

Work Session began at 5:30 p.m.

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

Absent: None.

City Manager Matt Schooley presented the following topics for discussion:

Informational

• IT Right Presentation

Paul Trinko, our Account Representative from IT Right will be here for a short presentation on how the work on our IT system has been going and to answer any questions about a quote that the City has obtained for a one-year contract for a Proactive Network Administration/Project Design and Management position.

Paul Trinko delivered to the Commission literature on the IT Right company and the progress they have made thus far in their support and a provider contract. The core infrastructure is now at 52 percent. IT Right would like to bring in a network administrator once a month to be on hand to help with the software and hardware changes. The cost would be \$1,000 per month for a term of one year.

• Bicycle Advisory Committee

A meeting was held on November 1st to see if there was interest in a citizen group that could assist the City in promoting and developing biking in Alma. There was a strong turnout by several folks who are very passionate and experienced in the cycling community. We had a good discussion about the direction the group would be comfortable with regarding their involvement. We decided that an ad hoc committee focused first on promoting what Alma has to offer in terms of cycling would be the best fit at this time. We talked extensively about the abundance of resources in this area for cycling and how we could use all of those to better promote what Alma has to offer. We are meeting again on November 15th to begin to set some goals and set the guidelines for the committee.

• Co/Op and Internships

The City Assessing Department has entered into a co-op program with Alma High School. Grace Catlin, a AHS senior began her program in the assessing department in late October. Grace will be working here most Monday – Fridays for a couple hours after school. We are very excited to renew a program with Alma High School that gives their students a chance to gain some real-life experience working here at the municipal building while helping Kathy to complete some projects and work that would be difficult to compete.

Justin Judge is an Alma College senior who will be starting an internship under my direction working with the Alma College Political Science Department. Justin will be taking on the task of developing and implementing a volunteer program for the City. In addition, Justin will be working on assisting me with our Community Engagement Policy and planning effort. I have been working with Dr. Ben Peterson from Alma College to assist him in finding a fit for their internship program. There are a couple other students who have expressed an interest in an internship – we are currently working on a couple other areas that we may be able to use their students. Recently the history department has also showed interest in the internship program. This is a great way for the City and Alma College to work together for both the community and their students.

• Political Sign Discussion – Ordinance 60-237 (15)

We have made notification to the residents that all political signage must be removed from properties within the City by November 13th. Below is the ordinance:

Political signs. Temporary political campaign signs announcing candidates seeking public political office and other election issues pertinent thereto shall be permitted up to a total area of eight square feet for each sign in a residential zone and 32 square feet in a commercial or industrial zone. These signs shall be

confined within private property and shall not encroach into the visibility triangle at street intersections. These signs may be displayed 60 days prior to and seven days after the election for which intended.

This has sparked an internal discussion about our current sign policy. Currently there is nowhere in our policy that allows for any other type of signage in our residential neighborhoods, i.e., “Alma Panther”, “Drive Like Your Kids Live Here”, and others. We would like to discuss the possibility of amending the ordinance to define what type of signage is permissible, how many, and how it may be displayed. Staff believes we need to be proactive with this issue and get something together before any issues arise.

• **Conditional Rezoning on Woodworth**

The City had received a request from Ivory Manor LLC to conditionally re-zone property that sits at 601 Woodworth and 110 Hastings. This property is zoned R1, Single Family. The conditional rezoning would allow the former Christ the Scientist Church to be used for office professional, as defined by the OS, Officer Services zoning district. As required by the Conditional Rezoning Ordinance, Aeric Ripley held the pre-application conference with residents in the neighborhood. The conference allowed the neighborhood and applicant the opportunity to talk about possible conditions and concerns with the requested rezoning. Aeric advised that the discussion was beneficial as all involved parties were able to state their feelings and have their points heard. In the end the pre-application identified the necessary issues and conditions that will be a part of the formal application for rezoning. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on December 3, 2018 on the conditional rezoning application. Aeric believes this process can be helpful in other areas having to do with zoning questions. This also helps to fulfill some of the City’s requirements with the Redevelopment Ready Communities project.

Questions and brief discussion followed. The November 13, 2018, City Commission work session concluded at 6:03 p.m.

**Alma, Michigan
November 13, 2018**

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 Ayers as supported by Commissioner Piccolo to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2018 regular meeting and the October 23, 2018 Executive Closed 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, December 11, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. to consider a request from Shiloh, Inc. for a PA 198 Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate.

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

No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington as supported by Commissioner Allman to approve the consent agenda request for payments in the following amounts: \$1,500.55 to Engage2Excel for employee service awards; \$2,500.00 to Gratiot Area Chamber of Commerce for the membership fee for year 2019; \$6,542.00 to

Michigan Municipal League Workers Compensation Fund; \$1,800.97 to White Pine Library Cooperative for the Library's Online Overdrive Subscription Service and \$13,321.00 to Chase for the interest due on the Library debt for the period 06/01/18 – 11/30/18.

