

**Alma, Michigan
October 9, 2007**

Mayor Nyman called a regular meeting of the Alma City Commission to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Alma Municipal Building.

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

Absent: None.

Mayor Nyman asked Kent Feiss, member of Boy Scout Troop # 609 of St. Louis, to lead the City Commission and members of the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Moes seconded by Commissioner Comer to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2007 regular meeting as submitted.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Mapes seconded by Commissioner Dancer to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda for payment: \$8,873.25 to Greater Gratiot Development, Inc. for economic development first quarter payment; \$2,264.07 to Fortino, Plaxton, Moskal & Costanzo for September legal services rendered; \$113,166.25 to US Bank for interest for City of Alma Revenue Bond Water System Improvement Series 1995; Gemstone GO Bond 2006; Gemstone S/A Bond 2006; CIP Bond Series A 2005 – WWTP; and CIP Bond Series B 2005- Water; \$8,427.50 to Firstbank for interest for City of Alma GO Bond 2007 Series roads; S/A Bond 2000 Series roads.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Comer to approve the request to engage Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc. in the amount of \$2,900 for engineering services related to the City of Alma water system hydraulic model calibration.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Mapes seconded by Commissioner Comer to approve the request to engage Rowe, Inc. in the amount of \$6,650 to provide design survey for Eastward and Elmwood Streets in conjunction with the 2008 Capital Improvement Program.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Legene seconded by Commissioner Dancer to approve the request to purchase in the amount of \$10,732.96 from EDS 8 Dell Optiplex 745 minitower computers for use at the Alma Public Library under the State of Michigan purchasing contract.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Mapes to approve the request to purchase in the amount of \$14,757.82 from EDS 11 Dell Optiplex 745 minitower computers for use at City Hall under the State of Michigan purchasing contract.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Mapes seconded by Commissioner Comer to approve the request to purchase in the amount of \$2,762.64 from EDS 11 Microsoft Office 2007 Standard and one media CD for use at City Hall under the State of Michigan purchasing contract.

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

No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Moes seconded by Commissioner Legene to approve the request to purchase in the amount of \$10,510 from WatchGuard In Car Video two DV-1 overhead system-in car digital cameras and related equipment and installation for use by the Alma Police Department under the State of Michigan purchasing contract.

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

No: None.

A public hearing to consider a request from Avalon & Tahoe Manufacturing, Inc. for a PA 198 Tax Exemption Certificate was held at 6:05 p.m. Don Schurr, President, Greater Gratiot Development introduced Frank Nerychel who addressed the City Commission and audience. He announced that Avalon & Tahoe was one of a few pontoon manufacturers in the country that showed an increase in sales this past year. The current project includes upgrades to the company's computer system, installation of 7 new sewing machines, water jet cutter, vacuum sheet lifter, dust collector, additional warehouse racking and various tooling. The estimated installation cost of the machinery and equipment will be 379,908. The time schedule from start to finish of the equipment installation is April 17, 2007 through October 1, 2007. Avalon plans to retain all existing jobs as a result of this project and create up to 7 additional jobs within two years of the project completion.

There being no further questions or comments, the public hearing was closed

Motion by Vice-Mayor Moes seconded by Commissioner Legene to close the public hearing at 6:13 p.m.

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

No: None.

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

Whereas, application has been made by Avalon and Tahoe Pontoon Mfg., Inc., to the City of Alma for an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate under P.A. 198, and

Whereas, on August 13, 1985, an Industrial Development District was established by the Alma City Commission, and

Whereas, the District is described as follows:

BEG AT A PT 966.86 FT N OF SE COR SEC 34-12-3 BEING A PT ON THE N LINE OF MICH AVE, TH S 57D 12 1/2' W 630.68 FT TH N 0D 01' W 1338 FT MORE OR LESS TO CENTERLINE OF PINE RIVER, TH NE-LY ALONG SAID CENTER LINE TO THE E LINE OF SEC 34-12-3, TH S ALONG SAID SEC LINE 1438 FT MORE OR LESS TO PLACE OF BEG. EXCEPT COM AT A PT 2271.3 FT N OF THE SE COR OF SEC TH S 49D 53' W 668.6 FT TO A PIPE ON THE BANK OF PINE RIVER TH S 49D 53' W 25 FT TH N 138 FT MORE OR LESS TO CENTER LINE OF PINE RIVER TH NE-LY DOWN ALONG SAID CENTERLINE TO E SEC LINE TH S ALONG SEC LINE 134 FT MORE OR LESS TO BEG CONTAINING 2.03 ACRES MORE OR LESS. SEC 34-12-3 CITY OF ALMA, GRATIOT COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

Whereas, it appears that each legislative body which levies an ad valorem tax against the property above described has been notified and afforded an opportunity for hearing, and

Whereas, the Alma City Commission finds and determines that the granting of the Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificates previously granted and currently in force under Act 198 of P.A. 174 and Act 244 of P.A. 1978, shall not have the effect of substantially impeding the operation of the City of Alma or impairing the financial soundness of a taxing unit which levies ad valorem property taxes in the City of Alma.

