

April 11, 2019

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, Ron Geiselhart and David Earney. Deceased: Mary Johnson.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Farl to approve the March 11, 2019 Public Hearing minutes regarding misuse of the E911 system as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Moham to approve the March 11, 2019 Public Hearing minutes regarding prohibition of minors using tobacco products and vaping as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Geiselhart to approve the March 11, 2019 Council Proceeding minutes as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Moham seconded by Ruff to approve the March 2019 Financial Report as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Earney seconded by Farl to approve the March 2019 Treasurer's Report as presented. All members voting yes.

Citizens comments. None.

FINANCE/TAX & LICENSE/ZONING COMMITTEE

Chairman Gary Ruff informed the Council that the committee had met this morning and acted upon the following:

Agenda Item 1: Vouchers/bills.

The committee reviewed and approved all vouchers, bills and receipts for March 2019.

Agenda Item 2: Building permits.

None.

Agenda Item 3: Building permit violations.

Linda informed the committee that she did have to send a letter to the property owners at 810 S. 2nd Street for non-compliance. Linda stated that they did not apply for a building permit and did not apply for a dumpster permit.

The committee discussed the good progress that has been done at the 401 S. Main property in bringing the home into compliance with the maintenance ordinance.

Agenda Item 4: Shawnee Estates

Mayor Wilkie had informed the committee that he had met at the Shawnee Estates property with a trail designer. The trail designer will draw up a trail plan for that area and it will be reviewed at that time. Mayor Wilkie stated that he felt the City would not need to acquire and/or trade much land owned by Glenn Kemp, however, the committee should decide on his request to purchase additional land as soon as possible.

Larry Farl recommended putting sold signs on the large sign at Shawnee Estates so that people looking at the lots at the physical location have an idea of the lots that have been sold.

Dave Earney inquired about the logger who wished to use part of the city farm to have a landing for the logs. Mayor Wilkie informed the committee that when the agreement was drawn up and he was notified, the logger stated he no longer needed this property.

Mayor Wilkie informed the committee that Joe Wick had brought to his attention the significant amount of erosion that is occurring on the field behind the cemetery and along the hillside leading to the landfill that is being rented out for farmland crops. Discussion was held.

Dave Earney informed the Council that he had checked into some of the programs that the city farm fields could be placed in and some environmental programs are available such as for tree planting and native grasses and wildflowers.

Agenda Item 5: Operator Licenses. None.

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

UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Chairman Ron Geiselhart informed the Council that the committee had met on March 25th and discussed the following:

- Oium Blacktop – discussed road projects for the year.
- Flood Preparation. Correctional persons and the Alma School students filled 10,000 sandbags total. Mayor Wilkie stated that Foreman Joe Wick has been documenting with notes and photos of what has been done during the flood preparation. Joe Wick informed the Council that there are 65,000 empty sandbags still available.

- High School Road – The school has approached the City to make High School Road a one-way street with entrance from the South and exiting onto Spring Creek Road.

Discussion was held.

Motion by Farl seconded by Geiselhart to instruct the city attorney to draft an ordinance making High School Road a one-way street with action to be taken at the May Council meeting. All members voting yes.

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

Mayor Wilkie stated that the Bank of Alma has requested the use of the parking stalls in front of the Bank for their customer appreciation day. (Day to be determined in June).

Motion by Moham seconded by Farl to grant the Bank of Alma the use of the parking stalls in front of the Bank of Alma for their appreciation day to be held in June. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Moham seconded by Farl to approve the following Resolution as presented:

RESOLUTION No. 19-02

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR BUFFALO COUNTY'S WINONA CONNECTOR PROJECT AND FLYWAY TRAIL'S EXTENSION TO MARSHLAND

WHEREAS, the City of Alma, Wisconsin, has committed by resolution to support the development of a multi-use trail in the highway 35 corridor in Buffalo County, named the Flyway Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Winona Connector Project by Buffalo County will connect the proposed Flyway Trail with Winona, Minnesota, a population center and large potential market for the Flyway Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Winona Connector Project represents an interstate connection for trail users in the states of Minnesota and Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the Winona Connector Project and extension via Flyway Trail to Wisconsin state trails at Marshland are key and crucial components of this trail development; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Alma:

SECTION I: That the City of Alma does hereby affirm its support for the "Recreational Regional Trails Plan" as stated in Resolution 435, adopted March 5, 2015.