Yes: Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.
No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers as supported by Commissioner Nyman to approve the request for purchase in the amount of \$2,600.00 to Commercial Blue Print for the annual maintenance fee for the OCE Plotter for the Engineering Department.

Yes: Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.
No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington as supported by Commissioner Ayers to approve Ordinance #804 to amend Chapter 22 of the Ordinances of the City of Alma by the addition of Section 22-1 through 22-8 to regulate and prohibit certain wells within the City.

Yes: Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.
No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Allman as supported by Commissioner Nyman to approve the introduction of Ordinance #805 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.

The premises hereinafter described, currently zoned as R-1, Single Family Residential District, be and hereby is conditionally rezoned to R-2, Two-Family Residential Zoning 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:

COM AT A PT 578.17 FT E & 41.25 FT S OF N 1/4 POST OF NW 1/4 OF NE 1/4 OF SEC 4-11-3 TH S 110 FT TO A PT 578.17 FT E 151.25 FT S OF SAID N 1/4 POST, TH SE'LY TO A PT 628.17 FT E & 252.9 FT S OF SAID N 1/4 POST, TH W 157.7 FT, N 121.65 FT E 82.7 FT N 90 FT, E 25 FT TO POB.(314 Harvard)

Yes: Allman, Ayers, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Nyman & Piccolo.
No: None.

Commissioner Piccolo presented the meeting notes of the November 6 and 13, 2018 Committee for the Medical Marihuana Facilities Ordinance:

Procedure/Application Committee for the Medical Marihuana Facilities Ordinance City
City Commission Update:
November 6 & November 13, 2018

MEMBERS & MEETING

The task force Convened on November 6 and November 13, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present (11/06): Aaron Hale, Aeric Ripley, Matt Schooley, Mark Williams, Alan Leute, Daren Johnson, Roger Allman, and Nick Piccolo

Members Present (11/13): Aaron Hale, Daren Johnson, Justin Judge (intern), Aeric Ripley, Matt Schooley,

Mark Williams, Roger Allman, Don Ayers, and Nick Piccolo

MATTERS AND ISSUES DISCUSSED

- The task force meetings included unit heads of departments responsible for aspects of the process and its regulation.
- The Task Force reviewed and suggested edits to drafts of the *Marihuana Facilities License Application* and *Alma City Policy on the Issuance of Medical Marihuana Licenses*.
- Mr. Aaron Hale will create a *Zoning Pre-Qualification Form* for interested applicants.
- The next steps will be to complete edits to the documents and presentation of the information to the commissioners for their review. The intent is to present the information to the Alma City Commission no later than the December 11, 2018 meeting.
- Upon commission approval and subsequent legal review, and informational meeting for interested parties will be scheduled January and applications available beginning in February.

Motion by Commissioner Ayers as supported by Commissioner Nyman to receive the following reports and place them on file: Alma Transit Center October 2018 report; Building Permit October 2018 report; Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of October 1, 2018; Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes of October 24, 2018 and the Medical Marihuana Facilities Task Force meeting notes.

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

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Allman as supported by Commissioner Nyman to approve Warrant No. 19-09 and to authorize the City Treasurer to issue checks in payment of all claims.

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

No: None.

Mayor Mapes asked for Commissioner comments.

Commissioner Ayers wanted to congratulate Michelle Pitts and Audra Stahl on their election to the Commission. He thanked all those that voted.

Commissioner Allman also congratulated Michelle Pitts and Audra Stahl on their election. He commented on the Gratiot Community Foundation grant, the City's proposal was not granted and congratulated St. Louis on receiving the grant. He thanked the Committee for their hard work and they will keep working to try and obtain the grant next year.

City Manager Schooley reported that the litigation case has come to an end with receiving formal communications from the Court and that the communication will be available through the Freedom of Information Act.

Mayor Mapes thanked those that helped with the foundation grant proposal. He also congratulated the new Commissioners election. He stated that we will all miss Commissioners Ayers and Nyman.

Mayor Mapes opened the floor for Public comment.

Laurie Wilson, 517 Michigan, St Louis told the Commission that she recently lost her son and thanked all for their support.

Michelle Pitts, 626 Slater wanted to thank Don Ayers and Mel Nyman for their service to the City for all these years.

Les Rosan, 889 Mill expressed his interest in making Alma a biking community. He passed out information about his second home Gulf Shores, Alabama on their biking community plan. He also feels that promoting Air B&B's is a good plan.

Being no further Public comment, Mayor Mapes asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington as supported by Commissioner Mott to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:42 p.m.

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

No: None.

Gregory S. Mapes, Mayor

Sheila Letourneau, City Clerk