Mayor Greg Mapes called a regular meeting of the Alma City Commission to order at 6:03 p.m. at the Alma Municipal Building. A quorum of the Commission was present.

Mayor Mapes led those present in a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

**Roll Call**

Present: Roger Allman, Roxann Harrington, Greg Mapes, Nick Piccolo, Michelle Pitts, and Audra Stahl.

Absent: Larry Mott.

Motion by Allman, seconded by Piccolo, to amend the agenda to include two additional items under “Section I. Agreements”. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Pitts, seconded by Allman to approve the minutes of January 28, 2020 as presented. Motion carried.

**Resolutions**

2020-00020 Proclamation of Women’s History Month

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Commissioner Piccolo, and seconded by Commissioner Allman:

**WHEREAS:** The week of March 8, 2019, marks the Forty-first anniversary of Women’s History Week; created by The Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women which became a celebration of American Women and honored their American heritage, contributions, and sacrifices for our nation. In 1987 President Reagan proclaimed March as “Women’s History Month” and called upon all Americans to mark the month with observances to honor the achievements of American women.

**WHEREAS:** In 1981 Congress passed Pub. L. 97-28 which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982 as “Women’s History Week”. As requested by Congress, President Reagan issued Presidential Proclamation 4903 proclaiming the week beginning on March 7, 1982 as the first “Women’s History Week” and recognizing the vital role of women in American history.

**WHEREAS:** In 1987 after being petitioned by the National Women’s History Project, Congress passed Pub. L. 100-9 which designated the month of March 1987 as “Women’s History Month.” This law requested the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate activities and ceremonies. President Reagan then issued Presidential Proclamation 5619 supporting the decision. Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women’s History Month.

1 Women’s History “Women’s History Month” accessed December 1, 2019, [https://www.womenshistory.org/womens-history/womens-history-month](https://www.womenshistory.org/womens-history/womens-history-month)
WHEREAS: It is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to the many Women of the United States and their sacrifices and contributions to our great nation. Therefore, we honor this memorable anniversary; and the American Women whose sacrifices, contributions and honor defended and shaped our great Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE I, Gregory Mapes, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Alma do hereby proclaim the Month of March 1st through 31st as Women's History Month AND ask our citizens to honor the ideals, sacrifices, and contributions of the women who helped build and shape our nation. May these citizens and all they have done for the United States of America never be forgotten. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alma to be affixed this 11th day of February of the year of our Lord two thousand twenty.

Resolution declared adopted.
Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, and Stahl.
No: none.
Absent: Mott.

2020-00021 Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Allman, to adopt the following Performance Resolution and authorize street closures and banner placements in conjunction with 2020 Special Community Events as shown on the table attached hereto as Attachment A:

RESOLVED WHEREAS, the City of Alma, hereinafter referred to as the "GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY," periodically applies to the Michigan Department of Transportation, hereinafter referred to as the "DEPARTMENT," for permits, referred to as "PERMIT," to construct, operate, use and/or maintain utilities or other facilities, or to conduct other activities, on, over, and under State Highway Right of Way at various locations within and adjacent to its corporate limits;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the DEPARTMENT granting such PERMIT, the GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY agrees that:

1. Each party to this Agreement shall remain responsible for any claims arising out of their own acts and/or omissions during the performance of this Agreement, as provided by law. This Agreement is not intended to increase either party’s liability for, or immunity from, tort claims, nor shall it be interpreted, as giving either party hereto a right of indemnification, either by Agreement or at law, for claims arising out of the performance of this Agreement.

2. If any of the work performed for the GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY is performed by a contractor, the GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY shall require its contractor to hold harmless, indemnify and defend in litigation, the State of Michigan, the DEPARTMENT and their agents and employee’s, against any claims for damages to public or private property and for injuries to person arising out of the performance of the work, except for claims that result from the sole negligence or willful acts of the DEPARTMENT, until the contractor achieves final acceptance of the GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY. Failure of the GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY to require its contractor to indemnify the DEPARTMENT, as set forth above, shall be considered a breach of its duties to the DEPARTMENT.

