

September 4, 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, Robert J. Oium, Gary Ruff, Monica Moham, Larry Farl, Mary Johnson and David Earney. Absent: Leighton (Jim) Wilkie.

Mayor Scow introduced Adam Sticht, attorney from Seifert, Hartman & Schultz, who was attending the City Council meeting in Attorney Seifert's absence.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Farl to approve the August 8, 2013 Council Proceedings as presented. All members voting yes.

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

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

Citizen comments:

Dennis Youngbauer, resident of the Town of Nelson on Badland Road, inquired if anyone from the Council took a drive on Badland Road so that they would be aware of the poor condition. No one responded that they had driven on Badland Road. Youngbauer again requested the Council to do so and inquired when the road would be repaired.

Mayor Scow commented that Badland Road was not on the 2013 road repair list and that the work is to be done when the Town of Nelson does their portion.

Jill Stiehl, Town of Nelson resident on Badland Road, stated that Badland Road needs to be fixed now instead of the steps in the City. Scow informed Stiehl that the funds for the steps are TIF funds and not part of the city budget for streets.

Karla Hokschi, City of Alma resident, stated that her good vehicles are getting dirty from the crushed rock on Badland Road and also damaged from the potholes.

Mayor Scow recommended that the Utilities Committee get in contact with the Town of Nelson to formulate a plan for Badland Road.

Gary Hardtke, Lockport Marine owner, requested winter boat storage for the boats at the marina. Mayor Scow referred this matter to the Parks and Recreation committee for action.

Bob Miller, Commissioner for the Wisconsin Mississippi Parkway Commission, read and presented the City of Alma with a Proclamation from the Governor celebrating the 75 years of the Great River Road, which is a scenic byway.

Mayor Scow thanked Bob Miller for his presentation.

### **UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

David Earney informed the Council that the committee had met with the following results:

- Reservoir leak is going to be fixed
- Lift station #5 pump has been ordered
- River Street fence repairs were discussed
- Jim Wilkie has prepared a spreadsheet with all the city owned vehicles listing their repairs as a guide for repair/replacement
- No bids were received for the Elm Street Staircase project

Motion by Moham seconded by Earney to approve the Utilities Committee report. All members voting yes.

### **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Farl reported that the committee met and discussed the dock repairs needed. Cleats have been added to the marina dock.

There was a donation of a picnic table for Buena Vista Park, Farl reported.

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

### **FINANCE/TAX & LICENSE COMMITTEE**

Motion by Oium seconded by Ruff to approve the following Operator Licenses: Avery Marcott, Lisa Hanson, Mykayla Muench, Sharon Rieck and James Scott. All members voting yes.

Oium informed the Council that the committee had met jointly with the Utilities Committee to discuss the zoning of Shawnee Estates.

Motion by Oium seconded by Moham to instruct the City Attorney to draft the proper paperwork needed to change the zoning of Shawnee Estates to R2 and to dispense with the covenants. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Oium seconded by Farl to adopt the Ordinance enacting the updated Code of Ordinances. All members voting yes.

Oium informed the council that the \$35,000 offer for the Bruce Katiepolt property as countered at \$42,000. The committee recommends countering with \$40,000 and attorney fees. Oium stated that the property is assessed at \$78,000 and is listed at \$59,900.

Oium informed the Council that the property is for a future city hall/library and that under new restrictions from the railroad in regards to setbacks; the current city hall could not be replaced or repaired at its current location.

Motion by Oium seconded by Earney to make a formal offer of \$40,000 plus closing costs for the Bruce Katiepolt property. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Oium stated that the Title Company through the City Attorney's office would be handling the paperwork.

Oium presented the proposed 2014 wages for the employees as follows:

**CITY OF ALMA  
2014 WAGE AND SALARY SUMMARY**

<p><b>Todd A. Ritscher</b> Police Chief-\$46,340.00 Plus comp or OT &amp; Mtg. pay (.75/hour increase-2080 hrs)</p>	<p><b>Linda Torgerson</b> City Clerk-Treas. Incl. Sewer Utility \$48,428.72 Plus comp and mtg. pay (1.00/hr increase)</p>	<p><b>Terry L. Peterson</b> Deputy Clerk \$14.50 (.75/hr increase)</p>
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<p><b>Debra Burce</b> Foreman-City Crew \$18.03 per hr Plus OT/Mtg. pay Plus w/s training incentive per class completed (1.00/hr increase)</p>	<p><b>Calvin Loewenhagen</b> City Crew + W/S \$18.39 Per Hr/Plus OT/Meeting pay Plus \$.25/hour Paid from w/s training incentive (1.00/hr increase)</p>
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<p><b>Joe Wick</b> City Crew \$16.36 per hr Plus OT/Mtg. pay Plus w/s training incentive per Class completed (1.00/hr increase)</p>	<p><b>Dale Rieck</b> Landfill Attendant \$11.55 Per Hr (.75/hr increase) (10 hours-Landfill Open)</p>
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**FOR ALL ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES:**

The City will pay 100% of health insurance premiums for all employees under contract, otherwise, will be a percentage subject to negotiation.  
 The City will pay 100% of life insurance premiums.(Basic coverage only).  
 The City will pay 80% of loss of time insurance premiums.  
 The City will pay 100% family dental insurance.  
 The City will pay employer required contribution of retirement benefits.

**\*\*\*\*\*OTHER SALARIES AND WAGES\*\*\*\*\***

PART TIME CREW--DOQ \$ 10.75 PER HOUR (.75/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)

Motion by Oium seconded by Farl to approve the 2014 wages for the City of Alma employees as printed. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Oium informed the Council that the committee has looked at ways to fund the property being purchased:

- Sell the lot at 300 N. Main that the City currently owns
- Sell part of the city farm - woodland for hunting
- Any other thoughts or ideas should come to the committee

Motion by Farl seconded by Moham to accept the Finance Tax/License Committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

No update on the Buffalo River/Beef Slough dredging situation.

Mayor comments:

Mayor Scow commented that the Music & Arts Festival was a success. Larry Farl stated that it was well attended.

Mayor Scow expressed deepest sympathy to the Bergie Ritscher family and informed the Council that there will be a quiet time here at City Hall on Friday Sept. 6 from 1 to 4 p.m. for Bergie.

Next Council meeting will be Monday, October 7, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

Committees were instructed to work on their budgets this month.

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