

Present: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Piccolo, Pitts & Stahl.

Absent: None.

Work Session began at 5:30 p.m.

City Manager Schooley presented the April 18, 2019 Newsletter for discussion:

Agenda Items

Reports

Starting this week Assessor Kathy Roslund will be submitting a monthly Reappraisal report that will be included in your agenda packet.

Informational

Transit Discussions with Pine River Township.

As you may have seen in the paper, Pine River Township is still in the process of making some decisions in regard to transit. We did have a discussion earlier this week and we decided the service would be continued through the end of May while we look for a solution. Let me take this opportunity to clear up a couple points. Transit to the areas in Pine River that are connected to the City have always received service. Prior to 2015 the cost for that service was prohibitive and seldom used. When the price changed (greater than in city) ridership jumped. There has always been an understanding that those who wished to have transit service would need to contribute. Brett Baublitz and I met with the Township on April 15th and discussed all of this. Many possible solutions were presented to the Township. Our hope is this can be resolved prior to the end of May before the service is eliminated.

Small Town and Rural Development Conference

Thanks to a scholarship from Consumers Energy I was able to attend the Small Town and Rural Development Conference at Crystal Mountain earlier this week. I attended breakout sessions on the growth of prosperity through telework, how to utilize community capital, and placemaking. The keynote speaker, Doug Griffith, presented on his best-selling book, 13 Ways to Kill Your Community. Overall it was a very good learning and networking experience. Most of the communities represented are facing similar issues. This conference focused more on what we can do to truly make a difference. It takes action and commitment to make that difference. I believe we have started down that path and I'm anxious to research some of the programs that were presented.

City Manager Review

The contract for the City Manager states that he shall have an annual review. The date of the contract for hire was March 3, 2018. I am asking that the Commission to set a procedure for such review at their earliest convenience.

Budget Review for April 23

The majority of the work session will be dedicated to the discussion of the FY2020 Budget. Areas to be covered include: The Legislative Function (City Commission), Chief Executive Function (City Manager), Finance and Tax Function (City Clerk, Assessing, and Treasury).

Discussion followed on each of these Functions of the General Fund. Salaries and Wages of the City Manager and City Clerk are being allocated to their specific fund this budget year. In the past, the City Manager and Clerk's salaries were allocated amongst other functions of the General Fund. The Treasurer function is being proposed as a part time position of the Finance Department. Assessing contract with Legacy Assessing to

complete the reappraisal assessments for the City of Alma will continue FY2020. There are no major changes to these budgets. FY 2020 budget is comparable to FY2019 budget.

Staff was available to answer questions regarding these specific areas.

Discussions on the budget will continue on April 30, 2019 at the posted Special Meeting to discuss Zoning, Economic Development, Inspection Services, Parks and Library.

The Alma City Commission work session and Budget Review concluded at 6:10 p.m.

**Alma, Michigan
April 23, 2019**

Mayor Mapes called a regular meeting of the Alma City Commission to order at 6:10 p.m. at the Alma Municipal Building.

Present: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Piccolo, Pitts & Stahl.

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 Allman as supported by Commissioner Piccolo to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2019 regular meeting.

Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Piccolo, Pitts & Stahl.

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Mott as supported by Commissioner Piccolo to set a Public Hearing for May 14, 2019 at 6:00 pm to consider the creation of an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation District for the property located at 317 N State Street for the purposes of creating upper story apartments.

Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mott, Piccolo, Pitts & Stahl.

No: None.

Abstain: Mapes.

Motion by Commissioner Piccolo as supported by Commissioner Allman to set a public hearing for May 14, 2019 at 6:05 pm to consider the creation of an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation District for the property located at 116, 118 & 120 E Superior Street for the purposes of creating upper story apartments.

Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Piccolo, Pitts & Stahl.

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Piccolo as supported by Commissioner Pitts to receive the bids for the 2019 Pavement Marking Contract:

Advanced Pavement Marking, LLC, West Olive, MI	\$28,535.35** Recommended bidder
Michigan Pavement Markings, LLC, Wyoming, MI	\$29,649.40

and award the contract to low bidder: Advanced Pavement Marking, LLC in the amount of \$28,535.35.

Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Piccolo, Pitts & Stahl.

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Allman as supported by Commissioner Stahl to approve the Alma Highland Festival Committee's request to operate their entertainment tent from 6:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. on Friday, May 24th, noon to 1:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 25th and 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday May 26, 2019, pursuant to Ordinance No. 695 which allows the City Commission to approve the three-day variance to the noise ordinance.

Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Piccolo, Pitts & Stahl.

No: None.

Motion by Vice-Mayor Harrington as supported by Commissioner Pitts to receive the following reports and place them on file: Alma Transit Center March 2019 Report and City of Alma Property Reappraisal Report, 04/18/2019.

Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Piccolo, Pitts & Stahl.

No: None.

Motion by Commissioner Piccolo as supported by Commissioner Allman to approve Warrant No. 19-20 and to authorize the City Treasurer to issue checks in payment of all claims.

Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Piccolo, Pitts & Stahl.

No: None.

Mayor Mapes asked for Commissioner comments.

Commissioner Allman informed the Commission that the Queen of Scots pageant will be Friday at 7:00 p.m. at the Heritage Center. There are 10 candidates for Queen of Scots and 8 for Wee Queen of Scots.

Commissioner Mott inquired on when Keep Alma Beautiful will be having their Spring Clean-Up day. That day has been scheduled for May 18, 2019.

Commissioner Pitts wanted to thank all the volunteers who have been cleaning the parks and all the local citizens who on their walks are picking up litter.

City Attorney Costanzo informed the Commission that Alma Public Schools Hall of Fame is accepting Nominations to the Hall of Fame of past Alma Athletes, Coaches or Ambassadors. Talk to Athletic Director, Eric Huff. We have a great Athletic tradition here in Alma.

City Manager Schooley stated that ProNexus has started today and we will continue to move forward.

Commissioner Allman asked about the sidewalk that needs to be put in place at the Wright Dream Park. City Manager Schooley stated that the Asphalt plants do not open up until May 1st and we are waiting for the ground to dry up. We are top priority on the Contract's list to get the project completed.

Mayor Mapes is happy to finally have Spring weather.

Mayor Mapes opened the floor for Public Comments.

Laurie Wilson, 517 Michigan, St. Louis, wanted to thank the Alma Fire District Department for assisting the St. Louis Fire Department in a house fire on Easter Sunday.

Lynn Ludy, of the Alma American Red Cross informed the Commission that the Red Cross has met the Family needs.

Les Rosan, 889 Mill, expressed that Handicap parking enforcement cannot be accomplished with just painting the curbs blue; signage is required also. He noted that he did not find any directional signage by the Opera House Block and the alley was covered with sand that would make a wheelchair unable to transverse. Would like the City to take a closer look at this alley.

There being no additional Public comment, Mayor Mapes asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Commissioner Piccolo as supported by Commissioner Pitts to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Yes: Allman, Harrington, Mapes, Mott, Piccolo, Pitts & Stahl.

No: None.

Gregory S. Mapes, Mayor

Sheila Letourneau, City Clerk