

**Alma, Michigan**  
**July 24, 2007**

Mayor Nyman called a regular meeting of the Alma City Commission to order at 6:06 p.m. at the Alma Municipal Building.

**Present:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**Absent:** Moes,

Mayor Nyman asked the City Commission and members of the audience to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Nyman advised that there will be an addition to the agenda under New Business: A presentation by Mike Sawruk and the request for a resolution of support.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Comer to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2007 regular meeting as submitted.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Mapes seconded by Commissioner Legene to receive the communication from Mr. Tom DeFauw resigning his position on the Local Finance Development Authority due to relocation.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Dancer to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda for payment: \$1,740.67 to Morning Star Publishing Company for June publications; \$1,741.50 to Scholten Fant Attorneys for professional services rendered for the month of June; \$1,750 to McGuirk Sand & Gravel, Inc. for sludge pond grading; \$226,636 to Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority for annual liability premium; \$4,298.57 to Gratiot County Treasurer for consent judgment on parcel 29-51-354-530-10.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Mapes seconded by Commissioner Comer to approve the request to purchase in the amount of \$1,586 to Cannon Water Technology, Inc. for one 6" mag meter and power supply for use at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Legene seconded by Commissioner Dancer to approve the request to purchase in the amount of \$1,592.63 for five motor starters from Medler Electric Company for replacement of starters at Wastewater lift stations #3, #5 & #7.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Mapes seconded by Commissioner Ayers to approve the request to purchase in the amount of \$1,778 for two vactor truck nozzles from Great Lakes Services & Supply, Inc. for use by the Municipal Garage Services Division.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Mapes seconded by Commissioner Comer to approve the request to purchase in the amount of \$4,495 for one service box from Knapheide Truck Equipment for the Water Department new truck.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Mapes seconded by Commissioner Legene to approve the request to purchase in the amount of \$4,992.80 from Rivertown Contractors for a sidewalk connection between the Alma Public Library and the new Riverwalk.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Mapes seconded by Commissioner Ayers to receive the bids and to award the bid for the 2007 Capital Improvement Project to the low bidder McGuirk Sand & Gravel, Mt. Pleasant in the amount of \$503,634.00.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Comer to adopt a resolution electing the following individuals as Trustees to the Michigan Municipal Workers' Compensation Fund for two-year terms beginning October 1, 2007: Gretchen Driskell, Incumbent, Mayor, City of Saline; Ralph Maccarone, III, Incumbent, Supervisor, Shelby Township; and Larry Nielsen, City manager, City of Bangor.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Comer seconded by Commissioner Dancer to adopt a resolution approving the final plat for the Alma Industrial Park North.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Commissioner Mapes seconded by Commissioner Comer:

**Whereas**, the Planning Commission developed the City of Alma Master Plan and the City Commission adopted said plan in December, 2002; and,

**Whereas**, the 2002 City of Alma Master Plan addresses the future land use of the Riverfront area and proposes said area to be zoned as the Waterfront District; and,

**Whereas**, the Alma City Commission adopted a revised zoning ordinance that includes a district known as Waterfront District; and

**Whereas**, the City Commission for the City of Alma desires the redevelopment of the riverfront as envisioned in the Downtown Waterfront Brownfield Project Master Plan for Redevelopment; and,

**Now, Therefore Be It Resolved** by the City Commission that it desires to formally start the process of rezoning the land adjacent to the Pine River as outlined in the City of Alma Master Plan; and

**Be It Further Resolved** that this matter is hereby referred to the Planning Commission for review, public hearing and a formal recommendation back to the City Commission.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Legene seconded by Commissioner Mapes to adopt a resolution authorizing the execution of MDOT Contract No. 2007-0668 between the Michigan Department of Transportation and the City of Alma for the rehabilitation of runway 9/27 and the taxiway, as further defined in contract no. FM-29-03-C21, and to authorize Mayor Nyman to execute the agreement on behalf of the City of Alma.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Dancer to receive the following reports and place them on file: Alma Police Department June reports; Alma Fire District June report; Alma Downtown Development Authority minutes of 6/14/2007; Greater Gratiot Development Board of Directors meeting minutes of 6/8/2007; Greater Gratiot Development 2007 Tax Track Executive Summary; Alma Housing Commission meeting minutes of 6/26/2007; DART & Bus Depot June reports; ZBA minutes of 1/22/2007; June Financial Statements.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Comer seconded by Commissioner Ayers to adopt a resolution ratifying the investment of the following City funds on 7/18/07:

