

June 8, 2023

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

6:00 p.m.

Mayor Robert Gross 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 Robert Gross, Richard Champeny, Larry Grisen, Monica Moham, Larry Farl, Loren Mueller, Gary Jepsen, and David Earney.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Mueller to approve the May 11, 2023 Council Proceeding minutes as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Moham seconded by Farl to approve the May 2023 Financial Report as presented. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Mueller to approve the May 2023 Treasurer's Report as presented. All members voting yes.

Citizens comments. No citizens were present.

FINANCE/TAX & LICENSE/ZONING COMMITTEE

Chairman Gary Jepsen informed the committee that the Joint Review Board for the Tax Increment Finance District held their annual meeting on June 6, 2023 at 2 p.m. Council all received prepared copies of the minutes.

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

Chairman Gary Jepsen reported on the May 25, 2023 committee meeting. Aarik Lackershire, Police Chief, submitted his resignation as full-time Chief of Police. Lackershire is working for the Buffalo County Sheriff's Department, however, can work for the City of Alma for a couple of days a week. Jepsen explained to the Council to keep the department's record keeping system going.

Motion by Moham seconded by Earney to approve the May 25, 2023 committee report as presented for the Finance/Tax & License/Zoning committee. All members voting yes.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Mueller to retain Aarik Lackershire as part-time Chief of Police at his current rate of pay. All members voting yes.

Jepsen then addressed Council agenda Item #16 Employee concerns. Jepsen informed the Council that the committee had shown an interest in a possible Ordinance Control Officer position. Jepsen stated that he spoke with Ken Passow, current seasonal employee, in his interest

in possibly being the City of Alma's Ordinance Control Officer. Jepsen explained to Passow that his role would include picking up boat launch payments and while there issuing tickets to those who do not have a launch pass in their vehicle. (This would be from all landings – South Landing, Marina, and Breckow's Landing). Jepsen further stated that Passow would collect the camping fees and ticket anyone who has not paid for camping.

Other duties for the Ordinance Control Officer would be looking for parking violations, unkept properties including lawns, building permit violations, dumpster permit violations, etc.

Discussion was held. Jepsen explained that there was not a need to advertise since Passow is an employee and the City is just giving him new responsibilities.

Mueller inquired when the Chief of Police position would be posted. Jepsen stated not for two or three months from now.

Jepsen stated that the Ordinance Control Officer could not write tickets for criminal or traffic violations.

Seifert stated that all it takes is an observer and Ken would be the observer and Linda would take complaints.

Monica Moham questioned if this is a thing we are trying out, the code enforcement officer. If Ken Passow says he is done, then what? Jepsen stated that he felt that this is the busy time of year and winter is not as busy so when the season starts up again next year, we will look at the need then.

David Earney inquired who would be the Ordinance Control Officer's direct supervisor and to whom he would be reporting. Jepsen stated he felt the Chairman of the Services Committee would be appropriate, however, he could report to him as Chairman of Personnel as well.

Motion by Champeny seconded by Farl to give Ken Passow additional duties to his employment with the City of Alma as Ordinance Control Officer at a rate of \$18.50 per/hour. All members voting yes.

Jepsen reported on the May 31st meeting at which time the committee met with the Buffalo County Sheriff, Buffalo County Chief Deputy, Buffalo City Mayor, and Cochrane Village President. The committee discussed the possibility of multi-jurisdiction sharing of police and equipment.

Motion by Farl seconded by Mueller to approve the Finance Committee report for May 31, 2023 as presented. All members voting yes.

Gary Jepsen reported on the committee meeting held this morning, June 8, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.