SECTION II: That the City of Alma does hereby encourage Buffalo County to support and foster the construction of the Winona Connector Project.

SECTION III: That the City of Alma does hereby support the trail extension as part of Flyway Trail from the Winona Connector Project to the Great River Trail at Marshland, Wisconsin.

SECTION IV: This resolution shall take effect and be in full force at the earliest period allowed by law.

All members voting yes.

Mayor Wilkie addressed the Council regarding Agenda Item 8-old disposal plant.

Mayor Wilkie informed the Council that Jeremy Fernholz and his son would like to aesthetically restore the old disposal plant just north of the Alma South Landing.

Motion by Farl seconded by Geiselhart to authorize Jeremy Fernholz and his son to fix up the old disposal plant of a cost not to exceed \$500.00. All members voting yes.

Ron Geiselhart inquired about the project to beautify the Railroad depot buildings. Mayor Wilkie informed Geiselhart that the railroad would not allow the project.

Motion by Farl seconded by Geiselhart to approve the following Resolution:

International Migratory Bird Day

RESOLUTION #19-01

- **Whereas**, migratory birds are some of the most beautiful and easily observed wildlife that share our communities, *and*
- **Whereas**, many citizens recognize and welcome migratory songbirds as symbolic harbingers of spring, *and*
- **Whereas**, these migrant species also play an important economic role in our community, controlling insect pests and generating millions in recreational dollars statewide, *and*

- **Whereas**, migratory birds and their habitats are declining throughout the Americas, facing a growing number of threats on their migration routes and in both their summer and winter homes, *and*
- **Whereas**, public awareness and concern are crucial components of migratory bird conservation, *and*
- **Whereas**, citizens enthusiastic about birds, informed about the threats they face, and empowered to help address those threats can directly contribute to maintaining health bird populations, *and*
- **Whereas**, since 1993 International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) has become a primary vehicle for focusing public attention on the nearly 350 species that travel between nesting habitats in our communities and throughout North America and their wintering grounds in South and Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean, and the southern U.S., *and*
- **Whereas**, hundreds of thousands of people will observe IMBD, gathering in town squares, community centers, schools, parks, nature centers, and wildlife refuges to learn about birds, take action to conserve them, and simply to have fun, *and*
- **Whereas**, while IMBD officially is held each year on the second Saturday in May, its observance is not limited to a single day, and planners are encouraged to schedule activities on the dates best suited to the presence of both migrants and celebrants, *and*
- **Whereas**, IMBD is not only a day to foster appreciation for wild birds and to celebrate and support migratory bird conservation, but also a call to action,

NOW THEREFORE I, Jim Wilkie, as Mayor of the City of Alma, Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 4, 2019 as

International Migratory Bird Day

in the City of Alma, Wisconsin and I urge all citizens to celebrate this observance and to support efforts to protect and conserve migratory birds and their habitats in our community and the world at large.

Dated this 11th day of April in the year 2019.

All members voting yes.

Upcoming meetings:

Re-Organization – April 16, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

Services – April 17, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

Park & Recreation – April 17, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.
Services – April 17, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.
Utilities – April 18, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.
Board of Review—April 24, 2019 from 3 to 5 p.m.
W.U.T.A. Annual Meeting – April 24, 2019 in Madison
Council – May 6, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.
Finance—May 6, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.

Police Chief Mike Johnson informed the Council that the new squad will be in tomorrow, however, will not be in service until the 3rd week in May once equipment is all switched over. He informed the Council that he and Foreman Joe Wick are working on the surveillance cameras for city hall, parks and beach area. Other items Chief Johnson informed the Council about was the following:

- Radar equipment has arrived.
- Flood Run will be April 20th with assistance from the Mondovi Police Dept.
- CIS recording software is operational
- A rifle was purchased for the squad
- Air conditioning is out in the current squad but will be fixed before passing it on to the city crew

Mayor Wilkie, Council and those present held a moment in silence for Mary Johnson, council woman who passed away on March 26th.

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