3. Any work performed for the GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY by a contractor or subcontractor will be solely as a contractor for the GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY and not as a contractor or agent of the DEPARTMENT. The DEPARTMENT shall not be subject to any obligations or liabilities by vendors and contractors of the GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY, or their subcontractors or any other person not a party to the PERMIT without the DEPARTMENT’S specific prior written consent and notwithstanding the issuance of the PERMIT. Any claims by any contractor or subcontractor will be the sole responsibility of the GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY.
4. The GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY shall take no unlawful action or conduct, which arises either directly or indirectly out of its obligations, responsibilities, and duties under the PERMIT which results in claims being asserted against or judgment being imposed against the State of Michigan, the Michigan Transportation Commission, the DEPARTMENT, and all officers, agents and employees thereof and those contracting governmental bodies performing permit activities for the DEPARTMENT and all officers, agents, and employees thereof, pursuant to a maintenance contract. In the event that the same occurs, for the purposes of the PERMIT, it will be considered as a breach of the PERMIT thereby giving the State of Michigan, the DEPARTMENT, and/or the Michigan Transportation Commission a right to seek and obtain any necessary relief or remedy, including, but not by way of limitation, a judgment for money damages.

5. The GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY will, by its own volition and/or request by the DEPARTMENT, promptly restore and/or correct physical or operating damages to any State Highway Right of Way resulting from the installation construction, operation and/or maintenance of the GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY'S facilities according to a PERMIT issued by the DEPARTMENT.

6. With respect to any activities authorized by a PERMIT, when the GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY requires insurance on its own or its contractor's behalf it shall also require that such policy include as named insured the State of Michigan, the Transportation Commission, the DEPARTMENT, and all officers, agents, and employees thereof and those governmental bodies performing permit activities for the DEPARTMENT and all officers, agents, and employees thereof, pursuant to a maintenance contract.

7. The incorporation by the DEPARTMENT of this resolution as part of a PERMIT does not prevent the DEPARTMENT from requiring additional performance security or insurance before issuance of a PERMIT.

8. This resolution shall continue in force from this date until cancelled by the GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY or the DEPARTMENT with no less than thirty (30) days prior written notice provided to the other party. It will not be cancelled or otherwise terminated by the GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY with regard to any PERMIT which has already been issued or activity which has already been undertaken.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following position(s) are authorized to apply to the DEPARTMENT for the necessary permit to work within State Highway Right of Way on behalf of the GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY.

Resolution declared adopted.
Yes:       Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, and Stahl.
No:        none.
Absent:    Mott.

2020-00022 Resolution in Support of the Alma Aspires Plan for the City of Alma

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Commissioner Piccolo, and seconded by Vice-Mayor Harrington:

WHEREAS, the City of Alma engaged in partnership with Alma College, Masonic Pathways, the Alma Public Schools, Greater Gratiot Development, and the Mid-Michigan Medical Center – Gratiot to develop a community action plan;
WHEREAS, leaders from those organizations collaborated with a range of stakeholders, community and business leaders, elected officials, and members of the public who care deeply about the future of Alma to lead change and build community;
WHEREAS, said collaboration identified that Alma Aspires to be a community of choice, where families, seniors, students, employers, and tourists all choose Alma for its unique charm and community connectedness;
WHEREAS, the Alma Aspires Plan was created to build a road map for the community’s future;
WHEREAS, Alma Aspires to be a community where everyone can achieve their highest potential;
WHEREAS, Alma Aspires to be a community of choice, where people choose to visit, locate, and stay;
WHEREAS, Alma Aspires to be a vibrant, diversified economy that provides good careers and opportunities for all:

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Alma City Commission affirms on February 11, 2020 its support for the Alma Aspires Plan created by the community;

Resolution declared adopted.

Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, and Stahl.
No: none.
Absent: Mott.

2020-00023  Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Allman, to adopt Ordinance #815, as follows, to amend the Zoning Map of the City of Alma as it appears in Section 32-32 of the Ordinances of the City of Alma. This Ordinance is to rezone the property at 270 Purdy Drive from R1 Single Family Residential District to CI Campus Institutional District, subject to the conditions set forth in the Conditional Rezoning Agreement:

ORDINANCE #815

The City of Alma Ordains:

1. Section 1.  
The Zoning Map of the City of Alma as it appears as Section 32-32 of the Ordinances of the City of Alma is hereby amended in the following respects:
The premises hereinafter described, currently zoned as R1, Single Family Residential District, be hereby is conditionally rezoned to CI, Campus Institutional District, subject to the conditions set forth in the Conditional Rezoning Agreement entered into relative to the subject premises on this date. The premises are described as:
GOLFVIEW SUB NO 2, W 1/2 OF LOT 4 AND ALL OF LOTS 5, 6 & 7 AND COM AT NW COR OF SAID LOT 7 TH W 44 FT S 145 FT E 44 FT N 145 FT TO P.O.B. (270 Purdy Drive)

2. Separability. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is, for any reason, held invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

3. Ordinances Repealed. All ordinances and/or parts or ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 15 days from and after its enactment as provided by the City Charter.

