

Mayor Greg Mapes called a regular meeting of the Alma City Commission to order at 6:00 p.m. The virtual meeting was held via Zoom.com and livestreamed through the City of Alma's YouTube channel. A quorum of the Commission was present via Zoom for the meeting.

*Agenda Amendment*

**Motion by Mott, seconded by Commissioner Allman, to amend the agenda for September 22, 2020 as follows:**

**M. New Business:**

2. Presentation from Scott Mertes of Mid-Michigan College regarding ballot proposals.

**Motion carried with a roll call vote.**

**Yes:** Allman, Mapes, Mott, Piccolo, Pitts, and Stahl.

**No:** none.

**Absent:** Harrington.

*Roll Call*

**Present:** Roger Allman, Greg Mapes, Larry Mott, Nick Piccolo, Michelle Pitts, and Audra Stahl.

**Absent:** Roxann Harrington (excused).

*Pledge of Allegiance*

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

*Approval of Minutes*

**Motion by Commissioner Piccolo, seconded by Commissioner Allman, to approve minutes of the regular meeting of September 8, 2020 as presented. Motion carried with a roll call vote.**

**Yes:** Mott, Piccolo, Pitts, Stahl, Allman, Mapes.

**No:** none.

**Absent:** Roxann Harrington.

*Communications*

*Hearings*

*Consent Agenda*

*Requests for Purchase*

**220-0120** Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Piccolo, to adopt a resolution to approve a request for purchase of 200 tons of road salt at \$64.48 a ton, for a total of \$12,896.00, from Detroit Salt Company LC for the upcoming winter season.

**Yes:** Allman, Mapes, Mott, Piccolo, Pitts, Stahl.

**No:** none.

**Absent:** Harrington.

Resolution declared adopted.

*Recommendation on Bids*

*Resolutions*

**2020-0121** Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Stahl, to proclaim Saturday, October 31, 2020, as "Halloween" for trick or treating, and to set trick or treat hours for 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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

**2020-0122** Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Mott, to adopt a resolution to ratify a purchase agreement between the Alma Downtown Development Authority and Gemini Capital XIV, LLC for \$5,000 to purchase 315 E. Superior Street for the purpose of constructing a new building in downtown Alma.

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

*Ordinances*

*Agreements*

*Reports*

The City Manager's report was pulled for further discussion.

**Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Pitts, to receive the following reports: Planning Commission Minutes of September 14, 2020 and September 2020 Finance Report. Motion carried with a roll call vote.**

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

**Motion by Commissioner Piccolo, seconded by Commissioner Allman, to receive the City Manager's Report.**

Mayor Mapes called for comments or discussion. City Manager Schooley reviewed the following items in his report:

- Local blight issues and measures being taken to remedy those issues
- Status of the planned unit development plan for 319 E. Downie
- Alma College Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Board
- Repainting of the downtown trash cans
- Early installation of Christmas decorations downtown
- Small Business Restart Grant recipients
- Upcoming "Beautiful Together" presentation by Julian Newman

Discussion followed on the road construction project on East Superior. Public Services Director David Ringle answered questions from Commissioners.

**Motion to receive the City Manager's Report carried with a roll call vote.**

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

*Appointments*

*Unfinished Business*

**2020-0123** Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Stahl, to approve a resolution to adopt the General Utility Billing Policy and Procedures, attached hereto as Attachment A.

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

*New Business*

A motion was made by Commissioner Mott and seconded by Commissioner Allman to create a solid waste task force. Commissioner Piccolo volunteered to head the task force. Commissioners Mott and Allman also volunteered to be a part of the task force. Discussion followed about how many Commissioners should be on the task force and if members of the community or staff should be included. The initial motion was amended by a friendly agreement to simply create the task force with additional information to be determined later.

**2020-0124** Motion by Commissioner Mott, seconded by Commissioner Allman, to create a task force for the purpose of reviewing solid waste collection issues, considering options for changes to the current contract, and returning recommendations to the City Commission.

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

Scott Mertes of Mid-Michigan College gave a presentation about Mid-Michigan's ballot proposals regarding annexation and millage increase. He explained that the annexation is an "invitation" to areas surrounding their district to join the district to allow students to receive the in-district tuition rates for classes at Mid. He also offered information about the request for a millage increase. Discussion followed as Mertes answered questions from Commissioners.

*Appropriations*

**2020-0125** Motion by Commissioner Piccolo, seconded by Commissioner Pitts, to adopt a resolution approving Warrant No. 20-30 and authorizing the City Treasurer to issue checks in payment of all claims.

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

*Commissioner's Comments*

Commissioner Mott encouraged everyone to complete their census information. Commissioner Stahl agreed and also thanked City Manager Schooley for the information about Julian Newman's seminar. She recommended that everyone check out the Child Advocacy page for information about other seminars available in this area. Commissioner Allman asked about absent voter ballots. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Mott mentioned the article that proclaimed Alma "6<sup>th</sup> in the nation" for real estate sales.

*Invitation to Public*

Tim Lambrecht, Gratiot County Commissioner representing Alma, spoke briefly about the ad hoc airport committee and the Parks & Rec subcommittee that was formed to work out details for grants being administered from the county parks millage. He also spoke about the county's recently approved budget.

*Adjournment*

**Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Piccolo, to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.**

**Motion carried with a roll call vote.**

**Yes: Allman, Mapes, Mott, Piccolo, Pitts, and Stahl.**

**No: none.**

**Absent: Harrington.**

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Gregory S. Mapes, Mayor, City of Alma

  
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Sara Anderson, City Clerk, City of Alma

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Date of Approval