Whereas, it appears that approval of the said Avalon and Tahoe Pontoon Mfg., Inc. application for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate would be beneficial both to the taxpayer and to the general economic development of the community, and

Whereas, it appears that the said Avalon & Tahoe Pontoon Mfg., Inc. has complied with Section 9 of Act 198 of the Public Act 1974 in its entirety with regard to the Industrial Development District set for the above.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the application of said Avalon & Tahoe Pontoon Mfg., Inc. for an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate for the District be hereby approved, for a period of not more than seven (7) years after completion.

Be It Further Resolved, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the State Tax Commission forthwith.

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

No: None.

Resolution Declared Adopted.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Comer to adopt a resolution authorizing Mayor Nyman and City Clerk Gager to execute the PA 198 Tax Exemption Certificate Agreement on behalf of the City of Alma.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Mapes seconded by Commissioner Comer to receive the bids for the removal and disposal of liquid sludge at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and to award the bid to the low bidder, Synagro Central, LLC of Baltimore, MD in the total bid amount of \$36,000.

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

No: None.

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Dancer:

Whereas, October 31st, Halloween, is a holiday especially for children and traditionally a time for fun and frolic, and

Therefore, I, Melvin Nyman, by power vested in me as Mayor of the City of Alma, do proclaim Wednesday, October 31st as Halloween, and urge youngsters who normally engage in "Tricks or Treat" to confine their activities to their own area of the city between the hours of 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and that those householders who generally have treats available have them ready to dispense during these hours.

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

No: None.

Resolution Declared Adopted.

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

Whereas, Alma Iron & Metal Co. began operations in 1929, continues to grow and prosper; providing scrap material processing for many Gratiot County businesses and residents, serving a critical need within the area economy, now from its new Williams Street facility;

Whereas, Leo Simon, a Russian immigrant, purchased the business in 1932, ultimately passing on a tradition of commitment to service and leadership;

Whereas, a 30-year goal to relocate the business from the Alma downtown riverfront location is now achieved;

Whereas, redevelopment of the Alma downtown riverfront promises to bring new businesses, jobs, and enhanced quality of life for area residents;

Whereas, the success of this vast project is a culmination of devoted individuals of Alma Iron & Metal Co, the City of Alma, Greater Gratiot Development, Inc, the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority of the County of Gratiot, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, NTH Consultants, Wade-Trim, and GSI Architects, Inc.

Therefore, Bet It Resolved that the Alma City Commission and the Greater Gratiot Development, Inc. Board of Directors wish you a prosperous future in your new facility and stand ready to assist you in the coming years.

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

No: None.

Resolution Declared Adopted.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Mapes to adopt a resolution implementing the City of Alma Purchasing Policy.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Comer seconded by Commissioner Dancer to adopt a resolution authorizing a third-party agreement between the City of Alma, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Michigan Public Transit Association (MPTA) to administer the Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) for the period October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008, and to authorize Mayor Nyman and City Clerk Gager to execute the agreement on behalf of the City of Alma.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Legene seconded by Commissioner Ayers to receive the following reports and place them on file: Alma Police Department September reports; Alma Fire District September report; DART & Depot September reports; Gratiot County Board of Commissioner meeting minutes of 9/25/07 & 10/02/07; Alma Planning Commission meeting minutes of September 4, 2007; Alma Public Library Board meeting minutes of 5/16/07; Friends of Alma Public Library meeting minutes for July, August & September.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Mapes seconded by Commissioner Comer to adopt a resolution ratifying the investment of the following City funds on 9/27/2007:

<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>
9/27/2007	6/18/2008	\$200,000	265	4.80%	\$6,969.86	Comerica	CD
9/27/2007	6/25/2008	\$200,000	272	4.80%	\$7,253.33	Comerica	CD
9/27/2007	7/09/2008	\$200,000	286	4.75%	\$7,547.22	Comerica	CD

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Legene to approve Warrant No. 08-07 and to authorize the City Treasurer to issue checks in payment of all claims.

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

No: None.

Commissioner Mapes congratulated Avalon & Tahoe Pontoon Manufacturing on their recent project and thanked them for their commitment to the community.

Commissioner Comer and Commissioner Legene echoed Commissioner Mapes' comments.

Vice-Mayor Moes commented on all the great things going on within the City of Alma. There are many building projects going on with over \$33,000,000 in construction permits being issued as of September 24, 2007. He also noted that the riverwalk is very nice and encouraged everyone to take advantage of it.

Mayor Nyman reminded everyone of the upcoming November 6, 2007 election and reminded everyone that they would need their picture identification to be issued a ballot.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Moes seconded by Commissioner Comer to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

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

No: None.

Melvin A. Nyman, Mayor

Barbara A. Gager, City Clerk