

Alma, Michigan
April 22, 2008

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, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

Absent: Legene.

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

Motion by Vice-Mayor Mapes seconded by Commissioner Ayers to approve the minutes of April 8, 2008 regular meeting as submitted.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Vice-Mayor Mapes to receive the communication from Mr. Raymond Borowicz, 901 Riverview Dr. concerning sewer problems in the vicinity of 901 Riverview Drive.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Comer seconded by Commissioner Dancer to set a public hearing for Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. to consider a PA 198 Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate for Merrill Fabricators, Inc.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Comer to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda for payment: \$47,241.92 to National City Bank of Michigan for principal and interest for the Heather Lane ROW acquisition issue; \$163,427.50 to Firstbank-Alma for principal and interest for the Warwick Drive and Heather Lane General Obligation (\$84,415.00) and Special Assessment (\$79,012.50) bonds; \$70,570 to US Bank for payment of principal and interest on the 1995 Water System Revenue Bonds; \$245,728.50 to US Bank for payment of principal and interest for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (\$111,853.75) and Water Treatment Plant (\$133,928.75) bonds; \$66,813.75 to US Bank for payment of principal and interest for the Gemstone Project Special Assessment (\$31,041.25) and General Obligation (\$35,772.50) bonds; \$3,799.25 to Smith Bovill PC for legal services rendered; \$2,693.25 to Rowe Inc. for the structural condition review and capacity analysis of an existing steel roof beam at the Buildings & Grounds building; \$1,926.90 to Coffman Electric for one transfer switch main computer board and installation for Water Treatment and Distribution Well #8.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Vice-Mayor Mapes seconded by Commissioner Dancer:

Whereas, In 1872 J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

Whereas, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

Whereas, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

Whereas, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

Whereas, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

Whereas, trees are a source of joy and spiritual renewal, and

Whereas, the City of Alma has been recognized as Tree City USA by The National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree-planting ways, and

Whereas, the City of Alma will be planting two trees in Riverside Cemetery and two trees at the Alma Public Library.

Now, Therefore, I Melvin A. Nyman, Mayor of the City of Alma do hereby proclaim April 25, 2008 as ARBOR DAY in the City of Alma, and I urge all citizens to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands and to support our city's urban forestry program, and

Further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the hearts and promote the well being of present and future

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Resolution Declared Adopted.

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

Whereas, the City Manager presented his 2008-2009 fiscal budgets to the City Commission on April 8, 2008, and

Whereas, the proposed recommended millage to support these budgets are General Fund millage of 13.13; a Transportation millage of .9604; a Voted Street millage of 2.5000; Voted Library millage of 1.75 and a DDA millage within the district of 1.9716 for a total of 18.3404 mills to be spread on all taxable property in the City of Alma, and

Be It Further Resolved, that 1.9716 mills for administration be spread on all taxable property within Alma Downtown Development District, and

Be It Further Resolved that the City Commission authorizes a public hearing on the 2008-2009 proposed fiscal budgets on Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Resolution Declared Adopted.

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

Whereas, Sections 22-62 and 22-63 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Alma, Michigan, provides for the determination of a public nuisance and a method to recover the entire cost or expense to abate such a nuisance, and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the City Commission of the City of Alma, Michigan, does hereby declare that the uncontrolled growing of noxious weeds is a public hazard or nuisance, dangerous to the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the City, and

Be It Further Resolved, that the City Clerk give notice by publication in the Morning Sun, that the owners of all lots be required to abate such nuisance before May 10, 2008, and

Be It Further Resolved, that if at the expiration of the time limit set in said notice, the owner of the lot or lots has not complied with the requirement thereof, that the City Manager be directed to cause said nuisance to be abated and the cost thereof assessed by special assessment against the premises upon which said hazard or nuisance is located.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Resolution Declared Adopted

