

**September 14, 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 Champeny seconded by Mueller to approve the August 10, 2023 Council Proceeding minutes as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Earney to approve the August 2023 Financial Report as presented. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

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

Citizen comments:

Warren Rivette, Wings Over Alma, spoke to the Council to inform them of all the functions that Wings Over Alma provides such as taking calls from tourists, answering tourists' questions when visiting Wings Over Alma. Rivette stated the costs that Wings Over Alma incurs and stated they depend on the donations to continue operating. Wings Over Alma sells tourist items such as T-shirts, coffee cups and other items.

Cheri Bunker, member of Wings Over Alma, stated that they send out in the mail packets of information about Alma when requested and the cost of mailing has increased. Cheri stated that everyone volunteers at Wings Over Alma.

Mayor Robert Gross did inform Warren and Cheri that the City does pay the electrical bill for Wings Over Alma.

The Mayor and Council thanked Warren and Cheri for their attendance and information.

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

Chairperson Gary Jepsen informed the Council that the committee had met this morning and one of the items was food trucks. Residents Jennifer Griffith and Rachel Rich were present and expressed their desires to have food trucks.

Jennifer Griffith, owner of the Burlington Hotel, expressed her desire to have a food truck parked across the street from her business so that her customers could have something to eat. Parking in the rear of her business may also be a possibility.

Rachel Rich, resident, would like to start up a coffee and baked goods truck and possibly park down across from Collin's Plumbing if the owners of the lot would approve it. Rachel stated that this was a dream of hers and would love to do this in Alma.

Jennifer Griffith was present at the Council meeting and spoke to the Council regarding her wishes for a food truck as she had stated in the morning to the Finance Committee, she no longer has a commercial kitchen at the Burlington and would like to have an option for her customers for food.

The owner of Two Scoops and a Bar Ice Cream Truck stated that she does go through the City of Alma on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month and is licensed in WI and MN. She was informed that she would need to apply for a direct sellers' permit.

Jennifer will check with the WI State Department of Transportation to see if there is a problem having a food truck parked alongside Highway 35 in the City of Alma. Griffith stated that the City should be open to more food options than it currently has.

All food vendors would have to be licensed with the State of WI.

Gary Jepsen stated that he has some model ordinances regarding food trucks to review and is willing to put together an ordinance that would fit the City of Alma.

Motion by Moham seconded by Farl to authorize Gary Jepsen to research food truck ordinances and prepare one that would suit the City of Alma. All members voting yes.

Jepsen stated that the committee met August 14<sup>th</sup> regarding moving forward with the hiring of a chief of police. The ad for the Chief of Police was reviewed and a salary set of \$59,000 to \$69,000. One application has been received so far and the applications are due tomorrow.

Motion by Champeny seconded by Moham to approve the August 14, 2023 Finance/Tax & License/Zoning committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Farl to approve a Class "B" Beer/Wine Picnic license to the Alma Chamber for September 16, 2023. All members voting yes.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Champeny to approve Operator Licenses to: Justin Passe and Tommy McClean. All members voting yes.

Jepsen stated that the committee discussed Shawnee Estates lot prices. Mayor Gross had informed the committee that he was approached by a couple who would like to purchase two lots; however, they would like to purchase them at the discounted price as if they had built a home.

Jepsen stated that the committee would like to discuss with Attorney Seifert the possibility of drafting a contract that would require them to pay \$500 per year for each year that a home is not built.

Motion by Champeny seconded Farl to table the Shawnee Estates lot prices agenda item. All members voting yes.

Motion by Champeny seconded by Moham to approve the September 14, 2023 Finance/Tax & License/Zoning committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

### **UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

Chairperson Larry Grisen informed the Council that the committee had met on September 12, 2023. Grisen went over the prepared minutes.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Earney to approve the Engineering Agreement with Davy Engineering. All members voting yes.

Motion by Moham seconded by Mueller to approve Resolution #23-06 Authorizing Mayor Robert Gross to act as the City's authorized representative for the Clean Water Fund project. All members voting yes.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Earney to approve Resolution #23-07 Reimbursement Resolution. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Earney seconded by Farl to approve the quote from Mann's Tree Service for the brushing along the staircase streets and removal of trees not to exceed \$6,500.00. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Grisen stated that the County's quote for doing the lower half of Swift Street, overlayment, is \$4,977.87.

Motion by Champeny seconded by Jepsen to approve the quote from the Buffalo County Highway Department for overlaying the lower part of Swift Street in the amount of \$4,977.87. All members voting yes.

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

### **SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Chairperson Rick Champeny went over the committee minutes of August 16, 2023.

Gary Jepsen had brought to the attention of the committee the cost of regular parking fines and also fines for parking in a handicap stall.

Motion by Champeny seconded by Grisen to bring to the Services Committee the discussion of parking fines on their next agenda. All members voting yes.

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

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Chairperson Larry Farl went over the committee minutes of August 16, 2023.

Motion by Champeny seconded by Mueller to approve the Parks and Recreation Committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

**LIBRARY LIAISON**

Liaison Gary Jepsen stated that he had attended the Library Board meeting. The meeting was largely composed of the 2024 budget. Jepsen stated that the Board agreed to give the employees a 3.9% increase and additional hours for Laura the librarian. Jepsen stated that the library is heavily used, and that library programming has been well received by patrons in the area.

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

Upcoming meetings:

October 10, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. -----Utilities  
October 12, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. -----Finance  
October 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. -----Council

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