

**Alma, Michigan  
March 14, 2017**

Mayor Mapes called a regular meeting of the Alma City Commission to order at 6:05 p.m. at the Alma Municipal Building.

**Present:** Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.

**Absent:** None.

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

Motion by Commissioner Piccolo as supported by Commissioner Allman to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2017 executive session meeting and the February 28, 2017 regular meeting.

**Yes:** Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers as supported by Commissioner Harrington to approve the request for purchase in the amount of \$1,800.00 to Etna Supply Co. for a 2" compound water meter to replace the current failed pit meter and move the new meter to inside the Alma Products office building.

**Yes:** Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Allman as supported by Commissioner Piccolo to approve the request for purchase in the amount of \$31,098.75 to Morbark Industries for a MD-12 Chipper, bottom feed wheel, reversing auto feed and hydraulic lift assist.

**Yes:** Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Piccolo as supported by Vice-Mayor Nyman to approve the request for purchase in the amount of \$2,100.00 to Advanced Manufacturing for a topper for the Engineering Pick-up.

**Yes:** Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Harrington as supported by Commissioner Ayers to approve the request for purchase in the amount of \$1,707.35 to WW Williams for transmission software and translator kit for the Public Works garage.

**Yes:** Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers as supported by Commissioner Allman to approve the request for purchase in the amount of \$6,000.00 to Bader & Sons, Co. for 3 John Deere Multi-Terrain Tractors in accordance with their Trade-In program for the Public Works Department.

**Yes:** Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Mott as supported by Commissioner Harrington to approve the request for purchase in the amount of \$2,800.00 to West Shore Fire, Inc. for 2 Scott Sight Full Masks for the Alma Fire Department.

**Yes:** Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Harrington as supported by Commissioner Allman to adopt a resolution authorizing a Cost Sharing Agreement between the City of Alma and the City of St. Louis for the construction and costs, ownership, use, maintenance and operation of the raw water transmission line from Wells #10 & #11 to the Water Plant on Lincoln Avenue and the new Watermain along Center Street from Philadelphia to Lincoln, both related to the transmission of water by the Gratiot Area Water Authority servicing both Alma and St. Louis customers and to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the agreement on behalf of the City of Alma.

**Yes:** Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Mott as supported by Vice-Mayor Nyman to receive the following reports and place them on file: Alma Police Department February report, Alma Transportation February report, Code Enforcement February report and Building Permit February report.

**Yes:** Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.

**No:** None.

Motion by Commissioner Piccolo as supported by Commissioner Ayers to approve Warrant No. 17-17 and to authorize the City Treasurer to issue checks for payment of all claims.

**Yes:** Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.

**No:** None.

Commissioner Ayers wanted to welcome and thank the good crowd for attending the meeting.

Commissioner Harrington wanted to introduce Boy Scout Troop 610. The boys are working hard to achieve their goals to become Eagle Scouts. She knows through this hard work they will become fabulous citizens.

Commissioners Mott and Allman agreed with Commissioner Harrington's comments.

Commissioner Allman wanted to thank all the utility workers from Alma and those that came from around the State who helped restore the community after the wind storm.

City Attorney Costanzo welcomed the Boy Scouts to the Commission meeting.

Assistant City Manager Aeric Ripley wished the Boy Scouts good luck in becoming Eagle Scouts. He became an Eagle Scout and knows that this accomplishment will always bode well on both college and job resumes.

Mayor Mapes opened the floor for public comment.

Jean Reed of 115 Cedar wanted to bring to the Commission her concerns about the rental house at the southwest corner of Mechanic and Cedar. There are too many cars parked at this house on a daily basis

for the number of residents that are allowed to live in this rental. Cars trying to cross the intersection cannot see around the corner for on coming traffic. A bad accident is waiting to happen. The residents that live there are college students who do not take care of the property. They have large parties that have done damage to her property.

Mayor Mapes responded that he will ask the City staff to look into her concerns and report back with their findings.

Sean McHugh from Granger, the City's current Waste Hauler, wanted to thank the City for contracting with Granger for the past five years. He knows that the Gratiot Area Solid Waste Authority has a hard decision to make. Granger has appreciated the opportunity to service the communities of Alma and St. Louis.

Boy Scout Brandin Sagi of 219 Orchard wanted to ask why there are so many Vapor/Smoking shops in Alma. Cigarettes are harmful to the population. Can't the City regulate or not allow these shops in Alma?

Mayor Mapes answered that City has limited powers to restrict business ownership. All citizens have the right to open a business.

City Attorney Costanzo noted that a way to stop seeing these business prosper is to not buy their products. The youth of Alma have an opportunity to stop the sale of cigarettes by not smoking because if there is no want or need for cigarettes, sales would stop.

Boy Scout Nathan Noel of 1033 Fairview wanted to know if a family restaurant could go where the 300 Bowl was? The Commission pointed out that the property is outside the City Limits so the City would not be involved with what develops there. Nathaniel also wanted to see a sidewalk extended from Meijers on Wright Avenue to Cheeseman Road. But again this is outside the City Limits. He had one more item to discuss, that he would like to see his street Fairview up for reconstruction with sidewalks. The Commission told Mr. Noel the City has a six year plan set to replace city streets and the infrastructures within the street. Budget restraints are not allowing for additional streets to be added to the plan at this time.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Nyman as supported by Commissioner Piccolo to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:33 p. m.

**Yes:** Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.

**No:** None.

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Gregory S. Mapes, Mayor

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Sheila Letourneau, City Clerk