Resolution declared adopted.

Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, and Stahl.
No: none.
Absent: Mott.

Agreements

2020-00024  Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Piccolo, to adopt a resolution approving an agreement regarding athletic facility use of the Euclid Street Baseball Fields between the City of Alma and the Alma Little League commencing on April 1, 2020 and ending August 1, 2020.

Resolution declared adopted.
2020-00025  Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington, seconded by Commissioner Allman, to adopt a resolution authorizing the execution of a Conditional Rezoning Agreement between the City of Alma and community Baptist Church of Alma, property owner, which conditionally rezones the property located at 270 Purdy Drive from R1 Single Family Residential District to CI Campus Institutional District.

Resolution declared adopted.
Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, and Stahl.
No: none.
Absent: Mott.

2020-00026  Motion by Commissioner Piccolo, seconded by Commissioner Allman, to adopt a resolution to approve a Drain Easement with the Gratiot County Drain Commission for relocation of a portion of the #418 Drain District Drainage Line, for the purposes of the development requirements for the parcel located at 528 W. Warwick Drive.

Resolution declared adopted.
Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, and Stahl.
No: none.
Absent: Mott.

Reports

2020-00027  Motion by Commissioner Piccolo, seconded by Vice-Mayor Harrington, to approve a resolution to receive the Planning Commission minutes of February 3, 2020 and the Building Permit Report for January 2020, and remove the City Manager’s Report for discussion.

Resolution declared adopted.
Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, and Stahl.
No: none.
Absent: Mott.

City Manager Matt Schooley reviewed information included in his report: upcoming changes to the City Commission Chambers to allow for additional utilization, a request for creation of a Neighborhood Enterprise Zone to assist in development efforts, improved policies and procedures for sewer backups, additional duties and compensation for Code Enforcement Officer/Computer Support Specialist Aaron Hale, and proposed changes for ICMA participants, pension plans and vacation payouts. Brief discussion followed.

2020-00028  Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington, seconded by Commissioner Allman, to approve a resolution to receive the City Manager’s Report for February 11, 2020.

Resolution declared adopted.
Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, and Stahl.
No: none.
Absent: Mott.
Appointments
2020-00029 Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Piccolo, to approve a resolution to re-appoint Joneen Wight to the Housing Commission for a term expiring January 1, 2024.

Resolution declared adopted.
Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, and Stahl.
No: none.
Absent: Mott.

New Business
Public Services Director, David Ringle, provided a report on the construction of sanitary sewer leads in conjunction with the reconstruction of Hayes Avenue between Marquette Boulevard and Michigan Avenue. A special assessment district is proposed for payment of the construction costs for sanitary sewer leads. Ringle noted current policy is for the City to cover half of the costs and the benefitting property owner to cover the other half of the cost. He asked the Commission to schedule a public hearing to consider the proposed special assessment district.

2020-00030 Public Hearing on Proposed Special Assessment for Sanitary Sewer Leads on Hayes Avenue

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Commissioner Piccolo, and seconded by Commissioner Allman:

Whereas, the City Commission has ordered the City Assessor to prepare a special assessment roll on as-built costs for the purpose of assessing the special assessment district’s share of the cost of the Hayes Avenue Sanitary Sewer Lead Construction Project in Special Assessment District No. 2019-1.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that:

1. The City Commission shall meet at the Commission Chambers in the Municipal Building in the City of Alma on February 25, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., for the purpose of reviewing said special assessment roll.
2. The special assessment roll and the report of the City Manager concerning said public improvement shall be filed with the City Clerk and shall be available for public examination.

Resolution declared adopted.
Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, and Stahl.
No: none.
Absent: Mott.

Appropriations
2020-00031 Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Piccolo, for a resolution approving Warrant No. 20-15 and authorizing the City Treasurer to issue checks in payment of all claims.

Resolution declared adopted.
Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, and Stahl.
No: none.
Absent: Mott.
Commissioners’ Comments
Commissioner Stahl thanked everyone for attending.
City Attorney Tony Costanzo congratulated Commissioner Pitts on her recently received Tartan Award.

