

January 7, 2021

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 (zoom), Gary Ruff (zoom) Monica Moham (zoom), Larry Farl (zoom), Larry Grisen, Gary Jepsen, and David Earney.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Jepsen to approve the Council Proceeding minutes of December 7, 2020 as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Earney to approve the December 2020 Financial Report as presented. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Larry Grisen asked Clerk Torgerson how taxes were coming in. Linda stated that they are coming in at about the same rate as last year.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Moham to approve the December 2020 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 approved all vouchers, bills, and receipts for December 2020.

Ruff informed the Council that two building permit violation letters will be going out for those who did not get a permit prior to construction.

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

JOINT REVIEW BOARD

Chairman Gary Ruff informed the Council that the TIF Joint Review Board met on Friday December 18, 2020.

The Joint Review Board meets annually to adopt the TIF Resolution. Ruff reported that the Board adopted the Resolution and adjourned.

Motion by Moham seconded by Earney to approve the Joint Review Board minutes as presented. All members voting yes.

UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Chairman David Earney informed the Council that this committee met on December 14, 2020. Earney went over the minutes from December 14th.

The committee discussed and/or acted upon:

- Hydrant installed on South Main across from Collin's Plumbing.
- Preconstruction meeting was held regarding the Clarifier Project.
- Winona Mechanical investigated if there was a leak that would explain the large amount of sludge lost. No leak was found.
- An energy audit was done for the water and sewer departments to recommend ways of saving money.
- Davy Engineering completed the annual End of Year Report for the phosphorus study.
- Sewer rates for un-metered customers was discussed. The City will continue as is until some factual figures come in determining the flow from those residents.
- The Dairyland Power water meter issue has not been resolved. The City continues to work with the meter company, Ferguson.
- There is an ordinance regarding the weight limit on alleys, which Alley Street is, at 5,000#. Joe stated that there is a sign up stating that weight limit.
- The committee, city foreman and Mayor Wilkie toured the roads and streets to come up with a list for 2021.
- Street projects for 2021 were:
 1. Sunset Drive (Upper and lower – possibly in two phases).
 2. Dunand Road
 3. Alley/Orange Street

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

Rick Champeny wanted to comment the Utilities Committee, Buffalo County Highway Department, Reglin and the City Crew for the great job of the guardrails and ditching they did on Riverview Drive.

Mayor Wilkie stated that he put jake braking on the agenda because of the complaints from residents on Vista Drive. The City does have an ordinance regarding jake braking and the City will need to install a sign heading south around Breckow's Landing. Wilkie stated that the City will need to get a permit from the Wisconsin D.O.T. to put up an additional sign.

Discussion was held regarding determining whether the truck must use the jake brakes or whether they are unloaded and just using them to create the noise. It was further discussed that the Harley motorcycles create as much noise as the jake braking does. The Utilities committee will investigate the jake braking issue at their next meeting.

Upcoming meetings:

Utilities-----Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Finance -----Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

Council-----Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Larry Farl stated he will need to have a Parks & Rec meeting, however, it will most likely be held by Zoom.

Richard Champeny commented that he had heard a rumor that the Buffalo County Health Department did not fill out the paperwork for Buffalo County residents to receive the vaccine. Mayor Wilkie stated that he did respond to that rumor and asked for clarification from the County. The Council requested from Mayor Wilkie that they would like the response from the County Health Department forwarded to them when it is received.

Monica Moham commented that the Services Committee will need to meet regarding property conditions, chicken survey and the animal control officer. Monica said she texted Amy Baker regarding the rumor that she had taken a full-time job and the City needed to know about her position as animal control officer for the City.

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