

Alma, Michigan
May 22, 2018

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

Absent: None.

Work session of Alma City Commission began at 5:30 p.m.

City Manager Schooley informed the Commissioners:

ASSESSOR KATHY ROSLUND CERTIFIED AS A MICHIGAN MASTER ASSESSING OFFICER

In October of 2016 Kathy began her journey to obtain her Michigan Master Assessing Officer certification. Kathy's training was an online/lecture hybrid program with instruction conducted in 8-week formats. The State Tax Commission staff administered the program which was taught by Michigan Master Assessing Officers. Kathy attended 5 different eight-hour sessions on Saturdays at the end of each 8-week chapter. There were two exams given in 5-hour sessions that required a minimum score of 75% on each section to pass. I am happy to report that we have the good fortune of having one of only 149 MMAOs in the State of Michigan (out of 1949 assessors) on staff here in Alma. Congratulations Kathy, we are all very proud of you for your achievement in your field and the dedication it took to get there.

AERIC RIPLEY AND AARON HALE COMPLETE FIRE INVESTIGATOR CERTIFICATION

Assistant City Manager Aeric Ripley and Code Enforcement Official Aaron Hale officially were certified by the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Bureau of Fire Services as State of Michigan Fire Inspectors last month. Aeric and Aaron attended the 40-hour National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) training last year where they obtained Certified Fire Inspector 1 Certification. To complete the requirements, they had to conduct 10 Fire Inspections each and submit those inspections to NFPA. Congratulations to both – your persistence and dedication in completing this certification is to be commended. This is a great addition to the City.

FIREFIGHTERS OBTAIN COMPANY OFFICER 1 AND 2 CERTIFICATION

PSA Mark Williams and Firefighters Swaton, Pratt, and Irvin recently obtained their Company Officer I and II training. The purpose of the Fire Officer I course is to provide entry-level fire officers with the knowledge and skills to meet minimum job performance requirements for paid and volunteer fire officers. Fire Officer I candidates must demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to function safely and effectively as an integral member of a firefighter team. The Fire Officer II course is to provide officers at the second level of progression with the knowledge and skills to meet the minimum job performance requirements for paid and volunteer fire officers. Fire Officer II candidates must demonstrate the depth of knowledge and skills necessary to function under general supervision. A person trained at the Fire Officer II level will function safely and effectively as an integral member of a team of equally or less experienced firefighters to accomplish a series of tasks. The Company Officer program provides insight into the role of the officer as defined by the 2014 Edition of NFPA 1021, the Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications.

SUPERINTENDENT BOB ALBRECHT COMPLETES PLAYGROUND SAFETY CERTIFICATION

Bob Albrecht completed training last month in Troy that awarded him the designation as a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI). The Certified Playground Safety Inspector course and exam is offered by the National Certification Board in coordination with the National Recreation and Park Association and the Michigan Recreation and Park Association. Certified individuals are trained to properly inspect playgrounds for safety hazards and ensure compliance with national standards set by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) and Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). The course focuses on how to identify playground hazards, such as entrapments and protrusions; how to address age appropriate and site planning concerns; how to analyze design and layout issues; and how to establish a playground safety program. Congratulations to Bob and thanks to him for taking on this important responsibility.

ASSESSING REFORM PROPOSAL

Earlier this month the State Treasurer outlined a proposed reform initiative centered around the property tax assessing process. Following years of tax law changes, the creation of new exemptions, and state court and tax tribunal decisions, the Treasurer has identified the administration of Michigan's property tax law as one area where he believes appropriate reform could be beneficial to the State and local governments.

The Treasurer is proposing a baseline set of "best practice" standards for assessing property that local units may already meet or could meet by teaming up with other surrounding units, or the county. The stated goal of this proposal is more consistent assessing practices across the state and fewer instances where similar properties are treated differently. The proposal would specify minimum quality standards that every assessing district must meet, on their own, in cooperation with other local units, or through their county. I have attached the Assessing Reform Proposal Summary that goes into greater detail and lays out the requirements. The proposal as is would bring great change to Gratiot County. Kathy, as mentioned above, has obtained her master level certification and qualifies to continue in her role (subject to some other possible changes occurring within the county).

MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE/CITY OF ESCANABA REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

Over the last 20 years or so big box stores have attempted to use the "dark stores" theory to artificially lower their property tax values thus reducing revenue to municipalities. Escanaba has been involved in a "dark store" appeal by Menards that passed through the Tax Tribunal, the Court of Appeals, and the Michigan Supreme Court. The case has been sent back to the Tax Tribunal for another trial. This is a test case that will ultimately affect all property tax appeals across the state in regard to commercial business. On April 19th the Michigan Municipal League sent a request (attached) on behalf of the City of Escanaba. To date Escanaba has spent over \$229,000 defending their position. The City of Marquette and Breitung Township spent over \$600,000 from 2012-2014 in appeals cost in a case against Lowes. To the extent Escanaba's case with Menards will decide and determine how the "dark stores" theories apply to property tax appeals throughout the state, it seems it makes good sense that we contribute to assist them. The contribution would go directly to the MML which is a non-profit organization and operates on behalf of Michigan municipalities. Other area entities have also contributed to the cause.

GRATIOT COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GREAT COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

The Gratiot County Community Foundation has released a Request for Proposal for projects that meet standards of their Great Communities Initiative. This initiative is created to **Generate Real Effective Action to Transform (GREAT) Communities** in Gratiot County. The focus is on funding creative, forward-thinking projects that will inspire a sense of pride in our community. The focus is on projects that benefit a large segment of the population and touch place making, arts, parks and rec improvements, revitalization, or community gathering. As much as \$50,000 is available in a dollar for dollar match. I have attached the request for your reading. We have started discussions with many community members that would like to be involved. I believe it important that at least one member of the commission be a part of the team. We are planning on an initial meeting May 30th at 5:30pm here at City Hall. The Letter of Intent is due to the foundation by July 2nd so it is imperative this process gets moving forward. The wonderful thing about this type of project is that it helps towards one of our FY 2019 Goals – Community Engagement.

ALMA COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER DOWNTOWN BANNERS

As most of you have noticed I am sure, earlier this month the Alma Community Arts Center delivered banners that were created by community artists aged 6-68. The Public Works Department worked hard to get them up throughout downtown. They look great and bring a great sense of community!

OFFICER BENJAMIN JURKOVICH SWORN IN

I would like to welcome Officer Benjamin Jurkovich to the Alma Police Department. Officer Jurkovich was sworn in this past week and has started his field training program with the department. Officer Jurkovich had been working for the Clare County Sheriff Department prior to taking the job with the City. Ben is also a member of the Marine Corps Reserve. We thank him for his service and look forward to a long and distinguished career with the Alma Police Department.

CITY STAFF TO ASSIST IN WRIGHT PARK REBUILD

The Rebuilding Alma's Wright Dream Park committee has asked for volunteers willing to assist with the park build to sign up online for available times starting July 19th. We have decided that the City of Alma employees will take the first shift on Thursday July 19th from 8am-12pm. All non-essential employees will be asked to meet at the park that morning to get the project off to a good start. City offices will be closed for the morning, affording the opportunity for all to participate. Again, we are so thankful to those who have worked on this project or contributed. So much has come together in such a short period of time -it is amazing that we are at a point where the building is being scheduled. The city employees starting the build sends the right message of community!

The Work session concluded at 6:00 p.m.

**Alma, Michigan
May 22, 2018**

Mayor Mapes called a regular meeting of the Alma City Commission to order at 6:00 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.

Motion by Commissioner Piccolo as supported by Vice-Mayor Harrington to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2018 regular meeting and the May 15, 2018 Budget Review Session.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Mott as supported by Vice-Mayor Harrington to set a public hearing for Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at 6:05 p.m. to consider the establishment of a Obsolete Property Rehabilitation District for the parcels at 111 & 113 W. Superior for the purpose of creating upper story apartments.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Allman as supported by Vice-Mayor Harrington to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda for payment: \$2,573.02 to 21st Century Media (Morning Sun) for April Publications. and \$2,023.10 to Neopost for the annual maintenance and service fee for the City of Alma mail machine.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers as supported by Commissioner Piccolo to approve the request for purchase in the amount of \$24,465.00 to Kennedy industries, Inc. for warehouse pumps for Lift Stations #3, #5 and #8.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Allman as supported by Commissioner Mott to approve the request for purchase in the amount of \$9,637.07 to First Due for Fire gear (pants, coats, helmets, and gloves) for the Alma District Firefighters.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers as supported by Commissioner Piccolo to approve the request for purchase in the amount of \$2,940.00 to Overhead Door of Lansing for furnishing and installation of Automated Garage door openers on the south and west doors at the Public Works garage.

