

**January 16, 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 (zoom), Loren Mueller, Gary Jepsen, and David Earney (zoom).

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Meier to approve the December 12, 2024 Public Hearing minutes regarding Ordinance #24-07 Room Tax. All members voting yes.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Mueller to approve the December 12, 2024 Council Proceeding minutes as presented. All members voting yes.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Earney to approve the December 2024 Financial report as presented. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Mueller to approve the December 2024 Treasurer's Report as presented. All members voting yes.

Citizens' comments. None.

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

Chairperson Gary Jepsen went over the committee meeting minutes of January 13, 2025.

Chairperson Gary Jepsen informed the Council that the broadband into the Industrial lots will be happening in the near future.

Jepsen stated that there are two applicants for the County position to provide law enforcement to the City of Alma.

Jepsen informed the Council that the draft agreement for the library grant has been reviewed and is ready for the Mayor's signature.

Motion by Mueller, seconded by Meier to authorize the Mayor to notify the Department of Administration that the draft copy of the library grant is approved by the city. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Jepsen informed the Council that the property that the school will be donating to the city for the new library needs to be surveyed. These monies are not covered by the grant.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Earney to approve the survey cost of \$3,860.00 from Paragon Associates for the new library site by the school. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Jepsen seconded by Mueller to approve Chosen Valley Testing, Inc. for the Environmental Report (\$7,500) and geotechnical and environmental services (\$8,200) for a total of \$15,700.00 as required by the library grant. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Jepsen stated that the environmental fees will be covered by the grant.

Motion by Meier seconded by Mueller to approve the FEH architect bill for \$11,891.00 and submit for the draw down money once invoices have reached the required minimum pay request of \$25,000.00. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Meier to move forward with the title work for the school property for the new library and work with the school's attorney. All members voting yes by roll call vote.

Motion by Meier seconded by Mueller to approve the Finance/Tax & License/Zoning committee report as presented.

### **SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Chairperson Loren Mueller went over the committee minutes of January 7, 2025. Mueller stated that the committee will be presenting a new cemetery ordinance which will list the rules of the cemetery to include, but not limited to no food, drinks, fires, etc. will take place at the cemeteries. The cemetery support group has offered suggestions for the ordinance as well.

The Dairyland Power land for snow removal will be marked out soon so that the crew can haul snow to that site instead of at Rieck's Lake Park.

The new fire tender truck will arrive this Wednesday. The fire department will be listing the old one on the WI Surplus auction site.

Jepsen stated that there is a correction to the committee minutes under Agenda Item 5 paragraph two. The paragraph should read the following: Jepsen to review the language of feeding of wild animals and put something together for the committee to review at the next meeting.

Motion by Grisen seconded by Meier to approve the Services committee report with the minutes as amended. All members voting yes.

### **UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

Chairperson Larry Grisen went over the committee minutes of January 13, 2025.

Motion by Mueller seconded by Earney to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract documents for the Lift Station #4 project. All members voting yes.

The committee developed and approved a leak policy Grisen stated. When a customer comes in and asks for a decrease on the sewer portion of their bill due to an unforeseen leak, there will be a form to fill out and the committee will determine if within the policy guidelines, the customer will see a reduction.

An ordinance for the requirement of sewer laterals for each dwelling in the R2 district will be forthcoming.

A survey is being conducted on North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to determine rights-of-way for the wall on the east side of the street.

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

Motion by Grisen seconded by Mueller to enter into CLOSED SESSION under WI Stats. 19.85 (e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. All members voting yes.

#### CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Grisen seconded by Meier to reconvene into Open Session. All members voting yes.

Larry Grisen informed the Council that himself, Deputy Clerk Sharaya Reed and Clerk Linda Torgerson attended an Innovation Planning Grant webinar and Innovation Grant. Grisen explained that the City will be applying for the Innovation Grant because the City is transferring police service to the County. Other qualifications included fire, EMS, and roads if the city would be contracting out those services instead of providing the services using city workers, equipment, etc.

#### Upcoming meetings:

The council will be February 16, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. with public hearings prior to the Council meeting.

Services -----Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.  
Utilities -----Monday, February 10, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.  
Finance -----Monday, February 10, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.

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