

**October 18, 2018**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**5:15 p.m.**

Mayor Jim Wilkie opened the public hearing to the public regarding the Conditional Use Permit submitted by Ali Rud-506 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street-to operate an Airbnb at this location.

Mayor Wilkie asked for those in favor of the application for the Airbnb at 506 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> to speak.

Ali Rud, applicant, spoke in favor of the Airbnb and informed the public that her next door neighbor, Thomas Schultz, did not have an issue with her operating an Airbnb. She stated that she has a full-time job in Mondovi, WI and felt that this would be a good use of the property since there is a demand for more places to stay in the City of Alma for tourists.

John Elliott, owner of the Tritsch House (601 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street) stated that there is a need for more lodging in the City of Alma.

Hearing no further testimony for the Airbnb application, Mayor Wilkie asked for those opposed to the application to speak.

No testimony against the application for the Airbnb at 506 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> was received.

Motion by Champeny seconded by Ruff to close the public hearing.

**October 18, 2018**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**5:30 p.m.**

Mayor Jim Wilkie opened the public hearing to the public regarding proposed Ordinance 18-02 No Parking in front of 120 S. Main Street.

No testimony was received by the public for or against the proposed ordinance.

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

**October 18, 2018**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**5:45 p.m.**

Mayor Jim Wilkie opened the public hearing to the public regarding proposed Ordinance 18-01 Establishing Motorcycle Only Parking in front of 603 N. Main Street (Kwik Trip).

No testimony was received by the public for or against the proposed ordinance.

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

**October 18, 2018**

**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, Richard Champeny, Gary Ruff, Monica Moham, Larry Farl and David Earney. Absent: Mary Johnson and Ron Geiselhart.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Champeny to approve the Council minutes of the September 6, 2018 meeting 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 Ruff to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. All members voting yes.

Citizen comments. None.

### **SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Chairperson Monica Moham informed the Council that the committee met on Sept. 12, 2018 and worked on budgets for 2019 budgets. Moham informed the Council that one of the items discussed was the police squad.

Police Chief Mike Johnson went over the cost analysis handout for a new squad with the Council. Chief Johnson explained that the current squad was not built as a police vehicle, therefore, there have been some minor issues.

Joe Wick, acting foreman, informed the Council that since the purchase of the pickup for the squad had the intent of being passed down to the city crew's fleet, he felt it was the right time to do so since a couple of the current vehicles are almost inoperable.

Mayor Wilkie stated that since the squad wasn't used for almost a year due to the absence of a chief of police, he felt the squad could go an additional year.

Police Chief Johnson stated that if the squad is not purchased this year, he will still need a new camera and radar for the existing squad.

Motion by Moham seconded by Champeny to table the purchase of the police squad for the future, however, approve the ordering of the new components needed for the existing squad. All members voting yes.

Motion by Moham seconded by Earned to adopt Ordinance #18-02 No vehicle parking in front of 120 South Main St. All members voting yes.

Motion by Moham seconded by Farl to approve Ordinance #18-01 Motorcycle only parking in front of 603 N. Main Street. Four (4) members voting No, one (1) yes Moham. Motion failed.

Police Chief Johnson informed the council that over 50% of the accidents he handles is in front of 603 N. Main St. (Kwik Trip).

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

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

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

Motion by Ruff seconded by Earney to approve Operator Licenses to: Timothy Anthony and Michelle Earney. All members voting yes.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Earney to approve a Combination Class B Beer & Liquor License to Empire Room Investments, LLC-Julie Lindstrom, agent for 211 N Main St. All members voting yes.

Motion by Farl seconded by Ruff to approve the 2019 Wages as presented. All members voting yes.

All employees received a .75/hr. increase; however, Perry Pronschinske received a \$2.00/hr. increase. Committee meetings for council members increased from \$40 to \$45 per meeting.

Motion by Champeny seconded by Farl to approve the Finance/Tax & License/Zoning Committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

### **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Joe Wick, Acting Foreman, went over the three compact tractor proposals with the Council. The committee at their budget meeting requested that Joe obtain the proposals and present to Council.

Discussion was held.

Motion by Earney seconded by Ruff to purchase the compact tractor 1025R from Preston Equipment Company in the amount of \$18,500.00. All members voting yes.

Discussion was held regarding amending the boat launch ordinance for clarification.

Police Chief Johnson explained that people have contested tickets stating that they didn't know if they paid before or after launching their boats.

Motion by Farl seconded by Champeny to table the amendment to the boat launch ordinance until the next committee meeting. All members voting yes.

