

**February 15, 2018**

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**6:00 P.M.**

Mayor Wilkie called the regular monthly meeting of the Common Council of the City of Alma to order.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Edith Ruff, in the absence of Clerk Linda Torgerson, took roll call with the following members present: Wilkie, Hanson, Ruff, Moham, Farl, Johnson, Geiselhart and Earney.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Moham to approve the Council Proceeding minutes of January 11, 2018 as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Geiselhart to approve the January 2018 Financial Report as presented. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Moham seconded by Farl to approve the January 2018 Treasurers Report as presented. All members voting yes.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**-None.

**FINANCE/TAX & LICENSE/ZONING COMMITTEE**

Ruff informed the Council that the committee had met and approved all vouchers, bills and receipts.

Ruff stated that the committee recommend renewal of the City's insurance policies with EMC insurance.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Earney to approve the insurance renewals with EMC insurance as presented. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Farl to approve Mobile Home Park permits to: Lorena Hungerford and Keith Mississippi Properties. All members voting yes.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Moham to approve an Operator license to Lynda Carstenbrock. All members voting yes.

Ruff informed the Council that the committee amended the Employee Handbook regarding pay for a pallbearer. The committee approved a full-day pay instead of the existing half-day.

Motion by Hanson seconded by Farl to approve the Finance/Tax and License/Zoning committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

**UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

Chairperson David Earney informed the Council that the committee had met on January 31, 2018.

Earney informed the Council of the following:

- The committee discussed the new water rate increase that is in place to help sustain the water department to cover costs.
- Reservoir inspection is scheduled for this spring.
- The water meter at Dairyland Power needs to be fixed and/or replaced.
- Bids for the pulling of Well#1

McCarthy Well-----\$15,000 to \$21,000  
 Municipal Well & Pump-----\$10,890 plus \$1,800 for televising the well

The committee made a motion to approve the McCarthy Well bid since they have pulled the Well #1 in the past.

Motion Earney seconded by Geiselhart to approve the McCarthy Well bid in the amount of \$15,000 to \$21,000.00. Six members voting yes, one no (Hanson) by roll call vote.

- Wastewater Treatment was discussed.
- Block surveys-Linda will be working on this matter.
- Intersection of Pine Street and Hwy 35 safety concerns were discussed at length with no resolution. The committee would like to reach out to the public for their input regarding this matter.

Mayor Wilkie informed the Council that he had met with FEMA representatives regarding the flooding of the Shawnee Drive bridge. Joe Wick, city crew was also present. A more permanent solution of preventing the washing out of the bridge is being sought from FEMA engineers. FEMA will only pay for the restoration of the bridge to its condition prior to the flood damage.

Earney stated that the school will be seeking bids for the blacktopping of their parking lot.

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

**SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Chairperson Moham informed the Council that the committee had not met, however, the City has entered into an agreement for recycling services with Buffalo County. Foreman Debbie Burce stated that the recycling program at the City landfill is going well. She stated one person had dumped regular garbage in the dumpsters, but compliance otherwise has been good. Debbie further stated that she felt the City could use two dumpsters for the cardboard. With the new recycling program, no money is paid for aluminum cans. Hours of operation for recycling coincide with the landfill hours on Fridays and Saturdays.

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

**TOURISM COMMISSION**

Larry Farl informed the Council that the commission had met on January 16, 2018. The commission discussed how to use the funds to get more tourists to the City to help the businesses.

Motion by Moham seconded by Geiselhart to approve the Tourism Commission report as presented. All members voting yes.

Tom Clark, District Attorney, addressed the Council regarding his qualifications for Judge for Buffalo and Pepin Counties. Clark stated he appreciated the opportunity to attend this eve

**CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

Member Monica Moham went over the financial annual report from the committee. Currently the exact dollar amount needed from the City for the flowers and care is unknown.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Farl to approve the Cemetery Perpetual Care Beautification committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

**Mayor Comments**

Mayor Wilkie distributed copies of a letter he received from the Corps of Engineers giving an overview of the meeting held on December 15, 2017 regarding hauling and placement of the dredged sand. Wilkie stated that there will be an update from the Corps sometime this summer.

Motion by Earney seconded by Farl to convene into CLOSED SESSION under exemptions set under Wis. Stats. 19.85 (1) (c) considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. All members voting yes.

**CLOSED SESSION**

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

Motion by Farl seconded by Ruff to arrange for a meeting with Buffalo County for police services in the next week. All members voting yes.

Motion by Moham seconded by Hanson to raise Perry Pronschinske’s salary by \$5.00 per hour for the administrative police work he does and to go back retroactively and compensate all police hours he has worked since April 2017 by the \$5.00 per hour. All members voting yes.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Finance/Tax & License/Zoning Committee-----March 8, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

Council-----March 8, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

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