

November 13, 2014

PUBLIC HEARING

5:30 p.m.

Mayor Jim Wilkie opened the public hearing to the public regarding the proposed 2015 budget for the City of Alma.

Hearing no testimony for or against the proposed 2015 budget, Mayor Wilkie closed the hearing.

November 13, 2014

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, Gary Ruff, Monica Moham, Larry Farl, Matt Olson and David Earney. Absent: Robert J. Oium.

Motion by Moham seconded by Ruff to approve the Public Hearing minutes of October 9, 2014 as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Moham to approve the Council Proceeding minutes of October 9, 2014 as presented. All members voting yes.

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

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

No citizen comments were received.

FINANCE/TAX & LICENSE & ZONING COMMITTEE

Acting chairperson Monica Moham informed the Council that the committee had met this morning and recommended approval of the Council for the following:

- 2015 Proposed Budget for the City of Alma
- Operator licenses for Kari Wilde, Stephanie Reinhardt and Sharaya Reed

Motion by Earney seconded by Ruff to adopt the proposed budget for 2015. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Dave Earney thanked Mayor Wilkie for his work with the budget and for the explanation of the change of percentage in the various accounts.

Mayor Wilkie commented that the increase in the other revenue was due to the CapX2020 payment the City will receive annually and also the revenue from the sand hauling on Beach Harbor road.

Motion by Farl seconded by Johnson to approve Operator Licenses to: Kari Wilde, Stephanie Reinhardt and Sharaya Reed. All members voting yes.

Moham informed the Council that the committee approved a building permit application to Dave Becker for 321 S. Main Street. Becker had submitted the State approved plans for his project.

Moham stated that the committee reviewed and approved all vouchers, bills and receipts.

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

UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Chairman Earney reported that the committee had met October 30, 2014 and although he was not present the committee did approve checking for leaks for the Well #2 project using a bladder type method. Earney informed the Council that this morning Municipal Well & Pump, contractors for the project, did find multiple leaks that could not be fixed by the method they had hoped to use and it was determined that a new casing will have to be installed and a smaller, in diameter, pump ordered. The casing will now be 8" in diameter instead of 12" and the pipe will be 4" inside diameter instead of the 6". The pump capacity will be reduced.

Mayor Wilkie stated that if we had not done this project, the leaks would have went undetected and possible groundwater contamination could have occurred. Wilkie stated that the contractor will be able to work in any type of weather and parts to complete the project will take approximately two weeks.

Last month the Council approved \$25,000 to fix the leak for this project, however, Mayor Wilkie asked if an amount greater than this could be pre-approved so that another meeting would have to be held and more time delayed.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Farl to authorize an additional \$10,000 of expenditure for the Well#2 project without coming back to the full Council for approval. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Earney informed the Council that all should have received the Ayres report regarding the wall for Alley Street and stated he would like this to go back to the committee to bring a recommendation to Council.

Mayor Wilkie stated that the Council had received the reports and the engineer at Ayres needs to have this

Mayor Wilkie presented the Ayres proposals for the alternate wall types and styles for the Alley Street project. Council discussed the different alternate styles one by one.

Motion by Farl seconded by Johnson to approve Alternate #5 Wall style submitted in the Ayres report for the Alley Street project in the amount of \$100,000. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

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

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Chairman Larry Farl reported that the committee had met on October 15, 2014. One of the items was the request from the Little League for the red rock and restoration of the ball field. The committee approved taking the money needed for the earthwork for the ball field out of Park Outlay until the Capx2020 money is available.

Farl further reported that no further word has been received regarding the marina illegal structures since the City was notified by email that they were not grandfathered in.

Park concerns were discussed by the committee and the committee authorized \$1500 for black dirt for Rieck's Lake campground sites.

Deb Burce, foreman, stated that the cost for a load of dirt is \$205, however, Reglin & Hesch informed Deb that they couldn't give her the number of loads needed until they did the earth work for the project.

Mary Johnson informed the Council that the petition to dredge the beach area was submitted with just under 100 signatures. Mary stated she sent the petition to Senator Vinehout to give to Ron Kind.

Mayor Wilkie thanked Mary for her time and efforts for the dredging needed at the beach area.

Motion by Moham seconded by Earney to approve the Parks & Recreation committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

SERVICES COMMITTEE

Chairman Gary Ruff informed the Council that the committee had met October 15, 2014. Gerald Nelson of Whitehall has been hired as the City of Alma's grave digger, Ruff stated. Ruff further commented that the committee set prices for plastic disposed of at the City Landfill.

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

Agenda Item 7: CapX2020 proposals for funding.

Mayor Wilkie informed the Council that three proposals were received and distributed in the Council packets.

Mayor Wilkie presented request #1 – City of Alma for \$59,000 to pay down the Buffalo River/Beef Slough dredging loan. Discussion was held.

Motion by Earney seconded by Moham to approve the transfer of \$59,000 from the CapX2020 Environmental Fee Account to the General Fund for payment on the Buffalo River/Beef Slough dredging loan. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Mayor Wilkie presented request #2 –Alma Little League for restoration of the ball field, fence repair/replacement, move in outfield and lighting. Discussion was held.

Tim Ruff, Little League Coordinator, was present to answer questions from the Council. Tim reported that some of the fencing may be able to be reused and that the back field could come in and not hurt any of the games held there. Tim Ruff informed the Council that the only thing needed for the lighting is the poles. Tim commented that the Little League may be getting the seven poles needed from the Arkansas ball field.

Mayor Wilkie explained to the Council that the Park & Recreation committee along with himself did approve the expenditure of the red rock and reshaping of the ball field with monies coming out of Park Outlay until approval from the PSC to use the CapX2020 Environmental funds. The committee approved the rock separately and then the reshaping part of the project separately.

Motion by Farl seconded by Johnson to reimburse the Park Outlay account for the rock and reshaping of the ball field contingent upon approval of the expenditure through the CapX2020 Environmental Fee fund. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Mayor Wilkie suggested that the proposal go back to the Parks & Recreation committee for further discussion.

Mayor Wilkie thanked Tim Ruff for his attendance.

Mayor Wilkie presented request #3 – Buffalo County Land & Trails Trust, Inc. for bike trail.

The Buffalo County Land & Trails Trust, Inc. is a paved trail project underway to connect the communities of Nelson, Alma, Cochrane, Buffalo City, Fountain City and Winona. The proposed trail began as an Alma Chamber of Commerce initiative to create an enhanced sense of identity, healthier lifestyle and a stronger economy for all the communities along its route.

Wilkie stated that the amount requested is \$10,000 for a feasibility study on this project. Discussion was held.

Motion by Farl seconded by Johnson to approve the transfer of \$10,000 from the CapX2020 Environmental Fee Account to the General Fund for payment to Buffalo County Land & Trails Trust, Inc. for a feasibility study for a bike trail. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

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

Mayor Wilkie and the City Council thanked Attorney Jon Seifert for all the work he has done on the Buffalo River/ Beef Slough dredging project.

Dave Earney thanked Mayor Wilkie for all the work he has done with the various projects—Reservoir, Well #2 and Alley Street along with the 2015 budget.

Upcoming meetings:

Next Council will be Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Moham seconded by Olson to adjourn. All members voting yes.