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

### **UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

David Earney, acting chairman, informed the Council that the committee had met to prepare the 2019 budgets.

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

### **TOURISM COMMISSION**

Motion by Moham seconded by Ruff to approve the Tourism Commission minutes of August 17, 2018. All members voting yes.

### **LIBRARY LIAISON**

Farl informed the Council that the Library held a Science Fair at school and it was a success.

Motion by Moham seconded by Champeny to approve the Library Liaison report as presented.

Agenda Item 14: School bus use of lights and arm ordinance.

Police Chief Johnson informed the Council that the City of Alma needs to draft an ordinance so that school buses can use their lights and arms when there are sidewalks on both sides of the street. Currently state law does not allow school buses to use their lights and arms if there is curb and/or sidewalk on both sides of the streets.

Motion by Farl seconded by Moham to approve the Chief of Police working with the City Attorney Jon Seifert in drafting an ordinance for school bus use of lights and arms where this is curb and/or sidewalk on both sides of the street. All members voting yes.

### **PLANNING COMMISSION**

Chairman Mayor Jim Wilkie informed the Council that the Planning Commission had met this evening prior to Council and recommended denial of the Conditional Use Permit to Ali Rud to operate an Airbnb at 506 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Mayor Wilkie commented that each time a Conditional Use Permit is granted, there is a loss to the residential zoning and neighborhood.

Clerk Linda Torgerson informed the Council that she was notified by the Health Department regarding Ali Rud's Airbnb and that an inspection needs to be done prior to the renting of rooms to individuals. However, the Health Department informed Linda that the City must first approve or disapprove the Airbnb before an inspection can be done. Linda stated that she had sent Ali

Rud a cease and desist letter on September 17, 2018. Linda further informed the Council that Ali Rud continued to operate her Airbnb after the notice was given.

Ali Rud stated to the Council that she didn't continue to take reservations, however, those that had paid prior to receiving the cease and desist letter she let fulfill their reservations.

Attorney Jon Seifert stated to Ali Rud that she was to have ceased her operations and returned the money that those who had booked dated after Sept. 17, 2018.

Ali Rud stated to the Council that she lives at 506 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St in the upper apartment, however, when her and her daughter are not there she has rented this out as well.

Further discussion was held. Jarrad Fluekiger, owner of Hillcrest Hotel, stated that his business is always full, and Alma needs more lodging facilities. Jarrad Fluekiger spoke as a realtor on how he should proceed with interested buyers of homes regarding an Airbnb. Mayor Wilkie suggested that Jarrad check into the zoning of the properties that he has for sale. Attorney Seifert stated that the realtor should advise the prospective buyers of the zoning of the property and if a conditional use is needed, that this should be listed as a condition of sale.

John Elliott, owner of the Tritsch House at 601 S. 2<sup>nd</sup>, stated that he did not have any problems with the Airbnb and that in fact he has purchased a property on Main Street and the same intentions of using that property for an Airbnb.

Attorney Seifert informed the council and those present that the Village of Pepin is having the same issues with Airbnb establishments. An Airbnb does not register those staying, what vehicles they are driving, etc. like a motel establishment does and the Village of Pepin in finding out that the Airbnb establishments are being rented primarily for weddings and "partying" type of functions.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Earney to deny the Conditional Use Permit submitted by Ali Rud. All members voting yes.

Agenda Item 12: State reimbursement for training.

Police Chief Mike Johnson informed the Council that the City of Alma had received a check from the Dept. of Justice for reimbursement of training that was actually for the Village of Merrilan.

Motion by Moham seconded by Farl to reimburse the Village of Merrilan for the funds received for police training. All members voting yes.

Police Chief Johnson informed the Council that there has been false 911 calls (pranks) being made and currently the city's ordinances do not address this issue.

Motion by Champeny seconded by Ruff for the Chief of Police to work with the City Attorney in amending the city's disorderly conduct ordinance to include the misuse of 911. All members voting yes.

Police Chief Johnson informed the Council that he had spoken to the District Attorney who recommended that the City review their ordinances regarding smoking, e-cigarettes and vaping. According to Chief Johnson there is some issues with minors smoking cigarettes, e-cigarettes and vaping and currently our ordinances do not address this issue.

Motion by Moham seconded by Farl to instruct the Chief of Police to work with the City Attorney in developing an ordinance to address minors smoking cigarettes, e-cigarettes and vaping. All members voting yes.

No Mayor comments.

Upcoming meetings: Next Council will be Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Utilities will meet on November 7, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

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