

Alma, Michigan
November 24, 2009

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, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

Absent: Comer.

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 the November 10, 2009 regular meeting.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Dancer to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda for payment: \$2,394.80 to Morning Star Publishing for October publications; \$4,895.27 to The Tharpe Company, Inc. for annual Employee Service awards; \$6,880 to Gratiot Area Chamber of Commerce for Employee Attendance merit awards.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Legene seconded by Commissioner Mott to approve the request for purchase in the amount of \$7,700 from Etna Supply Company for one hand held unit for water meter reading.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Mott seconded by Commissioner Dancer to approve the request for purchase in the amount of \$2,656 from First Telecommunications Corp. for one T1-E1 card and PRI License, including installation and estimated labor charges, to switch the City's phone system from analog to digital.

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

No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Mapes seconded by Commissioner Ayers to adopt Traffic Control Order #132 to install "No Parking" signs on the east side of Elmwood Street from E. Superior to Rosedale.

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

No: None.

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

Whereas, the Commission deems it advisable and necessary to acquire and construct the following described public improvement and to defray part of all of the cost thereof by special assessment upon the property benefited thereby:

Construction of a concrete sidewalk on Golfside Drive.

Now Therefore, Be it Resolved That:

1. The City Manager is hereby directed to make an investigation and report concerning said public improvement in the manner required by Section 3 of Ordinance No. 235 of the City of Alma.
2. The City Manager shall file said report with the City Clerk when the same has been completed.

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

No: None.

Resolution Declared Adopted.

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

Whereas, public, educational and government (PEG) channels play a significant role in the City of Alma;

Whereas, PEG channels are a unique and valuable resource for local information and discourse for the residents of the City of Alma; and

Whereas, PEG channels televise local government meetings, including city council, planning commission, county board and school board meetings, so that citizens are informed about the actions taken by local elected officials; and

Whereas, PEG channels contribute to the democratic process by providing opportunities for candidates and others, such as the League of Women Voters, to discuss local issues during election campaigns; and

Whereas, PEG channels provide a window through which residents can view the diversity of cultures, recreational activities and artistic endeavors in their local community; and

Whereas, PEG channels reflect the unique identity of the communities they serve; and

Whereas, it is important to preserve PEG channels and funding for PEG channels, and to ensure that the channels continue to be available to the entire community to serve the residents of the City of Alma; and

Whereas, HR 3745, the Community Access Preservation Act, has been introduced into the United States House of Representatives to addresses critical and immediate threats to PEG.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved:

The City of Alma supports immediate passage of HR 3745; and

The City of Alma calls on U.S. Representative David Camp, U.S. Senator Carl Levin and U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow to take all possible actions in support of the passage of HR 3745, including but not limited to endorsing, co-sponsoring and voting for HR 3745, and to work for its rapid passage.

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

No: None.

Resolution Declared Adopted.

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

Whereas, the Planning Commission has proposed, by their Resolution dated November 2, 2009, to amend the City's Master Plan and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan with respect to King Park, and

Whereas, the Planning Commission has submitted a proposed Amendment to such Master Plans which will provide that the City declassify Lot 8, Block 5, Michigan Avenue Heights as parkland and exchange the same for Lots 5, 6 and 7, Block 4, Michigan Avenue Heights, and

Whereas, such Amendment would then classify Lots 5, 6 and 7 as parkland to be included in King Park, and

Whereas, such exchange will allow for the construction of a parking lot for King Park, which park is not otherwise equipped for the parking of vehicles, and

Whereas, such Amendment will advance the purposes of the City's Master Plan and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Planning Commission is hereby authorized to distribute the proposed amendment as required by statute, to wit MCL 125.3839 et seq, and

Be It Further Resolved, that after allowing the appropriate period for responses, the Planning Commission may, after the giving of notice pursuant to statute, conduct a public hearing for the purpose of adopting such amendment.

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

No: None.

Resolution Declared Adopted

Motion by Commissioner Mott seconded by Vice-Mayor Mapes to amend the current park shelter reservation policy to allow any person or group who had reserved a specific shelter the previous year to have the first opportunity to reserve the same shelter on the same day (weekend) for the upcoming year, during the month of December. The reservation policy date will also be changed from March 1st to January 1st for the general public.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Dancer seconded by Commissioner Legene to adopt a resolution introducing Ordinance No. 719 to provide for the review, consideration and approval of requests for tax exempt status with respect to housing projects governed by MCL 125.1415a.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Dancer seconded by Commissioner Legene to adopt a resolution introducing Ordinance No. 720 to authorize the payment of an annual service charge in lieu of taxes for residential units serving low income or moderate income persons in accordance with the state housing development authority, act 346 of the public acts of Michigan of 1966, as amended, and matters related thereto.

Yes: Dancer, Legene, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.

No: Ayers.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Mapes as seconded by Commissioner Ayers to allow for an adjustment of the park shelter reservation fee to reflect a 50% increase for early reservations during the month of December.

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

No: Mott.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Mapes seconded by Commissioner Ayers to adopt a resolution authorizing Change Order #1 with Youngstrom Contracting in the amount of \$18,918.75 for additional expenses incurred with the 2009 Capital Improvement Project.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Dancer to receive the following reports and place them on file: Alma Police Department October reports; Alma Fire District October report; October Financial Statements; October Inspection reports.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Legene seconded by Commissioner Ayers to adopt a resolution ratifying the investment of the following City funds:

<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>
11/19/09	12/17/09	\$600,00	28	.31%	\$142.68	Commercial	CDARS
11/19/09	2/18/10	\$500,00	91	.41%	\$511.10	Commercial	CDARS
11/19/09	5/20/10	\$400,00	182	.46%	\$917.48	Commercial	CDARS
11/19/09	11/18/10	\$250,00	364	.81%	\$2,019.45	Commercial	CDARS
11/19/09	11/19/10	\$250,00	365	1.54%	\$3,847.50	Isabella Bank & Trust	CD

Yes: Ayers, Dancer, Legene, Mott, & Nyman.

No: None.

Abstain: Mapes.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers seconded by Commissioner Dancer to approve Warrant No. 10-10 and to authorize the City Treasurer to issue checks in payment of all claims.

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

No: None.

Commissioner Mott thanked everyone for coming to the meeting in support of the park shelter reservation policy change and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Legene stated he was pleased that shelter reservation issue is settled and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Dancer reminded everyone of the upcoming "Come Home to Alma Christmas Celebration on December 11.

Commissioner Ayers thanked everyone for their emails regarding the park shelter reservation policy and the All Class Reunion. He was pleased the Commission was able to accommodate their request.

Vice-Mayor Mapes also thanked all for their support of reunion and asked everyone to email their representatives to support the cable access bill.

Mayor Nyman thanked those in attendance for coming to tonight's meeting.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Mapes seconded by Commissioner Ayers a request by the City Manager to enter Executive Session to discuss privileged and confidential communication from the City Attorney at 6:35 p.m.

Yes: Ayers, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.
No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Mapes as seconded by Commissioner Ayers to reconvene the regular meeting at 6:52 p.m.

Yes: Ayers, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.
No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers as seconded by Vice-Mayor Mapes to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

Yes: Ayers, Dancer, Legene, Mapes, Mott, & Nyman.
No: None.

Melvin A. Nyman, Mayor

Barbara A. Gager, City Clerk