

Vice-Mayor Harrington called a regular meeting of the Alma City Commission to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Alma Municipal Building. A quorum of the Commission was present.

Roll Call

Present: Roger Allman, Andrew Bare, Sonia Gibson, Roxann Harrington, and Danny Wernick.
Absent: Greg Mapes and Michelle Pitts.

2026-0063 Motion by Commissioner Bare, seconded by Commissioner Wernick, to approve the agenda, as amended to include consideration of a resolution for authorization to publish a notice of intent to issue bonds. Motion carried.

Yes: Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.
No: none.
Absent: Mapes and Pitts.

Vice-Mayor Harrington led those present in a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

Approval of Minutes

2026-0064 Motion by Commissioner Bare, seconded by Commissioner Allman, to approve minutes of the March 10, 2026, regular meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Yes: Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.
No: none.
Absent: Mapes and Pitts.

Resolutions

2026-0065 Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Wernick, to adopt a resolution to ratify investment of the following city funds:

Investment Date	Maturity Date	Amount	Interest Rate	Bank	Type
3/6/2026	9/6/2026	\$250,000	3.50%	Commercial Bank	CD
3/8/2026	6/8/2026	\$250,000	3.02%	Huntington Bank	CD
3/14/2026	3/14/2027	\$250,000	3.45%	Commercial Bank	CD

Yes: Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.
No: none.
Absent: Mapes and Pitts.
Resolution declared adopted.

2026-0066 Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Bare, to adopt a resolution to approve a request for permission from the Parks and Recreation Department and the Pine River Arts Council to use loudspeakers and amplifiers during their Evenings in the Park events which will be held each Tuesday evening from May 25, 2026, through September 7, 2026, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., in accordance with Section 22-19 of the Alma Code of Ordinances.

Yes: Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.
No: none.
Absent: Mapes and Pitts.
Resolution declared adopted.

2026-0067 Motion by Commissioner Bare, seconded by Commissioner Allman, to adopt a resolution to approve a request from the MIAL Meadows Mobile Home Park, at 411 S. Grover, to host a craft and vendor show on their community grounds during the weekend of the Highland Festival, Friday, May 22nd, and Saturday, May 23rd, with hours of operation from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Yes: Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.
No: none.
Absent: Mapes and Pitts.
Resolution declared adopted.

2026-0068 PERFORMANCE RESOLUTION FOR MUNICIPALITIES

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Allman and seconded by Commissioner Wernick.

RESOLVED WHEREAS, the City of Alma hereinafter referred to as the "MUNICIPALITY," periodically applies to the Michigan Department of Transportation, hereinafter referred to as the "DEPARTMENT," for permits, referred to as "PERMIT," to construct, operate, use and/or maintain utilities or other facilities, or to conduct other activities, on, over, and under State Highway Right of Way at various locations within and adjacent to its corporate limits;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the DEPARTMENT granting such PERMIT, the MUNICIPALITY agrees that:

