

August 8, 2019

PUBLIC HEARING

5:45 p.m.

*Just so it is noted in the record, the public hearing was cancelled due to the Planning Commission meeting being cancelled for the Conditional Use Permit for Clive Pace. The Planning Commission did not have a quorum to meet, therefore, no recommendation for the Conditional Use Permit could come to the Council.

August 8, 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 Grisen, Ron Geiselhart and David Earney. Absent: Larry Farl.

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

Motion by Ruff seconded by Geiselhart to approve the July 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's comments: None.

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 Moham to approve a Combination Class B Beer & Liquor License to WWBIG, LLC-Irene Wolf, agent for 121 South Main Street. All members voting yes.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Earney to approve Operator Licenses to: Jordan Deck, Morgan Bremer, Kaleb Krzyszton and Frank Lovas. All members voting yes.

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

SERVICES COMMITTEE

Chairperson Monica Moham went over the committee minutes of August 5, 2019.

One of the agenda items was the conditions of some of the properties in the City. One particular property, 510 S. Second Street was discussed at length regarding its unkept lawn and the condition of the home and garage on the property. Dave Earney expressed his recommendations of keeping communication open to the property owner and to involve a third party, building inspector, to conduct a building inspection, if necessary.

Mayor Wilkie stated that the approximate cost of a building inspector is between \$300 and \$500.

Motion by Moham seconded by Earney to hire a bonded lawn service for the lawn, bill the owner of the property and if not paid, place on the taxes as a special assessment and to empower the mayor after notification to the property owner of the condemnation process, that if no improvements are made, the city may have to go through this process and acquire the property in the best interest of the community. All members voting yes.

Dave Earney informed the Council that he had spoken with Lee Collins, Collins Plumbing, whose property was addressed for cleanup. Lee stated that he would have liked to have been personally approached rather than find out from someone at a meeting. Mayor Wilkie will be speaking to those property owners who need property improvements prior to the matter going to the committee for action.

Monica stated that one of the property owners, Tom Jensen (owner of the property at 509 S. Main) does not have a valid mailing address and the letter has been returned to the City.

Motion by Moham seconded by Earney to authorize service from the Sheriff's Department to individuals who are unable to be reached by mail service for property conditions notification letters. All members voting yes.

Police Chief Johnson spoke to the Council regarding boat launch/parking fees. Chief Johnson suggests adding “/parking” to the sign at the landings so that everyone knows it is a parking fee as well as a boat launch fee.

Council discussed the letter they had received from a boat landing user regarding a fine she had received for not paying for more than the one day that they had launched their boat even though they had parked for more than one day. Lengthy discussion was held.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Earney to rescind the tickets that were issued to those using the boat landing and being parked for more than the one day and to send a letter to that effect. Two members voting yes and five no by roll call vote; motion failed.

Ron Geiselhart informed the Council that he had sent a letter in response to the woman's complaint, however, supported the action of the Chief of Police regarding this matter.

Mayor Wilkie informed the Council that Rob Talbot had come into City Hall to express his dissatisfaction of meetings being held during the day and asked him to pass on the message to the Council that all meetings will have to be held in the evenings. Out of this visit, an incident

developed that should have been handled by a panic button being activated and strongly suggested that if a situation such as this would ever arise again, that it be activated.

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

UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Chairman Ron Geiselhart went over the minutes of the July 11th and July 18th committee meetings.

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

LIBRARY LIAISON

Mayor Wilkie stated that he was present at the Library Board meeting and was impressed.

Monica Moham informed the Council that she felt that the Wednesday programs were fantastic.

Mayor Wilkie stated that the Library Board meeting was very positive.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Ruff to approve the Library Liaison report as presented. All members voting yes.

Mayor Wilkie announced to the Council that he made an error in announcing last month that the Alma/Nelson Garden Club had disbanded. He stated that he has formally apologized to the Alma/Nelson Garden Club. This apology is scheduled for publication in the newspaper.

Next Council will be Thursday, September 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Public Hearing for Clive Pace will be Thursday, September 12, 2019 at 5:45 p.m.

Planning Commission for Clive Pace Conditional Use Permit will be Sept. 12, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

Finance will meet September 12, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

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