Motion by Commissioner Mott seconded by Vice-Mayor Mapes to adopt a resolution approving the request from the Amy Vedrode, representing Alma Little League to use the Euclid Ballfields for the Little League season, running April 26 – July 1, 2008 and additional trash pick up on June 6, 13, & 20, 2008.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Mayor Nyman expressed his appreciation to the Alma Little League supporters for providing the little league program for the area youth.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Comer to adopt a resolution approving the request from Priscilla Thompson representing the American Cancer Society Relay for Life to set up a fund raising booth on the southwest corner of Lincoln and Superior for the purpose of selling candy bars on Saturday, May 24, 2008.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Comer seconded by Commissioner Ayers to adopt a resolution proclaiming May 12-16, 2008 as National Transportation Week in the City of Alma.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Mapes seconded by Commissioner Dancer to adopt a resolution authorizing Temporary Traffic Control Order #126 for the installation of stop signs on Bridge Ave. at Michigan Ave.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Comer seconded by Commissioner Dancer to adopt a resolution approving the request from the Salvation Army to use Wright Park on May 16, 2008 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. for an ice cream social with children's activities and the Alma High School Jazz Band.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Vice-Mayor Mapes to adopt a resolution authorizing VFW Post 1454 of Alma to sell Buddy Poppies in the City of Alma for the month of May 2008.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

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

Whereas, certain employees give unsparingly and unselfishly of their time and talents to make the Alma community a better place to live and work, and

Whereas, Marv Fox is one such individual who retired on March 21, 2008 after giving 34 years of dedicated service to the City of Alma, and

Whereas, Marv began his career with the City of Alma on April 29, 1974 as a Street Department laborer.

Whereas, during his career with the Street & Utility Division, Marv performed a wide range of duties, including street, water and sewer line maintenance and repair, snow removal, curb painting and traffic sign replacement, and on many occasions, along with his fellow workers, worked long hours during the night on major and minor water and sewer repairs to serve and assist the residents of the City of Alma, and

Whereas, for the past fifteen years Marv has been the City's Meter Reader, assisting in the implementation of the Sensus and radio read meter programs, bringing the meter read program from hand written to electronic reads, and

Whereas, Marv provided invaluable assistance to the Assessing Department by gathering information for updating assessing records on all parcels within the City of Alma, aided in the enforcement of the Noxious Weed Ordinance and assisted the Code Enforcement Department by investigating inquiries and complaints.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the citizens of the City of Alma and the City Commission recognize and commend Marv for his unwavering dedication to the City of Alma over the past 34 years, and

Be It Further Resolved that Mayor Nyman, members of the City Commission, City Staff and citizens of the City of Alma extend an expression of appreciation to Marv in the form of this Resolution of Appreciation and that this Resolution become a part of the official minutes of the City of Alma and that an original copy be presented to Marvin Fox.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Resolution Declared Adopted.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Mapes seconded by Commissioner Ayers to adopt a resolution approving MDOT Third Party Contract #2002-0004/Z6/S1/Amendment No. 2 between the City of Alma and DLZ of Michigan for an additional lump sum payment in the amount of \$96,090 to DLZ for additional services rendered and to authorize Mayor Nyman to execute the agreement on behalf of the City of Alma.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Mapes seconded by Commissioner Dancer to adopt a resolution approving the Central Michigan Mutual Aid Reciprocal Law Enforcement Agreement between the City of Alma, the counties of Clare, Midland, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Mecosta, Montcalm, the cities of Big Rapids, Clare, Ithaca, Midland, Mt. Pleasant, the Saginaw-Chippewa Indian Tribe, the Village of Shepherd, Central Michigan University and Ferris State University for the purposes of rendering reciprocal police assistance to one another.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Comer to receive the following reports and place them on file: Alma Downtown Development Authority meeting minutes of 3/13/2008; Alma Planning Commission meeting minutes of 2/5/2008; Alma Housing Commission meeting minutes of 3/25/2008; Financial Statements for March 2008.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Mapes seconded by Commissioner Comer to receive the presentation on the Water Treatment and Distribution Plant by Mr. Bill Pilmore, Superintendent.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Comer to approve Warrant No. 08-20 and to authorize the City Treasurer to issue checks in payment of all claims.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

The City Commission all thanked and congratulated Marv Fox for his 34 years of service to the City of Alma. They also thanked Bill Pilmore for his in-depth report on the Water Treatment and Distribution Plant.

Commissioner Comer reminded everyone that Highland Festival tickets are being sold for ½ price until April 30.

Commissioner Dancer thanked everyone for supporting last weekend's Tartan Day/Spring Fling activities.

City Clerk Gager wished Marv good luck in his retirement.

City Manager Moore commented that Marv was truly one of the "unsung heroes", performing his meter reading duties in all types of weather, and thanked him for his hard work and dedication. Mr. Moore also reminded the Commission of the tour of the Consumers Energy building immediately following the City Commission meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Comer seconded by Vice-Mayor Mapes to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

Yes: Ayers, Comer, Dancer, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Melvin A. Nyman, Mayor

Barbara A. Gager, City Clerk