

Almena City Council

The Almena City Council was called to order at 7:00 PM on Monday, February 6, 2023 by Mayor, Tracy Stutsman. Answering roll call were Bob Hawks, Ethan Hays, Kevin Sides and Brian Sproul. A quorum was declared. It was moved and seconded to approve the January 3rd, 2023 Minutes. MOTION CARRIED. The agenda was adopted.

Fire Chief Report – Fire Chief not present

Visitor Recognition- Visitors were all on the agenda under New Business

New Business

- Mim Tubbs, president of the Almena Housing Authority (Wheatridge) board was present for approval to hire a new management company for Wheatridge apartments and also to have the mayor and council appoint 3 new board members. Robert Hawks, Brian Sproul and Gerald Speer were appointed to the board. Approval was given to hire the new management company, Van Binsbergen and Associates.
- Gerald Speer was present to ask for consideration on his water bill for 711 Washington due to a broken pipe and substantial water leak. Consideration of 50% was approved.
- Shawna Bochy was present to ask for consideration on her water bill for 201 Bryant due to a water leak. Consideration of 50% was approved.
- Pride Resolution No. 2023-002 was approved to urge its citizen to join the Kansas Pride effort and declare the city of Almena to be an official entrant of the Pride Program for the year 2023.
- Resolution No. 2023-003 was approved requiring the abatement of yard conditions at 307 Bryant.
- The council voted to write off debt associated with 700 Ives and 130 Bryant St. No special assessment money from the sale of these properties will be going to the city.
- The city has received several complaints of dirt bikes and ATV's being ridden in town and islands/roads ways being damaged. It will be recommended that further customers launching complaints be directed to the sheriff's department.
- It was presented to the council the option of opening Certificates of Deposit at other area banks to avoid money (above the FDIC limit) being pledged. It was decided to utilize 4 area banks for CD's. Signers on the CD's are Tracy Stutsman, Liz Howard, Cathy Rivera and Brian Sproul. Approved.
- The city voted to add 2 Paid Holidays to the City Employees for a total of 9 holidays. The policy and procedure manual will be updated to reflect this change.

Old Business

- Update on 516 Main – None

City Operator Report-

- Reason for the letter stating we failed to test was due a replacement test kit that had an October date printed on the label. Even though we changed the date on the label to the appropriate date in September and made a note of the incorrect date, they still used the October date so we had to send a letter.

City Clerk Report

- Complaint came in this weekend about Cooper Mussman's dogs attacking his horses. The person reported there were 7 dogs that were running loose in the area.

Deputy City Clerk Report – Deputy Clerk not present, reported by City Clerk

- Compliance Tracking- discussion on yard debris at 503 Wagner
- Delinquent accts update

Financial Report

- Approve Bills MOTION CARRIED.
- Balance Sheet
- Check register

With no further business it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:32PM. MOTION CARRIED. The next meeting will be Monday, March 6th at 7PM. Cathy Rivera, City Clerk

Minutes are not approved until next meeting.