

**March 13, 2025**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**5:30 p.m.**

Mayor Richard Champeny opened the public hearing to the public regarding the Conditional Use Permit application submitted by Dylan Fluekiger for a 40' x 50' garage at his residence, 1116 Riverview Drive.

No testimony was received for the conditional use permit application.

Deborah Eisenhutt, resident on Vista Drive, stated she was neither for nor against the conditional use permit, however, was concerned that the drainage was addressed so as not to affect the neighbors.

Hearing no further testimony for or against the conditional use permit application, Mayor Champeny closed the hearing.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Champeny opened the public hearing to the public regarding Ordinance #25-02: Feeding of wild animals prohibited.

Stacy Lewellyn, member of Alma Friends of Animals and resident on 2<sup>nd</sup> St, spoke in favor of the ordinance.

Hearing no further testimony for or against Ordinance #25-02, Mayor Champeny closed the hearing.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Champeny opened the public hearing to the public regarding Ordinance #25-03 establishing rules and regulations for the cemeteries.

No testimony was received for or against Ordinance #25-03, Mayor Champeny closed the hearing.

**March 13, 2025**

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**6:00 p.m.**

Mayor Richard Champeny 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 Richard Champeny, Davie Meier, Larry Grisen, Randy Brommer, Larry Farl, Loren Mueller, Gary Jepsen, and David Earney.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Jepsen to approve the Public Hearing minutes of February 13, 2025 regarding the re-zoning of the Industrial lots off of Shawnee drive to Business/Commercial. All members voting yes.

Motion by Meier seconded by Brommer to approve the Public Hearing minutes of February 13, 2025 regarding Ordinance #25-01 amending the sewer ordinance regarding sewer laterals in the R2 District. All members voting yes.

Motion by Farl seconded by Earney to approve the Public Hearing minutes of February 13, 2025 regarding the Offer to Purchase the Riverland Energy property. All members voting yes.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Meier to approve the Council Proceeding minutes of February 13, 2025 as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Brommer to approve the Financial Report for February 2025 as presented. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Earney to approve the February 2025 Treasurer's Report as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Brommer seconded by Earney to approve the Special Council meeting minutes of March 13, 2025 as presented. All members voting yes.

No citizens presented public comments.

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

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Mueller to grant Dylan Fluekiger a conditional use permit to construct a 40' x 50' garage on his property at 1116 Riverview Drive with the conditions as stated by the Planning Commission which were the following:

- Residential use only – no commercial use.
- No rentals
- No boarding of animals
- Installation of oversized gutters (5") with drainage to the north
- All construction materials, once complete, have to be removed and not placed on neighboring properties.

All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Tom Hogan, Steel Highway Railcam on You Tube appeared via zoom. Hogan gave a background of his railcams and where others are located. Hogan stated that the railcam would draw people to the City of Alma. He further stated that on his site he would be able to advertise on the banner events that are going on in the City of Alma.

He would like to install a camera on the fire station. What he would need from the city is power and internet access. Discussion was held.

Gary Jepsen requested that a contract be drafted between the City and himself and reviewed by the City Attorney prior to approval.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Brommer to approve the agreement with Tom Hogan for a railcam on the fire station pending receipt of a written agreement and approval from the City Attorney. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

### **UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

Chairperson Larry Grisen went over the committee minutes of March 10, 2025. Grisen informed the council that the committee had discussed and acted upon the following:

- Crackfilling High School Road . Approved the expenditure of up to \$1,000 to Tim Huebner.
- Approved street sweeping.
- Approved Alley brushing to Chance McQuiston for the following:
  1. From Water Street north to CTH E, cleaning and spraying at a cost of \$4,000.00.
  2. From CTH E north to Vine St., cleaning and spraying at a cost of \$2500.00.
  3. The quote is for the alleys only, which is a width of 10’.
- Discussed the snow removal budget. To date approximately 1/3 has been used and the Dairyland Power offsite has not been used to haul and dump snow.
- Vacuuming of the rocks from the crack sealing project were approved to Scott Construction and Fahrner Asphalt.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Street water concerns. A cross-contamination check plan will be done at the County Courthouse.
- Water line leak from hydrant at 601 S. Main St.
- Tree removal bid was approved to Chance McQuiston for the removal of 10 trees and spraying from 501 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> to Walnut St to prepare for the retaining wall repairs.
- Randy Brommer will be talking to Bill Boettcher, architect, regarding the viewing platform and the ADA requirements, if any.

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

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

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Earney to approve Mobile Home Park permits to Lorena Hungerford and Chad Webb. All members voting yes.

Jepsen stated that the committee approved two (2) building permits for new homes.

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

### **SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Chairperson Loren Mueller went over the committee minutes of March 11, 2025. The committee discussed and acted upon the following:

- Police update. The committee met with Sheriff Osmond and went over the contract details and special events for the officer to work.
- Proposed cemetery ordinance amendment for rules and regulations at the cemeteries.
- Animal concerns.

- Proposed ordinance restricting the feeding of wild animals.

Motion by Earney seconded by Brommer to approve Ordinance #25-03: Cemetery ordinance amendment for rules and regulations for the cemeteries. All voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Earney seconded by Meier to approve Ordinance #25-02: Feeding of wild animals prohibited. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Randy Brommer inquired if there would be a need for the Code Enforcement Officer once the officer from the County starts.

Jepsen stated that at budget time, the Code Enforcement Officers, amount was cut by one-half and that the officer would still, at times, need the CEO to handle some situations so his time is freed up.

Motion by Meier seconded by Brommer to approve the Services committee report as presented. All members voting yes.

### **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Chairperson Davie Meier went over the committee minutes of March 11, 2025. Meier informed the council that the committee discussed and acted upon the following:

- Tree removal. Meier stated that the tree removal at Hwy 35 and Rieck's Lake park went well.
- The bathroom update on bids for Rieck's Lake Park was reviewed and approved the quote from Adam Loewenhagen for the partitions in the amount of \$4,800.00 and recommended Council approval for the resurfacing of the floors in the amount of \$6,890.00.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Brommer to approve the quote from Adam Loewenhagen for the resurfacing of the floors in the women's and men's bathrooms at Rieck's Lake Park in the amount of \$6,890.00. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

- Meier informed the Council that six (6) loads of rip rap are needed at Rieck's Lake Park to save the shoreline. Cost is \$820/load for a total of \$4,920.00.
- Benches at Buena Vista Park were discussed. Since there are sufficient benches, those who wish to donate a bench, the committee will be discussing recommending picnic tables in their place.
- Little League Program for 2025. Mayor Champeny will be talking to Jeff Sedlmayr.

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

## TOURISM COMMISSION

Chairperson Davie Meier informed the Council that the tourism commission met March 11, 2025. Meier stated that the majority of the conversation was promoting tourism and what are the best advertising resources available.

Meier stated that the Chamber is looking at holding an event during the touring of the Lock & Dam.

The banners were discussed and the need for new ones.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Brommer to approve the tourism commission report as presented. All members voting yes.

Mayor's comments:

Mayor Champeny informed the council that he will be meeting with Johnson Monument company at the Alma Memorial Cemetery to discuss a possible columbarium for cremations.

Mayor Champeny stated that he will be contacting contractors who may be interested in being a building inspector for the City.

Grisen stated that paying for the building inspector course may be an incentive for someone.

Gary Jepsen stated that he would like to do something like that, however, it would be a conflict of interest.

Upcoming meetings:

Re-organization will be Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Next regular Council will be April 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Committee meetings:

Tourism will be April 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

Services will be April 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Parks and Recreation will be April 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.

Utilities will be April 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m.

Finance will be April 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.

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