

MINUTE RECORD FOR CITY OF ALMA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 6, 2023

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Alma, Nebraska was held at City Hall on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at 6:00 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, 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 September 6, 2023, at 6:00 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 Casper 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: Tripe, Casper, Collins, and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2023, regular council meeting. Motion by Tripe, second by Moulton to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2023, regular council meeting. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Casper, Collins, Tripe, and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss the claims and invoices for August 22, 2023, through September 6, 2023, for a total of \$81,828.86. 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, Casper, and Moulton. 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. Gas usage went down as well as revenues for gas. Water also went down but revenues for water were up from last year's numbers. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Casper, Moulton, Tripe and Collins. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and or approve the Kim Molzahn Disc Golf. Kim Molzahn presented a visual presentation of a 12-hole disc golf layout over by the lake trail. This gives room for expansion at a later date. Tripe asked if there was a problem with crossing over as there would be with golf. He was concerned about someone from the trail getting hit with a frisbee. Kim stated there is going to be a risk, but the layout and the rules that are posted would minimize that risk. Casper said that the one on South street concerned him due to one sailing into traffic. Mouton said that is the same concern with the driving range and the golf course. Casper stated that a golfer is not going to run out in the street to get a golf ball. Casper said that he liked the idea, but he had a safety concern. Kim stated that six more holes could be added but twelve was a good course. Moulton stated that he felt it looked good and was well thought out. There will be a sign at each basket that gives information concerning distance. There will also be a dedication plaque. Motion made by Tripe, second by Moulton to approve the Kim Molzahn Disc Golf. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Collins, Tripe, Casper, and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss and or approve the AMGL Scope of Support Letter in connection with Audit. Motion by Casper, second by Tripe to approve AMGL Scope of Support Letter in connection with Audit. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Collins, Casper, Tripe, and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss and or approve the Loads of Love Fundraiser. Andrea McAleese

explained what Loads of Love is. It is a nonprofit that helps disadvantaged and disabled residents in the area have access to clean clothing and bedding. There are people in the community and surrounding area that this is a luxury for. We have teamed up with the housing authority and the senior center to offer this service and help us identify people in need in the community. We were going to have a street dance next summer. We are planning our first fundraiser October first which will be a soup and sandwich lunch for a free will donation to get the word out. We also teamed up with a company out of Colorado called Pure Agra Green that provides eco-friendly laundry products. We will be using these products exclusively for this service. Tripe said that he appreciated her coming in and talking to the board about it and providing this service.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss and or approve Lifeguard Reimbursement. Mayor Haeker asked if Rhonda, the Pool Manager was supposed to be here as she, but she is not. City Clerk McNulty replied that she had called her, and that Rhonda stated she would be here for the meeting tonight. Tripe asked to table this item. Moulton stated that Rhonda had three people marked that he felt that she did not want paid. Mayor Haeker stated that we can table it again, but he felt that the people wanted to get paid. Moulton stated that she had three marked there that she deemed to be paid back. Casper stated that he felt it did not make sense to pay the ones that were marked as did not complete the course or complete the year out. Motion by Moulton, second by Collins to approve Lifeguard reimbursement. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Collins, Casper, and Moulton. Voting no Tripe. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss and or approve the Hospital Sinking Fund Management. This item was tabled. Motion by Moulton, second by Tripe to approve tabling the Hospital Sinking Fund Management. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Collins, Tripe, Casper, and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss and or approve CD Renewal. Treasurer Butterfield stated that we have a CD coming up for renewal. It is an 11-month CD at 1.5% at First State Bank. Treasurer Butterfield stated that the City had been offered another 11-month period for the CD with a higher rate of 5.5% interest. This would still be at First State Bank. Casper asked if this was the only one at this time and Tripe asked if this was the highest rate of all three banks. Treasurer Butterfield said yes, it is only one at this time and it's the highest rate of all three banks. Motion by Collins, second by Moulton to approve CD Renewal. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Collins, Tripe, Casper, and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss and or approve Resolution 09-2023 to set the Agreement of Transfer of Advertising Space. Tripe said that the board went over all of this information at the last meeting. Motion by Tripe, second by Casper to approve Resolution 09-2023 to set Agreement of Transfer of Advertising Space. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Collins, Casper, Tripe and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

The Mayor opened the floor to discuss and or approve Resolution 10-2023 to set the Agreement of Transfer of Advertising Space with Lakeside Bike and Golf L.L.C. Moulton asked if we were going to have to make a resolution for every sign that is updated. Walker stated no, but to cover ourselves and this being the first one, it was decided to do it with this one. Tripe also mentioned that this is a first come first serve basis and we are limiting the number of spaces that a business can take. Motion by Collins, second by Tripe to approve Resolution 10-2023 to set the Transfer of Advertising Space with Lakeside bike and Golf L.L.C. 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.