1. Each party to this Resolution shall remain responsible for any claims arising out of their own acts and/or omissions during the performance of this Resolution, as provided by law. This Resolution is not intended to increase either party's liability for, or immunity from, tort claims, nor shall it be interpreted, as giving either party hereto a right of indemnification, either by Agreement or at law, for claims arising out of the performance of this Agreement.
2. If any of the work performed for the MUNICIPALITY is performed by a contractor, the MUNICIPALITY shall require its contractor to hold harmless, indemnify and defend in litigation, the State of Michigan, the DEPARTMENT and their agents and employee's, against any claims for damages to public or private property and for injuries to person arising out of the performance of the work, except for claims that result from the sole negligence or willful acts of the DEPARTMENT, until the contractor achieves final acceptance of the MUNICIPALITY. Failure of the MUNICIPALITY to require its contractor to indemnify the DEPARTMENT, as set forth above, shall be considered a breach of its duties to the DEPARTMENT.
3. Any work performed for the MUNICIPALITY by a contractor or subcontractor will be solely as a contractor for the MUNICIPALITY and not as a contractor or agent of the DEPARTMENT. The DEPARTMENT shall not be subject to any obligations or liabilities by vendors and contractors of the MUNICIPALITY, or their subcontractors or any other person not a party to the PERMIT without the DEPARTMENT'S specific prior written consent and notwithstanding the issuance of the PERMIT. Any claims by any contractor or subcontractor will be the sole responsibility of the MUNICIPALITY.
4. The MUNICIPALITY shall take no unlawful action or conduct, which arises either directly or indirectly out of its obligations, responsibilities, and duties under the PERMIT which results in claims being asserted against or judgment being imposed against the State of Michigan, the Michigan Transportation Commission, the DEPARTMENT, and all officers, agents and employees thereof and those contracting governmental bodies performing permit activities for the DEPARTMENT and all officers, agents, and employees thereof, pursuant to a maintenance contract. In the event that the same occurs, for the purposes of the PERMIT, it will be considered as a breach of the PERMIT thereby giving the State of Michigan, the DEPARTMENT, and/or the Michigan Transportation Commission a right to seek and obtain any necessary relief or remedy, including, but not by way of limitation, a judgment for money damages.
5. The MUNICIPALITY will, by its own volition and/or request by the DEPARTMENT, promptly restore and/or correct physical or operating damages to any State Highway Right of Way resulting from the installation construction, operation and/or maintenance of the MUNICIPALITY'S facilities according to a PERMIT issued by the DEPARTMENT.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following positions(s) are authorized to apply to the DEPARTMENT for the necessary permit to work within State Highway Right of Way on behalf of the MUNICIPALITY.

Title and/or Name:

PUBLIC SERVICES DIRECTOR

PUBLIC SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CLERK
CITY CLERK

Yes: Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.
No: none.
Absent: Mapes and Pitts.
Resolution declared adopted.

2026-0069 ARBOR DAY RESOLUTION

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Wernick:

Whereas, in 1872 J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

Whereas, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

Whereas, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

Whereas, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife, and

Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

Whereas, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

Whereas, trees are a source of joy and spiritual renewal, and

Whereas, the City of Alma has been recognized as Tree City USA by The National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree-planting ways, and

Whereas, the City of Alma will be planting trees within the City of Alma.

Now, Therefore, the City Commission of the City of Alma does hereby proclaim April 24, 2026, as ARBOR DAY in the City of Alma, and urges all citizens to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands and to support our city's urban forestry program, and

Further, we urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden hearts and promote the well-being of present and future.

Yes: Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.
No: none.
Absent: Mapes and Pitts.
Resolution declared adopted.

2026-0070 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE BONDS TO FINANCE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM AND DECLARING OFFICIAL INTENT TO REIMBURSE PROJECT EXPENDITURES WITH BOND PROCEEDS

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Commissioner Bare and seconded by Commissioner Wernick:

WHEREAS, the City Commission deems it to be in the best interests of the City of Alma (the "City") to design, purchase, acquire, construct and install certain improvements to the City's Sanitary Sewer System (the "System"), including without limitation: (i) the design, acquisition,

construction and installation of mechanical screens with compactors and bypass channels, vortex grit tanks, grit pumps and grit classifiers, influent pumps including wet wells, secondary clarifier structures and mechanisms, tertiary filters, associated piping and electrical improvements, and electrical and SCADA upgrades and improvements; (ii) the design, acquisition, construction and installation of modifications to biological treatment process structures, facilities, components and equipment including, without limitation, new diffusers, mixing equipment, and instrumentation in treatment process tanks, and associated piping and electrical improvements; (iii) the decommissioning of an existing polishing pond and related structures, facilities and equipment; (iv) the design, acquisition, construction and installation and new System buildings, structures, facilities, and equipment, including abandonment, renovation, decommissioning, and demolition of existing System buildings, structures, facilities, and equipment; (v) all work, equipment, and appurtenances necessary or incidental to these improvements; and (vi) such other capital improvements for the System or otherwise as the City shall determine to make (the "Improvements"), and to finance the Improvements by the issuance of revenue bonds pursuant to Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended ("Act 94") and by the issuance of capital improvement bonds pursuant to Act 34, Public Acts of Michigan, 2001, as amended ("Act 34"), as applicable; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 33 of Act 94, and pursuant to Section 517 of Act 34, it is necessary to publish a Notice of Intent to Issue Bonds for the Improvements; and