City Manager Schooley thanked everyone for attending the February 7th Leadership Planning Session. He will provide a synopsis at the meeting on February 25, 2020.

City Manager Schooley awarded city employee, Grace Catlin, with a City of Alma Excellence Coin in appreciation of her “over and above” work at the Municipal Building.

Mayor Mapes offered his appreciation to volunteers for the Alma Aspires Plan. He is looking forward to seeing their accomplishments. He encouraged everyone to join volunteers.

Invitation to Public
Tim Lambrecht, 1026 Pineview Court, addressed the City Commission. He spoke about pension plans and vacation issues at the County level, money the County has received for their Veteran’s program, posting of the Emergency Manager’s position at the County level, and an update on the Airport study. He also said discussion is ongoing about the Parks & Recreation millage and a sharing of funds.

No other public comments were offered.

Motion by Commissioner Piccolo, seconded by Commissioner Allman, to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m. Motion carried.

Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, and Stahl.
No: none.
Absent: Mott.

Gregory S. Mapes, Mayor, City of Alma

Sara Anderson, City Clerk, City of Alma

Date of Approval: February 25, 2020
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>State Highway Closure</th>
<th>City Street Closure/ Banner Installation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alma Highland Festival Banner</td>
<td>04/15/2020-05/26/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td>Over MDOT Street Superior Street “Alma Highland Festival Memorial Day Weekend”</td>
<td>City Crew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gratiot Art Expo</td>
<td>05/11/2020-10/31/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td>Banners attached to Street Light Poles on Superior and State Streets</td>
<td>City Crew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alma Highland Festival of Races Start Finish Banner</td>
<td>05/13/2020-05/31/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td>Over City street Superior at Philadelphia “Alma Highland Festival of Races Start/Finish” Private Contractor</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Alma Highland Festival 5K &amp; 10K Run</td>
<td>05/23/2020</td>
<td>7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Superior - Pine to Wright</td>
<td>Michigan - Bridge to Superior</td>
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<tr>
<td>Highland Festival Parade</td>
<td>05/23/2020</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Superior - Bridge to Wright</td>
<td>Superior - Purdy to Wright</td>
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<tr>
<td>MidMichigan Health Summer Health and Safety Fair Banner</td>
<td>05/26/2020-06/10/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td>Over MDOT Street “MidMichigan Health’s Annual Health &amp; Safety Fair”</td>
<td>City Crew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alma All School Reunion</td>
<td>07/13/2020-08/18/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td>Over MDOT Street Superior Street “Alma High School Annual All Class Reunion”</td>
<td>City Crew</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lucky MacDuck Community Day Banner</td>
<td>08/18/2020-09/14/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td>Over MDOT Street Superior Street “Lucky MacDuck First Weekend after Labor Day”</td>
<td>City Crew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Old U.S. 27 Motor Tour Stop</td>
<td>08/20/2020</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Superior Street Pine to Wright</td>
<td>Superior - Wright Avenue to Pine Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alma College Welcome Back Banner</td>
<td>08/03/2020-09/30/2020</td>
<td></td>
<td>Over City street “Welcome Back Students”</td>
<td>Superior at Philadelphia Private Contractor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alma High School Homecoming Parade</td>
<td>10/02/2020</td>
<td>4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Superior – Pine to Prospect</td>
<td>Pine - Superior to High School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Event** | **Date** | **Time** | **State Highway Closure** | **City Street Closure/ Banner Installation**
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*Alma City Commission*
Alma, Michigan
February 11, 2020
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
<th>Street Closures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alma College Homecoming Parade</td>
<td>10/10/2020</td>
<td>10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Wright - Downie to Superior Superior - State to Wright</td>
<td>State to Downie &amp; State to W Center W Superior - Harvard City Crew</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alma Fall Festival</td>
<td>10/22/2020</td>
<td>4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Superior Street - Pine to Park Hard Closure</td>
<td>City Crew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downtown Christmas Celebration Banner</td>
<td>11/01/2020-01/03/2021</td>
<td>Over MDOT Street Superior Street “Come Home to Alma for the Holidays”</td>
<td>City Crew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downtown Christmas Celebration/Parade</td>
<td>12/11/2020</td>
<td>4:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Superior - Pine to Park</td>
<td>Woodworth - Center to Downie City Crew</td>
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