

**March 11, 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, Monica Moham (zoom), Larry Farl (zoom), Gary Jepsen and David Earney (zoom). Absent: Larry Grisen.

Motion by Champeny seconded by Ruff to approve the February 11, 2021 Council Proceeding minutes as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Jepsen to approve the February 2021 Financial Report as presented. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Moham seconded by Champeny to approve the February 2021 Treasurer's Report as presented. All members voting yes.

David Earney questioned the Cemetery Perpetual Care CD and Money Market Accounts. Linda explained that this is for perpetual mowing and trimming of the cemetery lot by the City and has nothing to do with the flowers for the urns.

No citizens were present to make any comments.

**HISTORICAL PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Commission member Larry Farl informed the Council that the Commission had met on February 26<sup>th</sup> for a building permit submitted by RODA Properties (David Becker) to build a storage building on the north part of the lot at 215 S. Main. The commission approved the application as submitted.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Jepsen to approve the Historical Preservation Advisory Commission report as presented. All members voting yes.

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Chairman Larry Farl informed the Council that the committee met March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Farl stated that the committee discussed the following:

- Tennis Court resurfacing update. Larry Farl stated he will have the proposal for resurfacing of the tennis court on next month's council agenda.
- Donation of flag at Buena Vista Park. Farl commented that the committee will be meeting at Buena Vista Park to go over location, size, lighting etc. Mayor Wilkie stated to Farl that the solar lighting that was talked about was only for a 20' flagpole and the flagpole being discussed is 35' in height. The committee needs to review all the

information regarding the flag and flagpole. Rick Champeny viewed the flag at the Lonnie Sass property and stated that the wind seemed to be hard on the flagpole. David Earney stated that the flag at the Herold Cemetery on the bluff must be replaced often due to the wind. Mayor Wilkie questioned how many city crew people would it take to handle a 10' x 16' flag. Foreman Joe Wick responded four.

- Beach shelter. Farl stated that the shelter project was downsized to fit four picnic tables and a possible stage. Mac Cherry was present and will be looking at the beach area for the Music and Arts Festival.
- Beautification projects were discussed for areas around the City. A dog park was discussed, Farl commented.
- Fishing tournaments. The committee approved two fishing tournament applications.
- Signage at the landings and parks were discussed. Mayor Wilkie suggested a sign at the boat landings as people are leaving that says, "thank you and what the boat launch money is used for". Mayor Jim Wilkie will draft wordage for the signs.

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

### **SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Chairperson Monica Moham informed the Council that the committee met on March 10<sup>th</sup> regarding the following issues:

- 1 hour parking request. This matter was tabled.
- Handicap parking. Police Chief Johnson will have an ordinance amendment to address violations of handicap parking.
- Underage drinking and social hosting. Police Chief Johnson will address this in the alcohol licensing ordinance for the committee to review.
- Fire concerns. Monica reported that Tom Brakke, Fire Chief, was present and announced the department will have the annual chili feed as to-go only. The to-go containers will be provided by the fire department.
- Solid waste concerns. Calvin had informed the committee that some changes will need to be made to the way the City monitors the landfill wells.
- Chickens. Monica turned the discussion over to Gary Jepsen, alternate for the Services Committee.

Gary Jepsen said that the Services Committee minutes should include adopting procuring of alcohol to the underage drinking ordinance amendment.

Gary Jepsen shared the information he had obtained from other municipalities that have adopted chicken ordinances and stated that he will have a sample ordinance put together for review by the committee and Council for April.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Farl to approve the Services Committee minutes and report as amended. All members voting yes.

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

Chairman Gary Ruff informed the Council that the committee had met this morning. The committee discussed and/or acted upon the following:

- Building permit application submitted by RODA Properties (Dave Becker) was approved to build a storage building on the north end of the property.
- Operator license application – Lana Rieck.

Motion by Ruff seconded by Moham to grant an Operator License to Lana Rieck. All members voting yes.

- Shawnee Estates. Mayor Wilkie addressed the committee and Council regarding a bike trail on the city property by Shawnee Estates. Mayor Wilkie stated that he would donate the money for a trail designer to come in and mark out a bike trail on the city property and conduct a feasibility study for the trail. Wilkie informed the Council that it will be a 3-mile loop trail.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Ruff to accept the donation from Mayor Wilkie of a feasibility study for a bike trail on the city farm property. All members voting yes.

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

## **UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

Chairman David Earney went over the committee minutes of March 3, 2021.

The committee discussed and acted upon the following:

- Update on clarifier loan process and grant. Earney informed the Council that the Mayor has obtained the local funding from the Bank of Alma until the Clean Water Fund Loan monies can be accessed.
- Jurowski billing update. Earney informed the Council that there are no payment requests from the contractor, Jurowski, at this time.
- Sewer monitoring for the unmetered areas. Earney reported that Mayor Wilkie had calculated that 21% of the total flow to the WWTP comes from the unmetered areas.
- River Street was televised and there may be some needed relining of the sewer.
- Amendment #2 to Owner-Engineer Agreement for the WWTP Clarifier Improvement Project. Mayor Wilkie read the description of modifications.

Motion by Earney seconded by Farl to approve Amendment #2 to Owner-Engineer Agreement, between the City of Alma resulting in a total of \$209,800.00. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

- Carwash sewer bills. This item was tabled.
- Lift Stations #2 & #4. Cal informed the committee that replacement for Lift Station #4 may have to be planned.

- County Road E resurfacing. Dave Earney stated that he had inquired about the resurfacing of Cty Rd E he had seen in the paper. He was concerned it was the portion of Cty E that adjoins the parking lanes. The resurfacing is from the stop sign on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street for E up to Dunand Road.
- Earney informed the Council that Foreman Joe Wick is obtaining quotes for a trade-in on a new bobcat.
- A new meter has been installed at Dairyland Power, Earney reported.

Earney stated that the committee is looking at outsourcing to determine what the sewer rates should be after the clarifier contract.

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

No Mayor comments.

Upcoming Meetings:

Council meeting-----Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Finance meeting-----Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

April 6, 2021 is Election. Polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m.

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