WHEREAS, the City may proceed with the Improvements prior to the issuance of the bonds; and

WHEREAS, the City may incur substantial capital expenditures for the Improvements prior to the issuance of the bonds, and desires to be reimbursed for such expenditures from the proceeds of the bonds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The City Commission determines to design, purchase, acquire, and construct the Improvements and to pay the cost through the issuance of (i) one or more series of revenue bonds pursuant to Act 94 for the Improvements in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$40,000,000 (the "Revenue Bonds") and (ii) one or more series of capital improvement bonds pursuant to Act 34 for the Improvements in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$14,000,000 (the "Capital Improvement Bonds" and together with the Revenue Bonds, the "Bonds").
2. A Notice of Intent to issue the Bonds be published in accordance with Section 33 of Act 94 and Section 517 of Act 34, and the City Clerk is authorized and directed to publish the Notice of Intent to Issue Bonds in a newspaper of general circulation in the City, which Notice shall be substantially in the form on the attached Exhibit A, with such changes as may be approved by the City Clerk.
3. The City may proceed to acquire and construct the Improvements using available funds of the City from the Sanitary Sewer Fund, which is a fund for the Sanitary Sewer System of the City, and other funds of the City.
4. At such time as the City issues the Bonds for the long-term financing of the Improvements, the City shall be reimbursed for its expenditures for the Improvements out of the proceeds of the Bonds.
5. This resolution and the expression of intent to seek reimbursement from future proceeds of the Bonds is intended to satisfy the requirements of Section 150 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.
6. The firm of Dickinson Wright PLLC is retained as bond counsel to the City to prepare the documents for the issuance of the Bonds for financing acquisition of the Improvements and the officers of the City are authorized to enter into an engagement letter with bond counsel.
7. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with provisions of this resolution are rescinded.

Yes: Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.

No: none.

Absent: Mapes and Pitts.

Resolution declared adopted.

Agreements
2026-0071

Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Wernick, to adopt a resolution to approve Change Order #1 to the water meter replacement project agreement with Ferguson Waterworks, in the amount of \$69,669.00, revising the total contract amount from \$1,481,745.89 to \$1,551,414.89, to reflect the difference between original estimated amounts and final actual installed quantities and values.

Yes: Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.

No: none.

Absent: Mapes and Pitts.

Resolution declared adopted.

Reports
2026-0072

Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Bare, to receive the Alma Police Department February 2026 Report. Motion carried.

Yes: Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.

No: none.

Absent: Mapes and Pitts.

2026-0073

Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Bare, to receive the City Managers' Report. Following a brief review, the motion to receive the City Manager's Report carried.

Yes: Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.

No: none.

Absent: Mapes and Pitts.

New Business
2026-0074

Motion by Commissioner Bare, seconded by Commissioner Wernick, to receive the Public Services Director's report concerning the establishment of Special Assessment District #2026-1 for construction of sanitary sewer service leads on State Street, in conjunction with the SRF Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project. Motion carried.

Yes: Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.

No: none.

Absent: Mapes and Pitts.

2026-0075

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Commissioner Allman and seconded by Commissioner Bare:

Whereas, the City Commission has ordered the City Assessor to prepare a special assessment roll on as-built costs for the purpose of assessing the special assessment district's share of the cost of the **State Street Sanitary Sewer Service Leads Project** in Special Assessment District No. **2026-1**.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that:

1. The City Commission shall meet at the Commission Chambers in the Municipal Building in the City of Alma on **Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.**, for the purpose of reviewing said special assessment roll.
2. The special assessment roll and the report of the City Manager concerning said public improvement shall be filed with the City Clerk and shall be available for public examination.

Yes: Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.

No: none.

Absent: Mapes and Pitts.

Resolution declared adopted.

