

MINUTE RECORD FOR CITY OF ALMA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 17, 2024

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Alma, Nebraska was held at City Hall on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

Present were Council Members: Tom Moulton, Dyann Collins, Larry Casper Chris Tripe, and Mayor and Acting Administrator Hal Haeker. Absent: None. City Clerk Dawn McNulty, Treasurer Tashia Butterfield, City Attorney Doug Walker, and City Utility Superintendent Russ Pfeil were also in attendance. Notification of this meeting and the agenda was given in advance by posting, a designated method for giving notice. Advance notice of the meeting and the agenda was given to the Mayor and all members of the City Council. All proceedings hereinafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Haeker advised the public of the Open Meetings Act posted on the east wall of the meeting room, and then proceeded to call the regular meeting of January 17, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. and the following business was transacted:

Roll call: Tom Moulton-present, Dyann Collins-present, Chris Tripe-present, Larry Casper-present, and Mayor Haeker-present. Motion by Tripe, second by Moulton, to determine this meeting as previously publicized, duly convened and in open session. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Casper, Tripe, Collins, and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2024, council meeting. Motion by Moulton, second by Collins, to approve the regular minutes of the January 3, 2024, council meeting. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Tripe, Collins, Casper, and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss the claims and invoices for January 4, 2024, through January 17, 2024, for \$102,114.31. Motion made by Tripe, second by Casper to approve the claims. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Collins, Tripe, Moulton, and Casper. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and or approve the Treasurer's report. Motion by Moulton, second by Collins to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Tripe, Casper, Collins, and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the floor to present Rena Conner with Volunteer of the Year. Mayor Haeker presented Rena Conner with a framed certificate and stated that she has done an excellent job and is appreciated for all that she does for Alma. A picture was taken by the newspaper with the Mayor and all of the Council members.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss and or approve Ordinances 2024-2 through 2024-6 to update the Municipal Code Book due to State Law changes for 2023. Tripe stated that he had been asked by a member of the community that had seen the agenda about how much money the city is receiving from the property tax increases. Tripe said that they were worried that the city was asking for more money as well. Tripe stated that the city had not changed the allowable monies that the city has been getting. Tripe said that an increase is not something that we have done or that we have requested. The City has not exceeded its budgetary authority.

Council Member Casper introduced Ordinances Number 2024-2 through 2024-6 entitled as follows: **ORDINANCE NO. 2024-2** - AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO PROPERTY TAX REQUESTS FOR AN INCREASE BY MORE THAN ALLOWABLE GROWTH PERCENTAGE AND THE PROCEDURE FOR SETTING A HEARING TO HARMONIZE WITH STATE LAW; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND SECTIONS; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. **ORDINANCE 2024-3** AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO PROPERTY TAX REQUESTS AND THE PROCEDURES FOR SETTING A HEARING, TO HARMONIZE WITH STATE LAW; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND SECTIONS; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. **ORDINANCE 2024-4** AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO RELATING TO POWERS AND DUTIES OF A MAYOR; TO HARMONIZE WITH STATE LAW; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND SECTIONS; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. **ORDINANCE 2024-5** AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO TRAFFIC REGULATIONS AND GENERAL AUTHORITY AND GENERAL AUTHORITY THEREFORE TO HARMONIZE WITH STATE LAW; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND SECTIONS; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. **ORDINANCE 2024-6** AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE READING AND PASSAGE OF ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND THE LIKE, TO HARMONIZE WITH STATE LAW; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND SECTIONS; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different dates be suspended. Council Member Tripe seconded the motion that the statutory rule requiring three different dates be suspended. A roll call vote was then taken on the motion; the following Council Members voted yes: Collins, Casper, Moulton, and Tripe. The following voted no: None. The motion to suspend the rules was adopted by three-fourths of the Council and the statutory rule was declared suspended for consideration of these ordinances. These ordinances were then read by title and thereafter Council Member Collins moved for final passage of these ordinances and said motion was seconded by Council Member Moulton. The mayor then stated the questions, "Shall Ordinances Numbers 2024-2 through 2024-6 be passed and adopted?" Upon roll call vote, the following Council members voted yes: Collins, Casper, Moulton, and Tripe. Voting no: None. The passage and adoption of these ordinances having been concurred in by a majority of all members of the Council, the Mayor declared the ordinances adopted; and the mayor in the presence of the City Council signed and approved the ordinances and the City Clerk attested the passage and approval of the ordinances and affixed her signature thereto and ordered the ordinances to be published as provided by law.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss and or approve 32 N John. City Clerk Dawn McNulty stated that she had talked to Katy Christensen concerning getting access to the building for real estate agents. Christensen stated that she would need time to organize the materials in the building before anyone could get in. McNulty stated that she gave Christensen until the next meeting on February 7, 2024, to have the building in order so that real estate agents could do a walk through. Treasurer Butterfield went over the amount of taxes that were paid on the building as well as what the utilities have been running. This item is postponed until the next meeting.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss and or approve City Clerk Dawn McNulty's vacation time. Treasurer Tashia Butterfield stated that there was an oversight, and McNulty should have had a weeks' vacation added to her time in September 2023, on her employment anniversary date. Butterfield stated that vacation time has to be used by the end of the year, or the time is lost. Treasurer Butterfield asked that the 40 hours be added back to McNulty's comp time this year, so that she receives the benefit. Motion by Collins, second by Moulton, to approve the addition of 40 hours of comp time to McNulty's comp time for 2024 for loss of vacation time from last year. Tripe asked about comp time as well as sick leave and vacation, and how they are accrued. Tripe stated that he understood that some employers lumped everything together and Collins stated that it was called PTO. Tripe asked about looking at the current system of vacation, sick time, and comp time policy and asked that it be added to the next agenda. There

being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Tripe, Collins, Casper, and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss and or approve Personnel. Mayor Haeker said he and Casper have done three interviews and have a couple of viable candidates. Haeker stated that they will continue to have discussions with them and will have more information at the next meeting. Collins asked if the resumes would be made available to the council members so that they could familiarize themselves with the candidates. City Clerk McNulty will get the information to the council members. This item was postponed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Tripe, second by Moulton. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Casper, Collins, Moulton, and Tripe, Voting no: None. The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Hal Haeker, Mayor

I the undersigned Clerk hereby certify that the forgoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings had and done by the Mayor and Council; that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of said body were provided advanced notification of the time place and of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

Dawn McNulty, City Clerk