

November 20, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING

5:30 p.m.

Mayor Richard Champeny opened the public hearing to the public regarding the proposed 2026 Budget for the City of Alma.

No testimony received in favor of the proposed 2026 Budget for the City of Alma.

John Hadley, W1839 Kali Lane, stated he was against the proposed 2026 budget because he felt the City of Alma cannot afford the debt service.

Hearing no further testimony for or against the proposed 2026 Budget for the City of Alma, Mayor Richard Champeny closed the public hearing.

November 20, 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: Richard Champeny, Davie Meier, Larry Grisen, Randy Brommer, Perry Iberg (zoom), Loren Mueller, Gary Jepsen, and David Earney.

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

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

Agenda Item 8: Alma-Blair Transmission Project-Dairyland Power-Leland Swift.

Leland Swift, appearing by zoom, explained to the Council that Dairyland Power needs three forms signed by the City for their project: Survey consent form, WI Public Lands Field Archaeological permit form, and request to disturb an uncatalogued human burial site. Swift stated that the disturbance would be by hand digging and immediately backfilled after soil sample is obtained. Dairyland Power will pay the City \$400 for this request.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Meier to authorize the signing of the survey consent form, WI Public Lands Field Archaeological permit form, and request to disturb an uncatalogued human burial site form for Dairyland Power's Alma-Blair Transmission Project through the City of Alma. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Meier seconded by Mueller to approve the Council Proceedings of October 16, 2025. All members voting yes.

No citizen comments were received.

UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Chairperson Larry Grisen informed the Council that the committee had met on October 20, 2025 to prepare the Utilities budgets for 2026.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Meier to approve the Utilities committee report for October 20, 2025 as presented. All members voting yes.

Chairperson Larry Grisen reported on the committee minutes of November 10, 2025.

The committee discussed the purchase of a dump truck.

Foreman Joe Wick informed the Council that the 2002 GMC dump truck that was primarily used to haul snow did not pass DOT inspection and a replacement truck is needed as soon as possible to haul snow.

Motion by Earney seconded by Brommer to approve up to \$50,000 for a replacement dump truck. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Larry Grisen stated that the City should set aside money each year for vehicles and equipment future needs, so the money is there.

Grisen went over the Change Orders for the Lift Station #4 project.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Brommer to approve Change Order #3 in the amount of \$4,370.00 for the additional detour signage required by the WI DOT. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Earney seconded by Meier to approve Change Order #4 in the amount of \$3,622.50 for location finds due to incorrect city record drawings for underground pipes. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Brommer seconded by Earney to approve Change Order #5 in the amount of \$6,514.76 for repair of 18" diameter storm drain that crossed over top of the 10" diameter sanitary sewer pipe. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Earney seconded by Iberg to approve Change Order #6 in the amount of \$2,907.31 for replacement of sanitary manhole MH4. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Earney seconded by Brommer to approve the Cummins/Onan-generator for Lift Station #4 in the amount of \$38,758.27 to be paid with the Clean Water Fund monies. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

John Hadley inquired about Phase I and II of the retaining wall project on North 2nd St. The contract guarantee is 5 years, however, the wall should last 75 years according to GSI.

Stacy Lewellyn, resident appearing by zoom, was in the project zone for the retaining wall, wanted to compliment the process of the project. She stated that the process was impressive and the company was very respectful to the property owners located within the project zone.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Brommer to approve the Utilities Committee report of November 10, 2025 as presented. All members voting yes.

FINANCE/TAX & LICENSE/ZONING COMMITTEE

Chairperson Gary Jepsen informed the Council that the committee had met on October 20, 2025 to develop ads for City Clerk-Treasurer and Deputy Clerk and where to publish the ads.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Meier to approve the Finance/Tax & License/Zoning committee report of October 20, 2025 as presented. All members voting yes.

Chairperson Gary Jepsen went over the committee minutes of November 10, 2025.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Meier to approve the Pay Request #2 for the Library Project in the amount of \$39,002.78. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Iberg seconded by Brommer to allow Laura Petterson, Library Director, to apply for grants from Dairyland Power and BNSF Railroad for bird safe windows for the new library. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Jepsen commented that the Quit claims for lots #24 and 27 at Shawnee Estates will be forthcoming.