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

No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington as supported by Commissioner Allman to approve the request for purchase in the amount of \$1,526.00 to Industrial Broom Service for the City's Street Sweeper broom replacements.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Mott as supported by Commissioner Ayers to approve the Budget Amendment request to increase the ISF Engineering and Capital Outlay Budget line items for Major Streets by \$302,000.00 and to decrease the Major Streets Fund balance by \$302,000.00 in the FY2018 Budget.

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

No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington as supported by Commissioner Allman to adopt a resolution approving the Sanitary Sewer Discharge Fee schedule.

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

No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington as supported by Commissioner Piccolo to adopt a resolution approving the water rate schedule to become effective with all water bills mailed after July 1, 2018:

Minimum Charge: (Monthly)

Meter size:

< 1inch	\$ 11.36
1 inch	19.31
1.25 inches	28.40
1.5 inches	39.76
2 inches	76.12
3 inches	170.40
4 inches	306.72

6 inches	681.600
8 inches	1,249.62
Consumption Charge: (Price per 1,000)	
First 25,000 gallons	\$ 2.98
Next 175,000 gallons	2.93
Over 200,000 gallons	2.36

Over 4.5 million by special agreement. In absence of such agreement, the rate shall be \$2.21 per 1,000 gallons.

Minimum Charges for Multiple User. When any premises containing three or more dwelling units defined as a self-contained unit with kitchen and bath facilities served by a single meter, the monthly minimum charge shall be equal to the minimum charge for the single dwelling unit as determined by the meter size serving such unit, plus \$7.21 for each additional unit.

Water bills rendered shall be immediately due and payable and may be paid without late charge up to and including the fifteenth day after the billing date when rendered and shall thereafter be subject to a ten (10%) per cent late charge.

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

No: None.

Resolution Declared Adopted

Motion by Commissioner Allman as supported by Vice-Mayor Harrington to approve the resolution to adopt a resolution approving the wastewater rate schedule to become effective with all wastewater bills mailed after July 1, 2018:

Minimum Charge: (Monthly)

Meter size:

< 1inch	\$	23.46
1 inch		39.87
1.25 inches		58.63
1.5 inches		82.08
2 inches		157.13
3 inches		351.78
4 inches		633.20
6 inches		1,407.10
8 inches		2,579.70

Consumption Charge:

(Price per 1,000 gallons) \$ 3.60

Minimum Charges for Multiple User. When any premises containing three or more dwelling units defined as a self-contained unit with kitchen and bath facilities served by a single meter, the monthly minimum charge shall be equal to the minimum charge for the single dwelling unit as determined by the meter size serving such unit, plus \$15.72 for each additional unit.

Waste Water bills rendered shall be immediately due and payable and may be paid without late charge up to and including the fifteenth day after the billing date when rendered and shall thereafter be subject to a ten (10%) per cent late charge.

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

No: None.

Resolution Declared Adopted

Motion by Commissioner Ayers as supported by Commissioner Allman to adopt an increase in the solid waste rate to \$22.15 per residence from \$21.50 per residence to become effective with all solid waste bills mailed after July 1, 2018.

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

No: None.

The foregoing policy was offered by City Commissioner Allman and supported by City Commissioner Piccolo to adopt the Fund Balance Policy for the City of Alma:

The City of Alma believes that sound financial management principles require that sufficient General Fund Balance be retained by the City to provide a stable financial base to:

- maintain a General Fund Balance that is sufficient to fund all cash flows
- provide financial reserves for unanticipated expenditures and/or revenue shortfalls, and similar circumstances.
- provide cash flow liquidity for the general operations of the City.
- fund planned capital improvements

Definitions

Fund Balance – A governmental fund’s fund balance is the difference between its assets, deferred outflows and its liabilities and deferred inflows.

Fund Balance Components –Under GASB 54 the composition of fund balance is broken up into five categories:

Restricted:

- 1) Nonspendable fund balance – Amounts that are not in a spendable form or are required to be maintained intact.
- 2) Restricted fund balance –Amounts that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by external resource providers either constitutionally or through enabling legislation.

