as presented. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Ruff informed the Council that the committee met regarding residents in the R-districts having chickens. The committee concurred that chickens are only allowed in the Agriculture district.

Motion by Farl seconded by Geiselhart to approve the Finance/Tax & License/Zoning Committee report as presented.

JOINT REVIEW BOARD

Mayor Wilkie explained that it is a new requirement for the Joint Review Board to meet annually regarding the TIF district.

Motion by Moham seconded by Farl to approve the October 18, 2017 minutes of the Joint Review Board as presented. All members voting yes.

UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Committee member, Corey Hanson, gave the Utilities Committee report in the absence of David Earney, chairman.

Motion by Moham seconded by Ruff to contract with Altronex for Options A & C regarding the SCADA system and lift station upgrades in the amount of \$14,020.00. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Mayor Wilkie pointed out at the top of page 2 of the Utilities Committee minutes, the cost of complying with the phosphorus limits if the variance is granted, is \$500,000. If the variance is not granted, the cost for the phosphorus limit requirement will be \$1,800,000.00.

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

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Chairman Larry Farl informed the Council the committee had met Oct. 23, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

Agenda Items were as follows:

Agenda Item 1b: Shoreline management. Nothing new reported.

Agenda Item 1c: Corps pipe underneath sand pile to marina. No new development regarding this matter.

No word from the Corps regarding this matter. A Corps representative was at the site and is aware of the situation.

The committee discussed the structures (deck and sidewalks) that were permitted at the Alma Marina. It was noticed that they are right up to the roadway. Discussion was held. Joe had spoken with Dennis Benish at the marina and between the two of them decided where the structures could be placed and after construction it was noted that they are not off the roadway as was discussed. Foreman Burce stated Joe and herself had noted this, however, it will not interfere with the snowplowing in that area.

Agenda Item 1d: Train noise. Larry Farl stated that Dennis Benish believes that a quiet zone can be established in a similar matter as the Village of Pepin. He will attend a future committee meeting to discuss this item.

Agenda Item 2: Shoreline management – Beach Harbor Road. No new developments.

Agenda Item 3: City trails-update and involvement.

Mayor Jim Wilkie stated that the trail developer for Mossy Hollow will be coming to look at a way to connect the trails at Mossy Hollow. Larry Farl requested he be notified so he can be present.

Agenda Item 4a: Porta Porta Potty Proposal.

AJ from Affordable Septic was present and gave a proposal for porta potty service for the City of Alma.

The committee approved a motion to contract with Affordable Septic as the City of Alma's porta potty provider effective immediately.

Agenda Item 4b: Camping fee increase.

The committee approved a motion to increase the camping fee from \$15/night to \$20/night and authorize the installation of WI-FI for the campground with a protected password.

Agenda Item 1c: Canoe landing sign for Breckow's Landing.

Mayor Wilkie informed the committee that he had spoken with Bob Platteter, Highway Commissioner, regarding the canoe, kayak access to the backwaters of the Mississippi River signage. Originally, Platteter had denied the signage, however, if the front post (closest to Hwy 35) is moved to the back and the back post then becoming the front post, he would approve the signage. Wilkie stated he will order the signage. The posts that remain at the site were from the former Corps of Engineer signage.

Agenda Item 5: Fishing tournaments.

Farl stated that the fishing tournaments have went well and the process of obtaining the permits has not been a problem.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Geiselhart to approve the Parks & Recreation committee as presented. All members voting yes.

SERVICES COMMITTEE

Chairperson Monica Moham informed the Council that the committee met on October 30, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

Moham stated that the committee had discussed and/or acted upon the following:

- Review of proposed Trespass ordinance. The committee felt the ordinance was ready to present to the December council for action.
- Police concerns. Discussion was held regarding the need for an evidence room and the possibility of a new squad. The committee recommended keeping the squad for at least one more year.
- Fire Department concerns.

Fire Chief Tom Brakke informed the committee that the rescue vehicle that the fire department was going to purchase from Tri-Community is now on hold due to the letting of bids for the vehicle. The Fire Department currently has \$14,000 for the vehicle that would be used as a rescue van. Brakke informed the committee that the Fire Dues audit was done, and the Alma Fire Department is in good shape. Brakke further informed the committee that the inspections of commercial properties by the inspection company will be done starting later this quarter.

Fire Chief Brakke talked to the committee in length regarding their response to the explosion at Dairyland Power. The Fire Department will be meeting with Dairyland Power to keep communication going between each other so that the fire department is aware of places they can and cannot go within the power plant.

- Cemetery concerns.

Charlie Grotjahn, Eagle Scout, has completed his work at the cemeteries and did a very good job, Monica commented.

Discussion was held regarding the Cemetery Perpetual Beautification Program. Monica stated that she will be researching the cost of artificial flowers to fill the urns for next year and will report back.

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

Upcoming meetings:

PSC water rate increase hearing November 7th at 10:00 a.m.

Services -- November 29, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

Finance – December 7, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

Public Hearing – Comprehensive Plan – December 7th at 5:15 p.m.

Public Hearing – Trespass Ordinance – December 7th at 5:30 p.m.

Council – December 7, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

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