Jepsen stated that he felt all of the committees did a great job in preparing budgets for 2026.

Motion by Earney seconded by Mueller to adopt the 2026 Budget for the City of Alma as presented. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Agenda Item 14: USDA design request for grading proposal.

The Council reviewed the design for the grading for the USDA building to be located on Lot #1 of the former industrial sites.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Meier to approve the grading plan for Lot #1 as presented. All members voting yes.

Agenda Item 16: Acceptance of Solar Moonshot grant.

Motion by Brommer seconded by Grisen to accept the solar moonshot grant in the amount of \$20,000 for assistance in paying for the solar panels for the new library. All members voting yes.

Agenda Item 17: Acceptance of grant award from the Couilliard Foundation for 40 of 80 solar panels for the new library.

Motion by Meier seconded by Brommer to accept the grant award from the Couilliard Foundation for 40 of 80 solar panels for the new library. All members voting yes.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Meier to approve the Finance/Tax & License/Zoning committee report of November 10, 2025 as presented. All members voting yes.

Gary Jepsen went over the committee minutes of November 17, 2025.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Earney to approve the appointment of Sharaya Reed as Clerk-Treasurer beginning January 5, 2026 at a beginning wage of \$29/hour and to increase her wage to \$30.50 after her probationary period of six months, which will begin on July 5, 2026, and on January 6, 2027 after a favorable performance evaluation, an additional rate increase will be offered. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Deputy Clerk Sharaya Reed addressed the Council thanking them for their confidence in her and thanked Linda for her 43 years of experience with the City of Alma.

Interviews for Deputy Clerk will be held on December 2, 2025.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Grisen to approve the Modification Loan Agreement for the Lift Station #4 project as presented. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Earney seconded by Mueller to approve the Modification Loan Agreement for the Retaining Wall Loan on North 2nd Street as presented. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Brommer seconded by Grisen to approve the Finance/Tax & License/Zoning committee report of November 17, 2025 as presented. All members voting yes.

SERVICES COMMITTEE

Chairperson Loren Mueller went over the committee minutes of November 4, 2025.

Mueller stated that the cemeteries signs for cemetery rules are on order.

The committee approved putting into the budget an ambulance outlay of \$5,000 per year, along with other municipalities, for a future ambulance.

Mueller stated that police and property concerns were discussed. A new fine structure will be presented for property violators.

Motion by Earney seconded by Meier to approve the Services committee report for November 4, 2025 as presented. All members voting yes.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Chairperson Davie Meier went over the committee minutes of October 21, 2025.

Dirt work at Rieck’s Lake Park is complete and discussion was held regarding a shelter for the beach.

Meier reported that the committee did the 2026 budgets.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Brommer to approve the Park and Recreation committee report for October 21, 2025 as presented. All members voting yes.

TOURISM COMMISSION

Chairperson Davie Meier went over the commission minutes of October 21, 2025.

Motion by Earney seconded by Mueller to approve the Tourism commission minutes of Oct. 21, 2025 as presented. All members voting yes.

BOARD OF REVIEW

Chairperson Larry Grisen reported on the minutes of the Board of Review of November 18, 2025. Two taxpayers appeared before the Board of Review. A revaluation of the City was done this year to come into compliance with the State of WI Department of Revenue’s values.

Motion by Meier seconded by Mueller to approve the Board of Review report of November 18, 2025 as presented. All members voting yes.

Mayor comments:

Mayor Richard Champeny informed the Council that Lien & Peterson, architects for the remodel of the former Riverland Energy building, will be presenting plans to be approved by the State and once this is done then the plans can go out for bid.

Upcoming meetings:

- Dec. 2, 2025 at 9 a.m.-----Services
- Dec. 8, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.-----Utilities
- Dec. 8, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.-----Finance
- Dec. 9, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.-----Tourism
- Dec. 9, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.-----Parks and Recreation

Council – December 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

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