Unrestricted:

- 3) Committed fund balance- Amounts constrained to specific purposes by a government itself using its highest level of decision-making authority; to be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government takes the same highest-level action to remove or change the constraint.
- 4) Assigned fund balance –Amounts *intended* to be used by the government for specific purposes. Intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority.
- 5) Unassigned fund balance – The residual classification of the general fund and includes all amounts not contained in other classifications. Unassigned amounts are technically available for any purpose.

Policies

A minimum level of unrestricted fund balance shall be established by the City Commission.

The minimum unrestricted fund balance at the end of each fiscal year should be sufficient to cover six months of future budgeted operating expenditures.

Unrestricted fund balance should not exceed one year of future budgeted operating expenditures.

The City’s basic goal is to limit expenditures to anticipated revenue thereby maintaining a balanced budget.

Should unrestricted fund balance fall below the minimum established by this policy, the City of Alma will replenish fund balance through:

- Non-recurring revenues
- A multiple-year plan not to exceed three fiscal years.

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

No: None.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner Allman and supported by Vice-Mayor Harrington to approve a resolution to adopt the proposed FY 2019 Annual City Budget.

WHEREAS, the City Manager has submitted and filed with the City Commission a proposed budget estimating revenue and expenditures for fiscal year 2018- 2019 on April 10, 2018, as required by Chapter VI, Section 6 of the City Charter and Act 2, Michigan Public Acts of 1968, as amended, and

WHEREAS, the City Commission did give notice of a public hearing to receive citizen comment on the proposed budget on May 8, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Alma Municipal Building, proof of publication is now on file, and which public hearing was duly held pursuant to said notice and in conformity therewith.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City Commission, after hearing thereon and consideration thereof, does hereby adopt said budget as presented herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Commission does hereby levy a tax of 14.4060 mills for general operating purposes, to be raised by a general ad valorem tax upon owners of real and personal property in the City of Alma, by the authority granted, and in accordance with the Michigan Constitution, the General Property Tax Act 206, Michigan Public Acts of 1893, as amended, and Chapter VII, Section 7 of the City Charter,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Commission does hereby levy a tax of .9604 mills for the operation of a Dial-A-Ride transportation system, to be raised by an ad valorem tax upon owners of real and personal property in the City of Alma, as approved by a vote of the people on May 18, 1976,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Commission does hereby levy a tax of 1.5000 mills to repay bonds issued for the expansion and improvement of Alma Public Library, to be raised by an ad valorem tax upon owners of real and personal property in the City of Alma, as approved by a vote of the people on August 3, 2004,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Commission does hereby levy a tax of 2.5000 mills to defray the cost of street improvements, to be raised by an ad valorem tax upon owners of real and personal property in the City of Alma, as approved by a vote of the people on November 8, 2016,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Commission does hereby levy a tax of 1.9716 mills on all real and personal taxable property within the approved district, to finance the Alma Downtown Development Authority,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Commission does hereby levy a tax of .5000 mills for operation and administration expenses of the Alma Public Library, to be raised by an ad valorem tax upon owners of real and personal property in the City of Alma,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, General Fund budget for fiscal year 2018-2019 is approved with the following revenue sources:

Taxes	\$ 2,444,100
Special Assessments	\$ 24,000
Licenses and Permits	\$ 162,150
State Grants	\$ 1,173,231

Contributions from Local Units	\$ 1,000
Charges for Services	\$ 69,224
Fines and Forfeits	\$ 30,000
Rents	\$ 28,100
Investment Earnings	\$ 18,000
Other Revenue	\$ 43,900
Interfund Transfer In	\$ 1,200
Total General Fund Revenue	\$ 3,994,905

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, General Fund appropriation budget for fiscal year 2018-2019 is approved by function and activity as follows:

Legislative Function:

City Commission	\$ 51,863
Chief Executive Function:	
City Manager	\$ 167,368
Financial and Tax Administration Function:	
City Clerk	\$ 107,021
Treasurer	\$ 177,266
Assessor	\$ 138,489
General Government Function:	
Elections	\$ 47,319
Municipal Building	\$ 114,342
Public Safety Function:	
Police	\$ 1,737,195
Contribution to Rural Urban Fire Board	\$ 245,000
Inspection Services	\$ 141,734
Public Works Function:	
Downtown Maintenance	\$ 62,597
Sidewalks	\$ 107,480
Street Opening Permit Program	\$ 15,072
Street Lighting	\$ 106,328
Cemetery	\$ 210,265
Contribution to Gratiot Community Airport	\$ 26,000
Community and Economic Development Function:	
Zoning	\$ 24,400
Economic Development	\$ 92,004