Appropriations

2026-0076 **Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Bare, to adopt a resolution approving Warrant No. 26-18 and authorizing the City Treasurer to issue checks in payment of all claims.**

Yes: **Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.**

No: **none.**

Absent: **Mapes and Pitts.**

Resolution declared adopted.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Allman offered wishes for a happy spring.

Invitation to Public

Jan Bunting, District #3 County Commissioner, said she was present to answer questions but had no report.

Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Allman, seconded by Commissioner Gibson, to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

Motion carried.

Yes: **Allman, Bare, Gibson, Harrington, and Wernick.**

No: **none.**

Absent: **Mapes and Pitts.**

Sara Anderson, City Clerk, City of Alma

Roxann Harrington, Vice-Mayor, City of Alma

Date of Approval

2026 Banners & Street Closures
March 24, 2026



Event	Date	Time	State Highway Closure/Banner Installation	City Street Closure/Banner Installation
Creative Arts Guild Spring Art Show	03/25/2026-04/20/2026		Over MDOT Street Superior Street "Spring Art Show -Pine River Country Club-April"	City Crew
Alma Highland Festival Banner	04/20/2026-05/31/2026		Over MDOT Street Superior Street "Alma Highland Festival Memorial Day Weekend"	City Crew
Gratiot Art Expo Banner Program	05/8/2026-10/31/2026		Banners attached to Street Light Poles on Superior St	Banners attached to Street Light Poles on State St City Crew
Alma Highland Festival 5K Run	05/23/2026	7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Superior - Pine to Wright	Center - Woodworth to Pine City Crew
Highland Festival Parade	05/23/2026	8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Superior - Bridge to Wright Wright - Warwick to Superior	Michigan - Bridge to Superior Superior - Purdy to Wright Center - Woodworth to Pine Pine - Center to Superior City Crew
Alma All Class Reunion	07/13/2026-08/17/2026		Over MDOT Street Superior Street "Alma High School Annual All Class Reunion"	City Crew
Lucky MacDuck Community Day Banner	08/17/2026-09/14/2026		Over MDOT Street Superior Street "Lucky MacDuck First Weekend after Labor Day"	City Crew
Alma Alive Downtown Celebration	08/15/2026	3:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Superior Street – Pine Avenue to Prospect	State Street – Superior St. to Center St. City Crew
Michigan Old U.S. 27 Motor Tour Stop	08/20/2026	12:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Superior Street	Superior - Wright Avenue to Pine Avenue City Crew
Alma College Welcome Back Banner	09/01/2026-10/30/2026		Over City Street	Superior at Philadelphia "Welcome Back Students" Private Contractor
Alma High School Homecoming Parade	9/25/2026	4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Superior Street Pine Ave to Prospect Ave	Pine – Superior to Middle School Downie – Park to Prospect Prospect – Wright Park to Superior St City Crew
Alma College Homecoming Parade	9/26/2026	9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Wright Ave – Downie St to Superior St Superior St – Pine Ave to Wright Ave	Woodworth Ave to Downie & Woodworth Ave to Superior St. – Charles Ave (Frontier Lot - Presbyterian Church) City Crew

2026 Banners & Street Closures
March 24, 2026

Gratiot Brews & Bites	10/10/2026	12:00p.m.- 10:00p.m.	N/A	N State Street – Superior Street to Center Street
Alma Fall Festival	10/29/2026	4:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Superior St – Pine Ave to Park Ave Hard Closure	City Crew
Downtown Christmas Celebration Banner	11/01/2026- 01/04/2026		Over MDOT Street Superior Street "Come Home to Alma for the Holidays"	City Crew
Downtown Christmas Celebration/Parade	12/11/2026	4:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Superior – Pine Ave to Park Ave	Woodworth Ave – Center St to Downie St City Crew

EXHIBIT A

[NOTE TO PUBLISHER – PLEASE PUBLISH AT 1/4 PAGE SIZE]

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE
SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS
AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS
TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF ALMA