The Mayor opened the floor to discuss and or approve Resolution 11-2023 to set the Property Tax Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Motion by Moulton, second by Casper to approve Resolution 11-2023 to set the Property Tax Request as presented at the Tax Request Hearing. 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.

The mayor opened the floor to approve the Annual Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 also known as the Budget. Motion by Casper, second by Moulton to approve the Annual Appropriations Bill as presented

at the Budget Hearing. 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.

The mayor opened the floor to approve Ordinance 2023-18 to Establish Salaries for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Council Member Tripe introduced Ordinance Number 2023-18 entitled as follows: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALMA, NEBRASKA TO ESTABLISH THE SALARIES OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES TO THE CONTRARY; AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different dates be suspended. Council Member Collins 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, Tripe, Moulton, and Casper. 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 this ordinance. This ordinance was then read by title and thereafter Council Member Casper moved for final passage of this ordinance and said motion was seconded by Council Member Moulton. The mayor then stated the questions, "Shall Ordinance Number 2023-18 be passed and adopted?" Upon roll call vote, the following Council members voted yes: Tripe, Collins, Moulton, and Casper. Voting no: None. The passage and adoption of this ordinance having been concurred in by a majority of all members of the Council, the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted; and the mayor in the presence of the City Council signed and approved the ordinance and the City Clerk attested the passage and approval of the ordinance and affixed her signature thereto and ordered the ordinance to be published as provided by law.

Casper made a comment that next year we have to do a better job of raising the low end of some of these jobs. Collins asked if the highest range was budgeted in for some of these jobs. Mayor Haeker answered yes.


Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and or approve personnel. Moulton stated that he did not have time to get down to look at any of the resumes. Tripe stated that he came down as well as Collins and Casper to look at the resume pool. Casper stated that we should interview or reinterview at least 3 or 4. Casper felt that they probably agreed on the strongest candidates or pretty close. He said that they needed to give the Mayor some guidance and he was available to sit in on the interviews. Collins asked to go into executive session and was cautioned about this by Walker as this is to be used for current employees. He understands that there may be candidates that currently work in the community, and you do not want to share their names in public so they may want to talk to the Mayor directly with their preferences. Tripe said that as he understands it, that this is an appointed apposition by the Mayor, and Collins said that the Board have to approve it. Casper stated that we told the public that we would do this, and we are following through. Will they be happy with what they come up with? We may go through the process and not come up with someone. Collins said that at least we are doing something.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and or approve the Downtown Drainage Project. Mayor Haeker stated that this was supposed to be done last week or the week before. This project was supposed to be started a couple of weeks ago and the contractor is behind schedule, said Kent Fleishmann. He also stated that he has been in contact with Chris Eddy, and he is way behind, and he is trying to catch up. He will contact us when he is able to get it started. Tripe said that he appreciated him keeping in contact with the contractor.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and or approve Rural Workforce Housing Land Development Sub-agreement. Mayor Haeker said that they have been in contact and that they are, Nebraska Department of Economic Development, is extending the contract deadline again. SCEDD is still waiting for answers. Casper said that what worries him is that 2026 is not that far away. Tripe said that just because they extend this does not mean that they are not going to extend that too. Realistically they should extend that too. Jacklyn Daake said that there are several city attorneys across the state that are putting pressure on NDED. SCEDD is also putting pressure on them as well as Sharon. SCEDD is continuing to try to get resolution. NDED is interpreting the federal regulations in a way that the recipients to the Federal Money would be applied. That kind of discrepancy is tough where we would have to apply to NDED oversight of the funds. SCEDD is not comfortable moving ahead in managing the funds on the city side of things. So, until they are comfortable given the nightmare that it will be to continue to be eligible for the money, we need SCEDD on our side. There is not a

city that is a recipient that is willing to sign. They are going to have to do something about going back on the PR that Nebraska did in regard to this gift of money to the cities. That is where things sit.

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: Collins, Tripe, Casper, and Moulton. Voting no: None. The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 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