

MINUTE RECORD FOR CITY OF ALMA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
July 17, 2023

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Alma, Nebraska was held at City Hall on Monday, July 17, 2023, at 5:33 p.m.

Present were Council Members: Tom Moulton, Larry Casper, Dyann Collins, Chris Tripe and Mayor and Acting Administrator Hal Haeker. Absent: None. City Clerk Dawn McNulty, Treasurer Tashia Butterfield, City Utility Superintendent Russ Pfeil, Utility Floater Kent Fleischmann, and City Attorney Doug Walker 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 July 17, 2023, at 5:33 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 Collins, 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 July 3, 2023, regular council meeting. Motion by Tripe, second by Moulton to approve the minutes of the July 3, 2023, regular council meeting. 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 discuss the claims and invoices for July 4, 2023, through July 17, 2023, for a total of \$ 123,527.82. Motion made by Moulton, second by Tripe to approve the claims. 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 Treasurer's report. Motion by Moulton, second by Casper 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, Moulton, and Collins. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and or approve of PHMSA Grant Application. City floater Kent Fleischmann spoke about this being a contract with Miller and Associates to help with the gas grant on which they are working. The filing deadline is August 4th, and they will be reapplying with a more detailed application on how they will use the equipment to convert cast, PVC, and bare steel over to poly. Motion by Collins, second by Casper to approve PHMSA Grant Application. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Casper, Tripe, Moulton, and Collins. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to public hearing at 5:42 to discuss the Recommendation from the Planning Commission for a Conditional Use Permit for Steve Duennerman to build commercial storage units at 11492 Cornhusker Road. Casper asked what a pole barn was, and Steve Duennerman replied that it was poles buried in the ground with metal walls without a concrete floor. This will be within one mile of the city limits and will match the other buildings in the area. Motion by Tripe, second by Moulton to close the Public hearing at 5:49. Motion by Moulton, second by Tripe to accept Recommendation from the Planning Commission for a Conditional Use Permit for Steve Duennerman to build commercial storage units at 11492 Cornhusker Road.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to review Budget and Wage Worksheet for the library. Mayor Haeker stated that this was the only worksheet that they could not balance. Mayor Haeker spoke concerning the shortfall in the Library budget for this year of \$3,635.00 and the projected shortfall next year of \$5,160.00. The Porter Trust has come in higher than expected and there is still a shortfall. The library board has decided to eliminate the third part-time position to save money but is also looking at cutting the opening hours of the

library. Moulton stated that they are not open enough now. Moulton stated that this is an important service, and the public expects us to have the library open. Tripe mentioned that this has been an issue for several months and not been addressed until now. The library should be looking at the budget monthly and adjusting where they can so that there is not this type of shortfall and think that we are going to cover it. Collins spoke about having the library personnel clean the library themselves as the person who was cleaning had resigned to help cover the shortfall. Eliminating the cleaning budget will help with the shortfall. Collins mentioned that she had spoken to a Mayor in another town and this work was included in the library staff responsibilities. Tripe asked, how do we make up the difference? Tripe mentioned other fundraisers that could be held to help bring in some more money for the library such as a golf tournament or a swimming night. Moulton spoke about the Friends of the Library book sale, their main fundraiser, being open later than 5:00 pm when people are off work so that others can attend. Casper asked how does the library generate revenue? Casper also asked about the subscriptions that the library has monthly and if any of those could be eliminated. Casper also mentioned that he was aware that the insurance costs went up and have affected everyone. Casper asked about an increase in property tax for additional funds. Tripe asked how much we transfer from Property tax to the library which was \$55,000.00. Mayor Haeker stated although the levy changes we are still asking for the same amount. Casper asked, do we ask for more money from the taxpayers? Mayor Haeker stated that the funds have stayed stagnant with what they have been given for several years to the library. Casper asked could we ask more on property tax and be able to give more to the library. The library budget will be discussed at the budget workshop on the 19th.

Mayor Haeker then entertained for a motion to enter Executive Session at 6:21 p.m. Motion by Moulton, second by Collins to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Collins, Casper, Tripe and Moulton. Voting no: None Motion carried

Motion to reconvene regular session by Moulton, second by Collins. Upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Tripe, Collins, Casper, and Moulton. Voting no: None Motion carried. Mayor stated that no action was taken. Regular Session reconvened at 6:55 p.m.

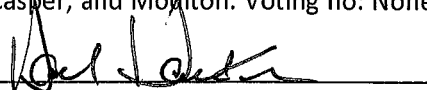
Mayor Haeker opened the floor for the Administrator's Report. Mayor Haeker discussed Peddlers and Hawkers Permits. Mayor Haeker spoke about being approached about why some people must have permits and others do not. People on public property would have to have a permit and private property would not have to have a permit. Charity and non-profit groups would not be required to have a permit. Anyone coming into town selling food should have a permit. We need to put this on the agenda to discuss further.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss Insurance claims. Mayor Haeker stated that the adjuster never showed up so we will move this to the next meeting.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss the Budget Workshop on July 19th at 1:00 pm. This is just a reminder for everyone.

Casper asked about the ballfields and the damage from the storms. There are no more games on the fields, and we will know more once the insurance adjuster is here about how to proceed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Tripe, second by Casper There being no further discussion on the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Collins, Tripe, Casper, and Moulton. Voting no: None. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 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
Dawn McNulty, City Clerk