Motion by Champeny seconded by Farl to approve Operator License applications to:

- | # | Name |
|----|-------------------------|
| 1 | KORDIAK, DANIEL G. |
| 2 | BAUTCH, DAVID J |
| 3 | LANGHORST, VERNON J |
| 4 | DECKER, FELICIA |
| 5 | SCHULTZ, PAUL |
| 6 | REBELSKEY, EDWARD F |
| 7 | KURTZWEG, RAEANN J. |
| 8 | PALMER, ALDONA MARIE |
| 9 | MUELLER, LOREN |
| 10 | GANZ, DONALD J. |
| 11 | GREEN, GREGORY S. |
| 12 | NUZUM, DALE L. |
| 13 | REDING, DONALD C |
| 14 | SCHULTZ, THOMAS H. |
| 15 | NESS, DAVE |
| 16 | BURCE, TRAVIS J. |
| 17 | BABROS, WAYNE |
| 18 | FEULING, MICHAEL |
| 19 | KELLER, JAMES R |
| 20 | ERICKSON, TESS E |
| 21 | WAHLBORG, STEVEN C. |
| 22 | GRANER, STEPHANIE, M. |
| 23 | BUSCH, CLAIRE M. |
| 24 | BUSCH, ELIZABETH K. |
| 25 | LINDSTROM, JULIE A |
| 26 | WALKER, JOSEPH L. |
| 27 | WALKER, ELIZABETH |
| 28 | GRIFFITH, JENNIFER J.G. |
| 29 | STEVENS, JANINE |
| 30 | DANZINGER, DAVID J |
| 31 | KLEMME, KARLA L. |
| 32 | EPPEN, MADISON K |
| 33 | WILDE, KARI J. |
| 34 | HANSON, SANDRA A. |
| 35 | BOHNSACK, ELIZABETH R. |

- 36 HANSON, MARION E.
- 37 WALLERICH, TIMOTHY J

- 38 BAUER-WIECZOREK, CRYSTAL
- 39 BURCE, DANIEL J
- 40 EBERSOLD, SONYA K.
- 41 GALVAN, JOYCE A.
- 42 GRIFFITH, MELODY DAWN
- 43 KEELER, KAYLA K.
- 44 LOESEL, BRENDA J.
- 45 MUELLER, SAMUEL L.
- 46 REED, SHARAYA M.
- 47 RIECK, LANA M.
- 48 RIECK, SHARON M.
SCHARMER LANGHORST,
- 49 SARAH
- 50 BAUER, ALY
- 51 STIEHL, RILEY D.
- 52 BAUM, JANET E.
- 53 REINEKE, DAVID C.
- 54 GLASS, LORI L.
- 55 WIECZOREK, OLIVIA R
- 56 WALL, KELSEY S
- 57 LADUKE, ZOE J
- 58 BAKER, TIM J
- 59 GLEITER, BEATRICE M

- 60 BAKER, DONNA
- 61 BROWNELL, JACKIE M.
- 62 HANSON, KATI
- 63 IBACH, DREW H.
- 64 IBACH, ELISABET S.
- 65 OTTUM, BONNADINE
- 66 SALISBURY, LEE
- 67 BURT, ALLYN L.
- 68 BLANK, TABITHA
- 69 SEMLING, HEATHER
- 70 HENRY, KATHERINE M
- 71 SCHULTZ, BARBARA J

All members voting yes.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Farl to approve Combination Class “A” Licenses to Kwik Trip, Inc., Brenda Loesel, Agent, 603 N. Main Street and Riverside Bait and Liquor, LLC – Jody Cowden, agent, 200/202 S. Main Street. All members voting yes.

Motion by Champeny seconded by Mueller to approve the following Combination Class B Beer and Liquor Licenses:

American Legion Post #224, David Danzinger, Agent, 501 N. Main St.

Alfresco Pizzeria, Ethan Coey, Agent, 211 N. Main St.

Gregory A. Stevens, Dam View Bar, 415 N. Main St.

JLS Hospitality, LLC-Jerri L Schreiber, Agent, 201 N. Main St.

J E Walker, LLC- Elizabeth Walker, Agent, S1582 STH 35

Burlington Hotel Bar Shop LLC - Jennifer Griffith, Agent, 809 N. Main St.

Bill's Talk of the Town LLC – Lucas Chase, Agent, 107 N Main St.

Empire Investments LLC – Ethan Coey, Agent, 215 N. Main St.

Dylan Fluekiger, Red Ram Saloon, Agent, 207 N. Main St.

Bluestone Music, LLC – Joshua Griep, Agent, 121 S. Main St.

Danzinger Vineyards LLC – David Danzinger, Agent, S2015 Grapeview Lane

All members voting yes.

