

April 17, 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, Perry Iberg, Loren Mueller, and David Earney. Absent: Gary Jepsen.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Meier to approve the March 13, 2025 Public Hearing minutes regarding the Conditional Use Permit for Dylan Fluekiger. All members voting yes.

Motion by Brommer seconded by Earney to approve the March 13, 2025 Public Hearing minutes regarding Ordinance #25-02 Feeding of Wild Animals Prohibited. All members voting yes.

Motion by Meier seconded by Brommer to approve the March 13, 2025 Public Hearing minutes regarding Ordinance #25-03 Cemetery Rules and Regulations. All members voting yes.

Motion by Earney seconded by Mueller to approve the March 13, 2025 Council Proceeding minutes as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Earney to approve the April 15, 2025 Re-Organization minutes as presented. All members voting yes.

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

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

Citizens' comments. None.

SERVICES COMMITTEE

Chairperson Loren Mueller went over the minutes of the April 8th committee meeting. Things discussed were the possibility of opening up the upper lots at Alma Memorial Cemetery, an access road to the upper lots may have to be built due to the steepness so that vault companies are able to enter those lots and the purchase of a columbarium for cremations.

Aarik Lackershire, interim Chief of Police, informed the Council that he is tidying up loose ends in the office so that when the new officer comes to work for the City of Alma, the computers, files, etc. are in order for a smooth transition.

The Riverland Energy building will need different garage doors for the fire trucks. The Mayor is working with the architect regarding this matter.

Motion by Meier seconded by Earney 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 April 8th with the Council.

Meier reported that the bathroom remodel at Rieck's Lake Park is almost complete.

Meier informed the Council that he checked with the Corps of Engineers, and they will not allow the sale of firewood at Rieck's Lake Park.

Rip rap was approved for the shoreline at Rieck's Lake Park by the Corps, so long as the City of Alma is paying for the project.

Camping rates were discussed. More information is being obtained before committee recommendation.

Little League program was discussed. The ballfield parking sign has been installed.

The sign for the railcam was approved to go on the south end of the fire station.

Motion by Earney seconded by Brommer to approve the Parks and Recreation committee as presented. All members voting yes.

UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Chairperson Larry Grisen went over the committee minutes of April 14, 2025.

Motion by Brommer seconded by Mueller to approve Amendment #1 Owner Engineer Agreement with Davy Engineering in the amount of \$7,400.00. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Earney seconded by Meier to approve Change Order #1 for the Lift Station 4 Project removing the Biden sign at a savings of \$400.00. All members voting yes.

Grisen informed the Council that the city crew had to repair two water leaks on South Main and will be flushing hydrants at the water line dead end locations once a month. Dave Earney commented that a new valve was installed at the 601 S. Main Street leak location.

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

FINANCE/TAX & LICENSE/ZONING COMMITTEE

Committee member Larry Grisen went over the minutes of the April 14th committee meeting.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Mueller to grant a Combination Class B Beer and Liquor License to River Road Tavern, LLC-Dylan Fluekiger agent for 107 North Main Street. All members voting yes.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Brommer to approve the following Operator Licenses: Emily Jo Walker, Holly Burce, Sandra Hanson, April Bolduan, Alyssa Fritze, Bruce Auer and Lee Fluekiger. All members voting yes.

Motion by Earney seconded by Meier to approve the Proposal for Professional Services for remodel of the former Riverland Energy Building at 1225 S. Main Street in the amount of \$40,000.00. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Meier to approve the proposal submitted by Legend Technical Services, Inc. for an asbestos inspection at the Riverland Energy Building-1225 S. Main St. in the amount of \$3,440.00. All members voting yes.

The Council all received a copy of the proposed new sign for the new City Building.

Motion by Meier seconded by Earney to approve the sign for the new City Building at 1225 S. Main in the amount of \$3,100.00 from La Crosse Sign Company. All members voting yes.

Mayor Richard Champeny discussed with the Council the process of hiring a general contractor for the renovation work to be done at the Riverland Energy building. Mayor Champeny will research this and report back to the council.

Grisen informed the council that the committee discussed the need for a building inspector. There is someone interested in that position. The committee will work on compensation, cost for classes, etc.

Grisen informed the council that the committee approved a building permit to Paul Eppen, Danzinger Winery, for a storage shed.

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

TOURISM COMMISSION

Chairperson Davie Meier went over the minutes of April 15th. The commission approved new banners, and they have been ordered by Mayor Champeny.

The commission discussed different sources to advertise. Meier stated he will be placing an ad in the Our Wisconsin Magazine and Mayor Champeny is working with the WI Rural Electric Magazine to publish events going on in the City of Alma.

Motion by Earney seconded by Mueller to approve the April 15, 2025 Tourism Commission report as presented. All members voting yes.

LIBRARY

Mayor Champeny went over the DNR Maintenance Agreement that is required for the new library grant. Champeny stated that he signed the agreement on April 7, 2025 after confirming with the crew that the maintenance can be done.

Motion by Earney seconded by Meier to approve the April 7, 2025 signing of the DNR Maintenance Agreement for the new library. All members voting yes.

Agenda Item #15 Discuss the prospect of selling City owned property (vacant lots) was discussed briefly and tabled.

Agenda Item #17 Discuss committee goals and accomplishments. Larry Grisen stated that each committee should go over what they have done in the past, what they need to do in the future, etc. so that everyone is aware of what is going on in the committees. This will be an agenda item for the committees.

Next Council: May 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Upcoming meetings:

Services -----May 6, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.
Utilities-----May 12, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.
Finance-----May 12, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.
Park & Recreation-----May 13, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Aarik Lackershire addressed the Council how important a building inspector is when going to court. The inspector will have the documentation needed to present any case turned over to the court system.

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