

# Almena City Council

The October 7, 2019 meeting did not have a Quorum. It was decided to find a date next week that will work because of the Harvest season affecting several Council Members.

The Almena City Council was called to order at 8 AM on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 by President, Bob Hawks, because of the Absence of Mayor Tracy Stutsman. Answering roll call were Amy Chandler, Bob Hawks, Ethan Hays, & Brian Sproul. A quorum was declared.

The minutes from the last meeting were read by President Bob Hawks. It was moved and seconded to approve the August 2019 minutes as written, MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made to adopt the Agenda. Motion Carried.

No Fire Chief report was given, the Fire Chief was not present.

Special: Update on Water Project from Alan Luttrell Pay Estimate 8 was submitted, and Change Order 6 (not yet tabulated). Alan said that we are still waiting for the rest of the 1' meters. Three meters installed are leaking on the City side and will be fixed. It was moved and seconded to pay Estimate 8 for \$127,942.00. MOTION CARRIED. Change order 6 was discussed and it was moved and seconded to pay Change order 6 in the amount of \$5,000.00. Motion Carried.

## Visitor Recognition

- Barbara Thompson requested that the City Council send a letter to The President of the United States. She requested this letter address the crisis in Turkey and to ask the President to stop normalizing corruption, and that Trump should follow the path of Richard Nixon. She provided a letter of points of information she would like included in the letter. One council member suggested that she prepare her own letter and see how many signatures she can get, rather than involve the City Council. The City Clerk stated that the council could not assist with her personal agenda and that it was an inappropriate request. The letter will not be sent.
- Jim Bland was present to discuss some street lights that are burn out and or fading. Chandler said he was aware of this and that he would be contacted Prairie Land but that Jim could contact them as well. Jim would also like to move a speed limit sign a short distance to accommodate his new fence. After discussion this request was granted. Jim also had concerns about the need for grading and sweeping the streets. Chandler will explore options and the cost of purchasing a sweeper that would work for our streets.

## Deputy City Clerk Report-Compliance Report Update

- Discussion on the letters to be sent to auction the junk vehicles from the holding area that were towed. Jeniece said we need to choose a date for the auction of these vehicles. Doug stated there is a letter to be sent first, indicating a sale will take place and owners will have 15 days to pay the costs and recover their vehicles. This letter will be sent to all concerned this week so we can move forward on this and begin the process with more vehicles.

## New Business:

- The timing of the City Council meetings was discussed. The date might be changed to the second Monday of the month (which will allow more accurate account balances to the Council, by waiting until statements are reconciled), and the time changed to 6 PM. (This will be run by one councilman that was absent to ensure there is not a conflict).
- Cathy stated we need to buy 2 USB External Backups at a cost of \$115.00 each. One USB will be stored off site and they will be switched out each week.
- Cathy discussed 2 residents living in properties without water service. Doug Sebelius said give them notice and also the Landlord. This can also be moved to Municipal Court, because a functioning water and sewer system is required.
- Cathy suggested a review of the Rental Rate for the Community Building. She will check on other rental/deposit rates in surrounding Communities.

#### Old Business

- Pit Bull on 403 Washington. There has been no evidence of a pit bull at this address.
- Houses in need of repair. Amy suggest we move forward to correct the problems.

#### Attorney Report

- No Report

#### City Operator Report:

- Chandler reported that the chip and seal was completed on Pratt Avenue, milling are on the sides and the chip and seal on the rest. Cost was \$32,400, also chip and seal was completed on Brockton. This was paid for under the Water project.

#### City Clerk Report-Cathy Rivera

- Cathy reported on the Clerks Regional Meeting in Hays that she and Jeniece attended. It was very beneficial and we learned that the upcoming Census is very important, providing roughly 2k of community services for each person reported. The library will be utilized for people needing help with the online Census application.
- Cathy briefly explained the Audit report from Mapes and Miller, and said it was available for public viewing.
- The Fall Vendor Fair is November 2, and we have 24 vendors.

#### Financial Report

- Bills were presented and approved. MOTION CARRIED
- Balance sheet was provided.
- Check register, Budget to Actual, and Delinquent accounts were reviewed.
- With no further business it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 AM. MOTION CARRIED.

The next meeting will be Monday, November 4, at 7 PM.

Jeniece Schemper – Deputy City Clerk

Minutes are not approved until next meeting.