Motion by Moham seconded by Champeny to approve the following Class “B” Fermented Malt Licenses On Premise only:

Alma Rod & Gun Club, Travis Burce – Agent, 1562 CTH “I”

J E Walker LLC – Elizabeth Walker - Agent, 600 N. Main St.

All members voting yes.

Motion by Farl seconded by Mueller to approve a Class “C” Wine License-On premise only to J E Walker LLC-Elizabeth Walker – Agent, 600 N. Main St. All members voting yes.

Motion by Moham seconded by Farl to approve the proposal from Bauman Associates to provide Outsourced accounting.

Discussion was held. The proposal included assistance with month-end work such as:

- Reconciliation of property taxes, delinquent utility payments and special assessments
- Reconciliation of utility billing
- Reconciliation of payroll and related accruals
- Monitor restricted fund balances
- Reconciliation of interfund activity
- Monitor debt compliance

The proposal would also include two hours per month of consultations with municipality consultants/experts Eric Davidson or Joe Harrison such as the following:

- Budgeting
- Debt portfolio
- Cash management
- Assistance with multi-year capital improvement plan budgeting.
- Cost for 2023 will be \$56,500 and costs for 2024 will be \$57,100. Costs for 2023 will be less the amount already paid.

Six members voting yes. One no (Grisen) by roll call vote.

Agenda Item 7: Borrowing for mid-year municipal expenses.

The existing operational loan has a \$350,000 limit, at which time the City has reached. It is an estimated additional \$150,000 that will be needed to operate until the latter part of November when the Shared Revenue payment comes in. Discussion was held.

Motion by Champeny seconded by Mueller to authorize the signing of the amended operational loan with a limit of \$500,000 instead of \$350,000. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Agenda Item 10: Flood cleanup.

Mayor Gross stated that on May 11, 2023 students from the Alma High School assisted the city crew and the enhance Alma group for cleanup and beautification. Mayor Gross stated that he donated \$100 towards pizza for everyone at the park for lunch.

Gary Jepsen stated that a letter should be sent to the Enhance Alma Group, LuAnn Flury with special recognition. Champeny stated that he would send out a letter to her.

Enhance Alma sent a thank you to Mayor Gross for his \$100 donation.

Larry Grisen recommended that the letter to the students should include a thank you for the sandbagging they had done. Mayor Gross stated he will include that in the letter.

Agenda Item 11: Fishing tournament application.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Farl to grant a fishing tournament application to Josh Knutson/WBA for June 10, 2023 at the Alma South Landing. All members voting yes.

Agenda Item 12: Little league tournaments.

Mayor Gross stated that he will be directing traffic at the railroad tracks for parking.

Agenda Item 13: Compliance Maintenance Resolution.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Earney to approve the Compliance Maintenance Resolution for sewer operations for the year 2022. All members voting yes.

Agenda Item 15: Property concerns.

Loren Mueller stated that the Olson property across and just south of his property needs to be looked at.

Ordinance Code Control Officer Ken Passow, Police Chief Aarik Lackershire and the chairman of the Services committee will be inspecting properties.

Jon Seifert gave an update on the Matt Olson property, 318 South 2nd Street. He will check the status of the property and if he has not paid the citations, he will file a motion of contempt.

Agenda Item 14: Parked train noise update.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Farl to approve the letters drafted by Rick Champeny thanking the railroad for their action regarding the parked train horn noise and the Alma Rod & Gun Club for protecting the fishing float during the flood. All members voting yes.

FIRE DEPARTMENT LIAISON

Earney informed the Council that he had attended the fire department meeting on June 7th. He stated that the fire department is buying new turnout gear. They are planning burning structures for training and planning a summer cook out. Earney stated that everyone needs to thank the fire department for all their hard work.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Champeny to approve the Fire Department Liaison report as presented. All members voting yes.

LIBRARY LIAISON

Gary Jepsen reported that he attended the May 15th Library Board meeting. Discussion was held regarding current programming and increased library attendance. Jepsen further stated that the librarian is doing an outstanding job.

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

Upcoming meetings:

Utilities-----Tuesday, June 13th at 9:00 a.m.

Finance-----Thursday, July 13th at 8:30 a.m.

Council-----Thursday, July 13th at 6:00 p.m.

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