Recreation and Culture Function:	
Parks and Recreation	\$ 224,142
Contribution to Alma Public Library	\$ 175,000
Debt Service	\$ 11,327
Interfund Transfer Out	\$ 10,500
Total General Fund Expenditures	\$ 3,992,712

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Commission approves additional appropriations for fiscal year 2018-2019 by fund:

Major Street Fund	\$ 1,281,900
Local Street Fund	\$ 452,440
Street Millage Fund	\$ 625,192
Housing Rehabilitation Fund	\$ 155,676
State Street Plaza	\$ 88,531
Transit Services	\$ 771,050
Wastewater Utility	\$ 1,692,652
Water Distribution	\$ 1,429,579
Refuse Collection	\$ 674,139
Discretely Presented Component Units	
Alma Downtown Development Authority	\$ 26,809
Alma Public Library	\$ 772,527

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Commission hereby approves capital projects to commence in fiscal year 2018-2019:

Public Works Garage ventilation system	\$ 28,000
Police lobby remodel	\$ 20,000
State Street Plaza boiler replacement	\$ 9,500
Police patrol vehicle	\$ 33,000
Portable davit arm personnel retrieval system	\$10,000
Lift Station generators	\$ 62,000
Lift Station #11 and #12 electrical upgrades	\$ 40,000
Warehouse Lift Station pumps	\$ 25,000
Lift Station bypasses	\$ 16,000
Lift Station #8 meter	\$ 8,000
Local Streets seal coat	\$ 80,000
Local Streets crack seal	\$ 37,648
Public Works equipment replacements	\$ 172,000
Hannah Street reconstruction	\$ 614,000
Pleasant Street reconstruction	\$ 608,000
Lincoln Street reconstruction	\$ 1,178,000
Center Street watermain replacement	\$ 171,000
Library digital sign	\$ 29,500

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Manager is hereby authorized to make transfers within appropriation functions as established in Michigan Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, 1968 Public Act 2, as amended. Transfers between functions may be made by further action of the City Commission.

Yes: Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman and Piccolo.

No: None.

Resolution Declared Adopted

Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington as supported by Commissioner Piccolo to introduce Ordinance #796 to amend Chapter 30 of the Ordinances of the City of Alma to allow for service of Civil Infraction Notices by First Class Regular Mail.

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

No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington as supported by Commissioner Piccolo to introduce Ordinance #797 to amend Chapter 30 of the Ordinances of the City of Alma to allow for service of Civil Infraction Citations by either Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested, restricted to the Alleged Violator, or by Parcel Service with Delivery restricted to the alleged violator.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Allman as supported by Commissioner Ayers to introduce Ordinance #798 to amend Article V of Chapter 12 of the Ordinances of the City of Alma to provide for the adoption of the International Property Maintenance Code, 2015 Edition, with certain amendments.

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

No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington as supported by Commissioner Ayers to introduce Ordinance #799 to amend Article III of Chapter 24 of the Ordinances of the City of Alma to provide for the adoption of the International Fire Code, 2018 Edition, with certain amendments.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Mott as supported by Commissioner Allman to approve Change Order #1 with McGuirk Sand & Gravel, Inc. for the 2017 CIP- Ely Street Project not to exceed \$50,000.00.

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

No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington as supported by Commissioner Piccolo to approve the Software and Services Agreement with BS&A Software for Financial Management, Personnel Management, Online Searches and Payments, Data Conversions/ Database Setup, Project Management, Implementation Planning and Training in the amount of \$114,235.00 and to authorize Payment #1 in the amount of \$39,040.00 to be paid at the execution of this agreement.

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

No: None.

Vice-Mayor Harrington excused herself from the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers as supported by Commissioner Nyman to receive the following reports and place them on file: Alma Police April 2018 report and the April 2018 Alma Transportation report.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Piccolo as supported by Commissioner Allman to approve a resolution reappointing Charlotte Schmidtke to the Alma Public Library Board for a five-year term ending 5/1/2023.

