

Almena City Council

The Almena City Council was called to order at 7 PM on Monday, July 12, 2021 by Mayor Tracy Stutsman. Answering roll call were Bob Hawks, Amy Chandler, and Brian Sproul. A quorum was declared.

The minutes from the last meeting were read by City Clerk, Cathy Rivera. It was moved and seconded to approve the June 7th, 2021 Minutes. MOTION CARRIED. The agenda was adopted with said changes: New Business- (e) Moving of Trees and Welcome sign, (f) Community Garden, (e) Stop Signs. Visitors: Joyce Quinn and Larry Nelson. MOTION CARRIED.

Fire Chief Report – Fire Chief not present

Visitor Recognition-

- Cynthia Schemper- Requesting permission to serve beer at no charge on Main Street for Ron Wagner’s Memorial. MOTION CARRIED
- Joyce Quinn- Railroad & Ives requesting stop sign to improve safety
- Larry Nelson- Addressed various pot holes and volunteered rock to help repair

New Business

- Water Salesman Rate Increase- To \$8.00 per 1,000 gal this will help offset costs of needed repair to bulk water system and building. MOTION CARRIED. Ordinance will be passed next session.
- Housing Incentives- Confirmed 203 & 205 Main as available for the “free lot” program for building new homes under the Norton County Economic Development program.
- Animal Nuisance Compliant- Horses at Large causing damage at 1004 S Van Horn.
- Moving of Trees and Welcome sign- Due to KDOT 383 project, the corner of 383 & Main is required. KDOT needing cost of 2 replacement trees and costs involved in moving Welcome Sign.
- Community Garden- Needing to remove unused garden boxes- Almena Pride will be notified to assist
- Stop Signs- Various stop signs around town are faded and will need to be updated

Old Business

- 512 Main Update- Memorial pocket park further discussed monument options and progress made- awaiting signing of ownership contract and written design/quote.
- 301 Washington- Will apply for ½ price landfill with Norton County now that the process has been clarified.
- Security Badge packet given to members- Pictures to be taken next month with information forms turned in.
- Hazard Mitigation Plan- Brian Sproul to assist. Chandler will further check on generator and outside hook ups.
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Attorney Report

- None at this time
- Horses “at large” in City. Discussion of options to resolve issue. If further complaints, notify so formal proceedings can begin.

City Operator Report:

- Well House #5 (Water Salesman) received parts, now in operation. Before receiving more detailed quote on needed electrical repair, building will need to be replaced. Bob will put together quote for new structure.
- South Water Tower- 2 quotes received \$65,641 from Suez and \$8,800 from Tank Connection. MOTION CARRIED to go with Tank Connection.
- Township Rd needs work- City is responsible. Brian Sproul offered to assist with hauling rock.
- Intersection at Washington & Bryant- Contacted by Ken Tharman, curbs and/or street needing repair. School will pay for curbs. City costs would be \$7,000 for street. Council agreed to wait at this time.

City Clerk Report (reported by Deputy, City Clerk not present)

- American Rescue Funds- Applied for. Getting info from Ranson Financial Services to assist with grant.
- City Scammed for \$387 from QB Advisors.
- Discussed needing a sub committee to work on Evacuation planning for Almena, Brian Sproul volunteered and suggested Ryan Keith also be a part of the committee.

Deputy City Clerk Report-

- Compliance Report- Properties Update 913 Pratt Ave and 130 Bryant being mowed. Owners will be charged /assessed.

Financial Report

- Approve Bills MOTION CARRIED.
- Balance Sheet
- Check register
- Delinquent Accounts Status

With no further business it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 PM. MOTION CARRIED.
The next meeting will be Monday, August 2nd, at 7 PM.

Annette Puent, Deputy City Clerk. Minutes are not approved until next meeting.