

**December 2019 UTILITY BILL INSERT**  
**ALMIRA TOWN HALL 639-2601**

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**THE SCRAP PILE/APPLIANCE PILE HAS BEEN  
PAINFULLY CLEANED UP. DO NOT, DO NOT DUMP  
ANYTHING THERE. GAME CAMERAS ARE ON!**

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**SNOW PLOW GUIDELINES:** Parking on the street is prohibited. Alleys must be kept at a 20' width. Please check your alleyway to make sure it is free and clear by removing all clutter, including all overgrown bushes, shrubs and trees. If a car is parked on the street the snow plow will not clear that side of the road. There will not be a second trip if the plow comes by before vehicles are moved. The same applies to parking in the alleys.

**\*Snowmobiles are permitted only on arterials, only at a slow speed, only to get in and out of Town.**

**\*Leaving faucets turned on slowly during low temperatures can help avoid frozen pipes**

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Marissa Siemans, TD & H had brought down a basket of goodies for council and to thank us for letting them work for us and delivered the As Builts from the water project. She also announced for those that didn't know that we had been awarded a \$115,000 chip seal grant for 4<sup>th</sup> street.

Gene Scammon was in attendance and wanted to thank Darrell, Dennis and Einar for their years of service to the town.

**NUISANCE REPORT:** A certified letter was sent to Brad McDowell, owner of 204 and 210 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street properties, to have the property cleaned up by December 18<sup>th</sup> or fines would begin. Mr. McDowell has been in contact with CP regarding the mess and they are working on it.

The Lion's Club is cleaning up the pile of appliances and scrap metal over by the old Blacksmith shop. They have hauled off a couple loads of appliances and several loads of scrap metal.

We have citizens in town that once again have pigs. Despite letters this spring they have brought more pigs to town. Council instructed Jeanette to send them a fine of \$100 and then add \$10 for each day they have the pigs in town. Tell them to attend council if they have questions.

**UPDATES BY STAFF:** Brent reported that Dave had finished the end of November and would only work through the winter as needed with the snow.

He has been spending endless hours working on the Asset Management Plan. This is a very time consuming project listing all assets over \$500, their life span and replacement cost.

Brent and Jeanette are going to the Department of Health on Friday to discuss updating the Water System Plan as it expires in June of 2020.

Brent has also started working on the GIS mapping, another time consuming project.

The plow and sander are on and ready for snow.

Jeanette has been spending time working on the Budget for 2020.

All eligible Utility Deposits were refunded. (You have to pay your bill on time for one year to get your deposit back)

**NEW BUSINESS:** Ordinance #559 – 2020 Budget: Approved

Resolution 2019#118 – 2019 Budget Amendment: Approved

Jason explained to the guests why the sewer rates would be increasing \$7 a month. We need to raise our rates to show we are making an effort to save money and to be eligible for funding for Sewer Projects. Gene quizzed us on the water and sewer reserve accounts that were set up while he was in office. Both the water and the sewer have between \$125,000 and \$145,000. (This is a drop in the bucket compared to what it will cost to upgrade systems. The \$5 surcharge on the bill goes into the reserve account and does not have any utility tax on it.

Since Jason is moving to the Mayor we need a new Finance Officer, Jimmy Braun volunteered and council approved.

Levi Mitchell will assist CP Ferris with the Nuisance Officer duties and Darrell Francis will continue to be our back up Water/Sewer Operator.

Elected Officials Training is needed for the new council members. There is online training through AWC RMSA that will be available in another week or so.

Jeanette will advertise for someone to fill the position vacated by Jason Evers when he moved to the Mayor seat.

## **REMEMBER TO PURCHASE YOUR DOG TAGS BY FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**

**January adjusted hours:  
Closed January 1<sup>st</sup> – 3rd**

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**IF YOU SEE OR HEAR ANY ALARMS AT THE SEWER PLANT, RESERVOIR OR WELLS PLEASE CALL ONE OF THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS TO REPORT IT!**

977-1218 – Brent Robertson  
977-1217 – Darrell Francis  
641-0942 – Mayor Einar Larson