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

No: None.

Girl Scout Troop #50649 thanked the City Commission for letting them present their Silver Award Project "Habitat for Bats". The Troop will be building 25 Bat Houses. The Kent house is a small Bat house and the Maternity Bat House is considerably bigger and can house a mother and baby Bats. The cost to build the house is \$25 for the Kent House and \$45 for the Maternity House. The Troop is fund raising through sponsorships, in kind building material donations and dinners. Bats are important and the Girl Scouts have found that the Bat Habitat is disappearing. They need our protection. Bats eat over 7,000 bugs per night. Once the houses are built, the Girls will be looking for locations around Gratiot County to install them. Parks as well as residential areas could be used as a site for these houses. They would like to have the Fire Department help with the installation. Public Safety Administrator Mark Williams is willing to have the Firefighters help. He would like some notice to have the firefighters ready and available. The Girl Scout leader stated that the project needs to be completed by September 30th. She wanted to know who to contact at the City for permission to install the houses in Alma's Parks? Mayor Mapes told her Public Services Director Alan Leute is the person to contact.

Mayor Mapes congratulated the girls on their Public speaking and wished them good luck with the project.

Motion by Commissioner Piccolo as supported by Commissioner Ayers to approve Warrant No. 18-21 and to authorize the City Treasurer to issue checks in payment of all claims.

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

No: None.

Commissioner Mott pointed out that so many great things are happening. He congratulated the Girl Scouts. In the work session, the Commissioners were informed of many employees who had completed Certifications for their positions with the City. He congratulates them for their accomplishments. This is really exciting and he is also grateful to Staff and Cynthia Michels for the balanced budget.

Commissioner Allman thanked the Girl Scouts for their presentation. He feels that we are moving on the right track. The budget process was different than in the past but is working well. Neat things are happening.

Commissioner Ayers reminded all that it is Highland Festival weekend and hopes we have decent weather.

Commissioner Piccolo expressed that the Girl Scouts presentation was great. Citizens need to stay engaged to keep things working.

City Attorney Costanzo hopes to see everyone at the Highland Festival. Congratulations to all the City employees and the Girl Scouts did a fantastic job. He looks forward to giving them all his Bats.

City Manager Schooley echoed all the comments to the Girl Scouts. He wants to thank Staff for their hard work in going through this interesting process of preparing the budget. We will be keeping the Commission informed as the year develops. He wanted everyone to meet our new addition to City Hall, Mac, a Scottish dog sculpture done by local artist Justin LaDoux. He thanked Michelle Pitts for taking the lead in getting this accomplished and for Keep Alma Beautiful for purchasing the art work. He hopes everyone will have a fun time this weekend.

Mayor Mapes wanted to second Commissioner comments on the Bat presentation. He also wanted to acknowledge the City employees for their accomplishments: Kathy Roslund, certified Master Assessor, Aaron Hale and Aeric Ripley, certified Fire Inspectors, Mark Williams, Firefighters Swaton, Pratt and Irvin who obtained their Firefighters I and I training and Superintendent Bob Albrecht, certified Playground Safety Inspector. We have a great team who are enhancing their knowledge.

City Manager Schooley also made note that the Rebuild the Dream Park will be installing the new play structure on July 19, 20, and 21st. City employees will be taking the first shift of volunteers on July 19th. City Hall and the Library will be closed on that morning. All essential services will be working.

Mayor Mapes opened the floor for Public comments.

Laurie Wilson expressed her appreciation for firefighters and police officers. They do a fantastic job. She also informed the Commissioners that she has found out she has cancer and ask for their prayers.

Les Rosan sees improvements in the parks. He is undertaking a project to photograph the Pine River. He sees more and more families fishing. He feels there needs to be more warnings to the public on the E.coli in the river. He would like to hear about the studies done by Alma College on the strains of E.coli in the river. People should be cautious.

Commissioner Allman and Mayor Mapes addressed that the Pine River is in bad shape as well as other rivers in the State. After rain events the river is more dangerous. There are very smart people working on this but the solutions cost money. It will take a couple of generations before the problems can be solved. Talk to your elected officials, they are interested.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers as supported by Commissioner Allman to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

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

No: None.

Gregory S. Mapes, Mayor

Sheila Letourneau, City Clerk