

**October 9, 2014**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**5:45 p.m.**

Mayor Jim Wilkie opened the public hearing to the public regarding the conditional use permit application submitted by James and Debra Goergen, 17985 538<sup>th</sup> Avenue-Austin, MN 55912 to allow occasional parking for motor home on their property at 1180 Riverview Drive in the City of Alma. The property is zoned R-2 and the principal structure must be built prior to accessory uses. Also, camping is not a permitted use in the R-2 district, therefore, a conditional use is required.

No testimony was received for or against the Conditional Use Permit application.

Mayor Wilkie closed the public hearing.

**October 9, 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, Robert J. Oium, Gary Ruff, Monica Moham, Larry Farl, Mary Johnson and David Earney.  
Absent: Matt Olson.

Motion by Johnson seconded by Ruff to approve the September 11, 2014 Council Proceeding minutes as presented. All members voting yes.

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

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

Citizen comments:

Kathy Goodman introduced herself to the Council as President of the Alma Area Chamber of Commerce. Goodman stated that she would like the Chamber to partner with the City and have a good relationship for upcoming events happening in the City of Alma.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Chairman Robert J. Oium informed the Council that the committee had met this morning and approved all vouchers, bills and receipts.

Oium further stated that the committee reviewed and recommended approval of the Combination Class B Beer & Liquor License-JLS, LLC-Jerri Schreiber, agent.

Motion by Oium seconded by Farl to approve the Combination Class B Beer & Liquor License-JLS Specialty, LLC-Jerri Schreiber, agent. All members voting yes.

Kevin Cassidy-Introduced the Great River Road Overlay Zoning Proposal to come before the County Board.

Cassidy stated that the proposal doesn't do the following:

- Stop dredging
- Stop trucks on STH 35
- Insert powers of the City of Alma, Village of Nelson and Village of Cochrane because these municipalities have their own zoning ordinances.

Cassidy stated that the proposal does the following:

- Deals with the importance of the river
- Deals with continued tourism over the next 10 years
- Protects today and the picture of today
- Limits new businesses to 50 trucks

Oium commented that he would not be in favor of any proposal that could possible prevent a new business that would have 50 or more trucks.

Oium informed the Council that the committee had met regarding 2015 wages for the employees.

Motion by Oium seconded by Earney to increase Police Chief Todd Ritscher, Clerk Linda Torgerson and Deputy Clerk Terry Peterson's salary .75/hour for 2015. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Oium seconded by Earney to increase Foreman Debra Burce, Calvin Loewenhagen, Joe Wick and Dale Rieck's salary .75/hour for 2015. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Oium seconded by Earney to approve the following proposed 2015 salaries:

PART TIME CREW--DOQ \$ 11.25 PER HOUR (.50/hr increase for continued part-time workers).

PART TIME POLICE \$ Per current rate of Sheriff's deputy

ELECTION OFFICIAL \$ Minimum Wage

MAYOR \$ 1,650.00 PER YEAR PLUS

\$ 40.00 PER COMMITTEE MEETING

ALDERPERSONS \$ 55.00 PER COUNCIL MEETING PLUS

\$ 40.00 PER COMMITTEE MEETINGS

CITY ATTORNEY \$ ANNUAL RETAINER (To be paid Semi-Annually)

MILEAGE \$ (FEDERAL STANDARD)

All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Oium informed the Council that the committee recommended allowing Clerk Linda Torgerson up to 5 hours of overtime per pay period to match that of the Chief of Police to begin in 2015.

Motion by Oium seconded by Earney to approve up to five hours of overtime per pay period for Linda to match the Chief of Police; both Linda and Todd are salaried employees. All members voting yes.

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

Oium gave the WUTA (Wisconsin Utilities Tax Association) report. Oium commented that for now the shared revenues are secure, however, strict restrictions on power plants are causing many power plant closings throughout the state.

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

### **UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

Chairman Dave Earney reported that the committee had met, however, Davy engineer, Shawn Welte, is present to go over the Well #2 Renovation Project update.

Welte informed the Council of the progress of the project in removing the building, televising the well and stated that when the submersible pump was placed the casing is now leaking and the pump leaked as well. Welte further reported the following:

- DNR was present for the testing of the well.
- DNR suggests an 8" liner to repair the leak and to protect the well from surface contaminants
- Videotaping of the well did show a joint present that could be the leak source which is 6 to 7 feet down
- There is an old pipe in the well that could be removed
- Suggested examining the well and if the leak is close enough, it could be repaired

Welte suggested a setup stage consisting of:

- Welding on cap for outer casing
- Brush the casing
- Fish out the tail pipe
- Extend well casing, backfill, re-excavate
- Televis well-casing only
- Hang and grout 8" liner

The costs would run approximately \$20,000.00.

Motion by Oium seconded by Johnson to authorize up to \$20,000 worth of additional repair costs for the Well #2 Renovation project as suggested by engineer, Shawn Welte. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Earney seconded by Moham to authorize Mayor Wilkie to proceed with the Well #2 project with the engineer and authorize expenditures up to \$25,000. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Welte further reported that the electrician for the project from B & B Electric informed him that the electric service is no entry rated. Welte will investigate this matter further and report back.

Chairman Earney reported that the committee met and approved the following:

- Minor surface and pothole issues for Badland Road
- Two additional 25 mph signs for Riverview Drive
- Crew had fixed the RBC's for 1/3 of the cost
- Alley Street – engineer still working on wall designs
- Parking Ordinances to be referred to the Services committee

Oium inquired if a lift station may be a solution for the sewer line problem at Alley Street. This will be forwarded to the engineer for advice.

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

### **TAX/LICENSE COMMITTEE**

Motion by Oium seconded by Earney to approve Operator Licenses to: Sandra Hanson, Anthony Korum, Scott Baker and Corey Hanson. All members voting yes.

### **SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Chairman Ruff reported that the committee worked on the budgets for 2015, approved the purchase of the new police squad and will be hiring a new grave digger.

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

### **PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Chairman Larry Farl reported that the committee met on September 19, 2014 and discussed/approved the following:

- Winter boat storage to Lockport Marine for \$1,000
- Fishing tournaments—letters will be sent to tournament organizers
- Landscaping at Buena Vista Park
- End of year beach report
- Budgets for 2015

Mayor Wilkie stated that the Tourism commission met and approved \$6,000 for a new website and \$250 for the Nelson billboard sign.

Motion by Oium seconded by Farl to approve the Parks & Recreation Committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

### **PLANNING COMMISSION**

Chairman Mayor Wilkie stated that the Planning Commission met prior to Council and approved a Conditional Use Permit application submitted by James and Debra Goergen of Austin, MN to allow occasional parking for a motor home on their property at 1180 Riverview Drive with conditions.

Motion by Moham seconded by Oium to approve the Conditional Use Permit application submitted by James and Debra Goergen of Austin, MN to allow occasional parking for a motor home on their property at 1180 Riverview Drive with the following conditions:

- Only one motorhome on the property
- No commercial; rental storage on the property

All members voting yes.

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

Motion by Farl seconded by Moham to accept the offer of \$60,000 from Vierbicher Associates for settlement of the Buffalo River/Beef Slough dredging project infiltration problems. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Mayor Wilkie informed the Council that there are three proposals that will come before the Council next month for consideration of funding via the CapX2020 funds.

Upcoming meetings:

Services-----October 15, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Park & Rec-----October 15, 2014 at 11:30 a.m.

Next Council: November 6, 2014

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