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Alma (the “City”) intends to issue (a) one or more series of revenue bonds to finance a portion of the cost of the Improvements (defined below) in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$40,000,000 (the “Revenue Bonds”) and (b) one or more series of capital improvement bonds pursuant to Act 34 to finance a portion of the cost of the Improvements in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$14,000,000 (the “Capital Improvement Bonds” and together with the Revenue Bonds, the “Bonds”)

The Bonds shall be issued to pay the cost to design, purchase, acquire, construct and install improvements to the City’s Sanitary Sewer System (the “System”), including without limitation: (i) the design, acquisition, construction and installation of mechanical screens with compactors and bypass channels, vortex grit tanks, grit pumps and grit classifiers, influent pumps including wet wells, secondary clarifier structures and mechanisms, tertiary filters, associated piping and electrical improvements, and electrical and SCADA upgrades and improvements; (ii) the design, acquisition, construction and installation of modifications to biological treatment process structures, facilities, components and equipment including, without limitation, new diffusers, mixing equipment, and instrumentation in treatment process tanks, and associated piping and electrical improvements; (iii) the decommissioning of an existing polishing pond and related structures, facilities and equipment; (iv) the design, acquisition, construction and installation and new System buildings, structures, facilities, and equipment, including abandonment, renovation, decommissioning, and demolition of existing System buildings, structures, facilities, and equipment; (v) all work, equipment, and appurtenances necessary or incidental to these improvements; and (vi) such other capital improvements for the System or otherwise as the City shall determine to make (the “Improvements”) and to pay the costs of issuing the Bonds, finance reserves, and capitalized interest, if any.

The Bonds of this issue shall mature within the maximum terms permitted by law with interest on the unpaid balance at a rate not to exceed the maximum rate permitted by law payable over not more than 40 years from the date of issuance of the Bonds.

The Revenue Bonds shall be issued pursuant to Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended (Act 94”), and the Capital Improvement Bonds shall be issued pursuant to Act 34, Public Acts of Michigan, 2001, as amended (“Act 34”) and ordinances or resolutions of the City Commission, as applicable.

SOURCE OF PAYMENT

Bonds issued as Revenue Bonds under and pursuant to Act 94 will be payable from the net revenues of the System and any improvements, enlargements, and extensions thereto, and a statutory lien on said revenues will be established by said resolution. The City will covenant and agree to fix and maintain at all times while any of the bonds shall be outstanding such rates for service furnished by the System as shall be sufficient to provide for payment of the necessary expenses of operation, maintenance, and administration of the System and of the principal of and interest on the bonds when due and to provide for such other expenditures and funds for the System as are required by the resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds. In addition, the bonds may be secured by the full faith and credit of the City as limited by applicable constitutional, statutory, and charter limitations on the taxing power of the City and any other lawfully available monies of the City.

Bonds issued as Capital Improvement Bonds under and pursuant to the provisions of Act 34 will be secured by the City's pledge of its full faith and credit to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds as the same shall become due. The City will be obligated, as a first budget obligation, to advance moneys from its general funds or to levy ad valorem taxes on all taxable property within its corporate boundaries to pay the principal of and interest on bonds issued as capital improvement bonds as the same shall become due to the extent that other funds are not available for such purpose; provided, however, that the ability of the City to raise such moneys is subject to applicable constitutional, statutory, and charter limitations on the taxing power of the City. Sources of repayment of the principal of and interest on the bonds may include any other lawfully available monies of the City.

RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

The Bonds will be issued without a vote of the electors approving such Bonds, unless, within 45 days from the date of publication of this Notice of Intent, a petition requesting a referendum, signed by not less than 10% or 15,000 of the registered electors residing within the limits of the City, whichever is lesser, shall have been filed with the Clerk of the City or other recording officer of the City requesting a referendum upon the question of the issuance of the Bonds. If such a petition is filed, the Bonds shall not be issued until approved by the vote of a majority of the electors residing within the City qualified to vote and voting on that issue at a general or special election.

This Notice is published pursuant to the requirements of Section 33 of Act 94 and Section 517 of Act 34.

Sara Anderson, City Clerk
City of Alma, Michigan