

A regular meeting of the Alma Downtown Development Authority (ADDA) was held at the Alma Municipal Building. **A quorum of the Authority was present.**

Authority members present: Stacey Ensz, Carol Freed, Greg Mapes, Canyon Platt, Andy Shafley, Ken Solomon, Katie Tobias.

Authority members absent: Joe Ahern (arrived after roll call), Nancy Gallagher, Ken Kline, Donna Kolar, and Brent Moeggenberg.

DDA Director Aeric Ripley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Mapes, seconded by Shafley, to approve the minutes of February 10, 2022, and April 21, 2022, as presented. Motion carried.

Downtown Tree Plan

Ripley briefly reviewed the downtown tree report, noting the health of each of the trees was considered and rated in relation to their condition, with rating numbers and a map of the tree locations included in the report. He also explained there was a recommendation for five different tree species that may be acceptable replacements. It will be up to the Authority to develop a plan for removal and replacement and which species will be replanted in available locations.

Ripley was asked if the way trees have been trimmed had an impact on the health of the tree. Ripley said the report included recommendations for managing the care of the trees.

Discussion followed about the poor health of several of the trees. Ripley suggested the health of the tree could be a good foundation for the removal and replacement plan. Platt noted the plan recommends the removal of the six unhealthiest trees as soon as possible. Additional discussion followed about the cost of purchasing new trees.

Joe Ahern arrived at 6:11 p.m.

Discussion continued about the cost of tree removal. Freed asked about the root system of the proposed trees. Mapes asked about infrastructure. Ripley said no new lines had been added there in the last twenty-three years, to his knowledge. He added they had found brick pavers under the asphalt when the new GAWA line went through on Prospect several years ago, and they also found a functioning wood watermain.

Freed asked about budget for the project. Ripley answered no money was in the budget until July of 2023, and this would be a good time to develop a plan. Solomon suggested starting with trees that are rated "4" and "5". Additional discussion followed about the time span for the removal/replacement plan, how many trees per year, which species to choose, and issues with some of the recommended species.

Ripley asked members to consider the information provided, so the group can begin working on a plan.

Trash Receptacles

Ripley explained downtown trash receptacles had finally been received. Originally the group talked about using a patio block to weight down the trash cans, but after looking at the cans, it would seem a patio block is too thick and not heavy enough to hold the can in place. Ripley said they had been seeking quotes for 1" thick steel plates

that would be heavy enough to hold the can in place, but it would be moveable, if necessary. He has received a quote for \$4500 and another for \$3900. Mapes asked if there was anyone local who could do the work. Discussion followed about possibilities. Solomon suggested approving a not to exceed amount in case a local option could be found at a lower price.

Motion by Solomon, seconded by Freed, to approve up to \$4,000 for the purchase of ballasts for downtown trash receptacles. Motion carried.

Discussion followed about the next meeting date. Ripley asked the group to consider moving meetings to the third or fourth week of the month. The group agreed to the fourth Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be August 24, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Freed, seconded by Shafley, to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 p.m. Motion carried.



Sara Anderson, Alma City Clerk

Date of Approval: November 30, 2022