

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: Roger Allman, Greg Mapes, Nick Piccolo, Michelle Pitts, Audra Stahl, and Daniel Wernick.
Absent: Roxann Harrington.

2022-00193 Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Pitts, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.
Yes: Allman, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, Stahl, and Wernick.
No: none.
Absent: Harrington.

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

2022-00194 Motion by Commissioner Piccolo, seconded by Commissioner Allman, to approve minutes of the July 12, 2022, regular meeting, as presented. Motion carried.
Yes: Allman, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, Stahl, and Wernick.
No: none.
Absent: Harrington.

Communications

2022-0195 Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Piccolo, to receive a communication regarding the Charles Avenue parking lot fence.

Lengthy discussion was held amongst Commission members, City Manager, and City Attorney Tony Costanzo regarding the type, purchase, and installation of the fence.

Motion to receive the communication carried.

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

Hearings

2022-0196 Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Piccolo, to set a public hearing for Tuesday, August 9, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the agenda allows, for the purpose of determining whether the following described premises shall be designated and established as a Commercial Rehabilitation District under P.A. 210 of 2005: 111 W. Superior Street (also known as 29-51-031-038-15).

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

Agreements

2022-0197 Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Piccolo, to adopt a resolution authorizing the execution of engagement letters between the City of Alma and the Alma Transit Center and Yeo & Yeo, CPAs & Business Consultants for the purpose of conducting annual year-end audits for a total fee of \$28,985, also to authorize the City Manager to sign both letters on behalf of the City and Alma Transit Center.
Yes: Allman, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, Stahl, and Wernick.

No: none.
Absent: Harrington.
Resolution declared adopted.

2022-0198 Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Allman, to adopt a resolution approving Change Order #1 and Change Order #2 to the contract with Ward's Excavating for the Francisco Avenue reconstruction project, effecting a total contract increase of \$23,639.77, due to additional work required to lower an existing water main and add a drive culvert.

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

Reports

2022-0199 Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Piccolo, to receive the following reports: Planning Commission July 11, 2022, Draft Meeting Minutes and July 21, 2022, Finance Report. Motion carried.

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

2022-0200 Motion by Commissioner Pitts, seconded by Commissioner Piccolo, to receive the City Manager's July 21, 2022, Report.

City Manager Aeric Ripley reviewed items in his newsletter including an update to phone bids discussed at the previous meeting, proposed amendments to the Fireworks and ORV ordinances, creation of a golf cart ordinance, the proposed Utilities Coordinator position, a status update on street maintenance projects, dates set for street millage communication information meetings, and an update on the Gratiot Community Airport. Ripley answered questions from Commissioners and discussion followed several of the items.

Motion to receive the City Manager's July 21, 2022 Report carried.
Yes: Allman, Mapes, Piccolo, Pitts, Stahl, and Wernick.
No: none.
Absent: Harrington.

Unfinished Business

2022-0201 Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Piccolo, to rescind Resolution 2022-0185 passed July 12, 2022, regarding approval of a five-year lease agreement with Cherry Road Technology for a VoIP Phone System Replacement, and adopt a resolution to approve the purchase of a VoIP Phone System Replacement, for a contract total amount of \$110,896.01, together with an allowance not to exceed \$1,000 for the purchase of additional phones to be used as back-ups, if necessary, also to authorize the Finance Director to sign the related agreement.

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

Appropriations

2022-0202 Motion by Commissioner Piccolo, seconded by Commissioner Pitts, to adopt a resolution approving Warrant No. 23-02 and authorizing the City Treasurer to issue checks in payment of all claims.

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

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Allman spoke about the upcoming Lucky McDuck, Alma Alive, and local theater events. Commissioner Stahl shared positive comments she had received regarding Alma's downtown. Commissioner Pitts also spoke about local events. Commissioner Piccolo mentioned Alma Police Department's certification process. Mayor Mapes also spoke about an upcoming local event.

Public Comment

Connie Fox, of Alma, asked the Commission about the possibility of a splash pad. Discussion followed.

Allen Martin, Consume Cannabis of Alma, encouraged the Commission to consider an ordinance amendment to allow sales of adult use recreational marijuana within city limits.

John Lemmerman, of Alma, thanked City Manager Ripley for attending local meetings and being a good ambassador for Alma.

Discussion followed about public comment and Robert's Rules of Order. Discussion was also held regarding a sub-committee to review the marijuana ordinance.

Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Piccolo, seconded by Commissioner Pitts, to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m. Motion carried.

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

Greg Mapes, City of Alma

Sara Anderson, City Clerk, City of Alma

Date of Approval