<u>Investment Date</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Interest \$</u>	<u>Bank</u>	<u>Type</u>
07/18/07	10/15/07	\$400,000	89	5.45%	\$5,389.44	Flagstar	CD

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Mr. Mike Sawruk, developer of the Great Lakes Energy Research Park made a presentation to the City Commission on the progress of seeking federal support for the proposed Great Lakes Energy Research Park. Last October 2006, application was made to receive \$135 million in tax credits for the Great Lakes Energy Research Park development. Seventy-seven applications were received but only eleven were awarded tax credits. Mr. Sawruk told the Commissioners that he was in Washington DC last week and had met with the Department of Energy. He had encouraging feed back on the prospect of obtaining tax credits in the 2008 Energy Tax Bill. The 2008 Energy Tax Bill will raise the amount of tax credits and tag the Great Lakes Energy Research Park project as high priority. Senator Debbie Stabenow is serving on a Senate sub-committee that will be reviewing and recommending the raise in tax credits. Mr. Sawruk is asking the City Commission to adopted a resolution of support urging Senator Debbie Stabenow to take every possible step in seeking federal support for the proposed Great Lakes Energy Research Park

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Commissioner Mapes seconded by Commissioner Comer

**Whereas,** The City of Alma City Commissioners are seeking Federal support for the proposed Great Lakes Energy Research Park in Alma, Michigan;

**Whereas,** Phase one of this project will create 750 construction jobs and 280 permanent jobs in the Mid-Michigan area;

**Whereas,** The City, County and State of Michigan are experiencing unemployment rates that are at 12 year highs;

**Whereas,** The City of Alma, City of St. Louis, and Pine River Township already passed Conditional Annexation (Public Act 425) Agreements and Municipal Services Agreements that demonstrate the high level of collaboration needed for this project;

**Whereas,** This project will greatly enhance the availability of energy for the whole state, create an opportunity to rejuvenate Michigan's oil production industry, create alternative energy research and production while providing great environmental benefits such as: properly close 3,000 to 7,000 old oil wells; capture carbon dioxide, mercury and sulfur; reuse gray water for industrial purposes; redevelop brownfield property;

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved,** that the City of Alma, Michigan respectfully urges Senator Debbie Stabenow to take every possible step to insure that the Great Lakes Energy Research Park Project, to be located at Alma, Michigan, is supported in the United States Senate through: Inclusion in federal tax legislation, currently being considered in the Senate Finance Committee, of language that will require, either through an increase in the overall tax credits made available or a dedication of an adequate level of existing credits, that a portion of tax credits under Section 48A(a) of title 26, United States Code (relating to qualifying advanced coal project credits), are allocated to projects, like the Great Lakes Energy Research Park Project, that will produce clean energy from coal, actually capture and sequester carbon dioxide over the long term, and utilize the carbon dioxide for Enhanced Oil Recovery from domestic reserves.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Mr. Sawruk also wanted the Commissioners to know and give thanks to Representative Camp for his strong language in asking for support for the Great Lakes Energy Research Park Project and for MDEQ Director Steve Chester's directive commenting on the Project as being a monumental step.

Mayor Nyman suggested City staff to compose a letter of thanks to MDEQ Director Steve Chester.

Motion by Commissioner Legene seconded by Commissioner Dancer to have City staff to compose a letter of thanks to MDEQ Director Steve Chester.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Comer to approve Warrant No. 08-02 and to authorize the City Treasurer to issue checks in payment of all claims.

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes & Nyman.

**No:** None.

Brian Smith County Administrator and Don Schurr Greater Gratiot Development Director informed the Commission that Gratiot County Board of Commissioners had passed the same resolution as was presented to the Alma City Commission.

Mayor Nyman thanked Chelsea Foster, Greater Gratiot Development, Inc. for the presentation he made on CMU public radio regarding the Great Lakes Energy Research Park

Mr. Sawruk thanked the Commission for their support and help, without it the project would not be progressing.

The Commissioners and City Attorney Tony Costanzo thanked Mr. Sawruk for bringing this project to the City of Alma and for his perseverance in getting the project to where it is today.

Commissioners Mapes, Dancer and Legene thanked the City Crews for their fast response and for their cleanup efforts after the storm on Wednesday.

City Manager Phillip Moore wanted to impress on the Commissioners, if they had not done so, to visit the new Emergency Room at Gratiot Medical Center. The Commissioners should show their appreciation for such a high tech facility to be in the City of Alma.

Motion by Commissioner Mapes seconded by Commissioner Legene to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 pm

**Yes:** Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, & Nyman.

**No:** None.

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Melvin A. Nyman, Mayor

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Shelia J. Letourneau, Deputy City Clerk