

Mayor Greg Mapes called a regular meeting of the Alma City Commission to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Alma Municipal Building. A quorum of the Commission was present.

Roll Call

Present: Roxann Harrington, Greg Mapes, Michelle Pitts, Audra Stahl, and Daniel Wernick.

Absent: Roger Allman and Nick Piccolo.

2022-0110 Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Wernick, to approve the agenda with an addition to "Resolutions". Motion carried.

Yes: Harrington, Mapes, Pitts, Stahl, and Wernick.

No: none.

Absent: Allman and Piccolo.

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

2022-00111 Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Vice-Mayor Harrington, to approve minutes of the April 18, 2022, special meeting and the April 26, 2022, regular meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Yes: Harrington, Mapes, Pitts, Stahl, and Wernick.

No: none.

Absent: Allman and Piccolo.

Communications

2022-0112 Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Wernick, to receive a communication regarding the interim city manager. Motion carried.

Yes: Harrington, Mapes, Pitts, Stahl, and Wernick.

No: none.

Absent: Allman and Piccolo.

Hearings

2022-0113 Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington, seconded by Commissioner Stahl, to open a public hearing at 6:03 p.m. for review of the Proposed FY 2023 Annual City Budget and the related property tax millage rates. Motion carried.

Yes: Harrington, Mapes, Pitts, Stahl, and Wernick.

No: none.

Absent: Allman and Piccolo.

Interim City Manager Aeric Ripley provided information regarding proposed millage rates. Ripley explained a headlee rollback would be required for this year and calculations are in process. Staff recommends no change to the transit or general fund millage at this time other than Headlee rollbacks. Voted street millage will also be subject to Headlee rollback. Staff also recommends reducing the library bond millage from 1.5 to 1 mill and increasing the local library millage from .5 to 1.0 to assist with the operating budget deficit. A general fund contribution will still be necessary but will give administration time to work on changes for FY 2024. Additional detail will be presented at the May 17th meeting. The proposed general fund budget is balanced.

Discussion followed regarding the need to work towards a sustainable budget.

Public comment:

Barb Fandell-Alma, spoke about how the proposed changes could affect the county library millage proposition.

Susan Hunter-Alma, spoke about the current financial condition of the library and encouraged Commissioners to provide support.

No additional public comments were offered.

2022-0114 Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Vice-Mayor Harrington, to close the public hearing for review of the proposed FY 2023 annual budget and related millage rates at 6:24 p.m. Motion carried.

Yes: Harrington, Mapes, Pitts, Stahl, and Wernick.

No: none.

Absent: Allman and Piccolo.

2022-0115 Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington, seconded by Commissioner Wernick, to open a public hearing at 6:24 p.m. for consideration of a special assessment roll for unpaid charges for noxious weed cutting, sidewalk replacement, and utility billing charges for 2021. Motion carried.

Yes: Harrington, Mapes, Pitts, Stahl, and Wernick.

No: none.

Absent: Allman and Piccolo.

Finance Director Curtis Dancer explained the charges included in the special assessment roll and noted those on the list have until May 31st to make payment and avoid having charges rolled over onto summer taxes.

Brief discussion followed about the cost of the mowing service. Ripley answered questions. No public comments were offered.

2022-0116 Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington, seconded by Commissioner Pitts, to close the public hearing regarding unpaid assessments at 6:28 p.m. Motion carried.

Yes: Harrington, Mapes, Pitts, Stahl, and Wernick.

No: none.

Absent: Allman and Piccolo.

2022-0117 Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington, seconded by Commissioner Pitts, to open a public hearing at 6:28 p.m. to receive comments on a proposed application for a Community Development Block Grant for improvements at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Motion carried.

Yes: Harrington, Mapes, Pitts, Stahl, and Wernick.

No: none.

Absent: Allman and Piccolo.

Public Services Director David Ringle explained the nature of the grant opportunity and the project that would receive funds if awarded. The grant would help to offset costs to convert the wastewater treatment plant from chlorine gas disinfection to other safer treatment options. Total project cost is expected to be \$962,500. A 25% match of \$240,625 from the city would mean a better chance of being awarded the grant.

John Tanner, OHM Advisors, provided additional information and answered questions.