

MINUTE RECORD FOR CITY OF ALMA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 18, 2026

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Alma, Nebraska was held at City Hall on Wednesday, the 18th of February 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Present was Council Members: Larry Casper, Chris Mahalek, Tom Moulton, Joel Wheeler, and Mayor Hal Haeker. Administrator Steve Ardiana, City Attorney Doug Walker, and Clerk Janet Dietz, Treasurer Toshia Butterfield, City Utilities Superintendent Russ Pfeil, Kent Fleischmann, Alma Parrot Theater Board members, Chris Mroczek, Jesus Felix, and Tammy Wells 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 were 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, comments are allowed for agenda items only.

Mayor Haeker advised the public of the Open Meetings Act which is posted on the east wall of the meeting room, and then proceeded to call the regular meeting of February 18, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. and the following business was transacted:

Roll call: Larry Casper-present, Chris Mahalek-present, Tom Moulton-present, and Joel Wheeler-present, and Mayor Haeker-present. Motion made by Moulton, 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: Moulton, Casper, Mahalek and Wheeler. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the floor to approve the minutes of February 4th, 2026, regular council meeting. Motion made by Mahalek, second by Wheeler to approve the minutes of February 4th, 2026, regular council meeting. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Mahalek, Wheeler, Moulton, and Casper Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss the claims and invoices for February 5, 2026, through February 18, 2026, for a total of \$113,057.00. Motion made by Wheeler to accept as presented, second by Moulton to approve. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Wheeler, Moulton, Mahalek ,and Casper. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss the Treasurer's report. Treasurer discussed year to date Clines, Williams, Wright, Johnson and Oldfather legal fee total is \$26,693.00, Brown Street bond interest and wire fee, \$ 181.50, swimming pool permits, \$40.00 to Nebraska Dept., of Water Energy & Environment, and Two Rivers Public Health Dept, pool permit, \$200.00, PalmShield, pool sunshade, \$ 2,096.11, NPPD, \$723.28, upgrade (2) street lights to led, \$723.28, transfer into police budget, and EV revenues. Motion by Moulton, second by Wheeler to approve as presented. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Moulton, Wheeler, Mahalek and Casper. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss Mighty Tidy lien, Motion by Wheeler, second by Moulton to approve the Mighty Tidy lien. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call votes, the following voted yes: Wheeler, Moulton, Mahalek and Casper. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss/approve, Ordinance #2-2026, MODIFYING EXISTING ZONING ORDINANCE. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALMA, NEBRASKA, ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR CONSTRUCTION, RELOCATION OR DEMOLITION WITHOUT A ZONING PERMIT AND FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH A CEASE AND DESIST ORDER TO CEASE CONSTRUCTION, RELOCATION, OR DEMOLITION WITHOUT A ZONING PERMIT,TO REPEAL ALL PRIOR ORDINANCES AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Council Member Casper introduced Ordinance Numbered #2-2026 and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. Council member Moulton second the motion to suspend the rules and upon the motion; the following Council Members voted Yes: Casper, Moulton, Mahalek and Wheeler. The following voted No: None. The motion was adopted by three-fourths of the Council and the statutory rule was declared suspended for consideration of this ordinance. Said Ordinance is then read by title and thereafter Council Member Moulton moved for the final passage of the ordinance and said motion was seconded by Council Member Mahalek. The Mayor then stated the question, "Shall Ordinance number 2-2026 be passed and adopted?" Upon roll call vote, the following Council members voted yes: Moulton, Mahalek, Wheeler and Casper. Voting No: None. The passage of this ordinance having been concurred by a majority of all members of Council,

the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted; and the Mayor in the presence of the City Council signed and approved the ordinance, and the Clerk attested passage and approval and affixed her signature thereto and ordered to be published as provided by law. A true and complete copy of the ordinance is attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss/approve, Ordinance #3-2026, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALMA, NEBRASKA, ESTABLISHING MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE UTILITY RATES: REPEALING ALL PRIOR ORDINANCES, OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT WITH THE ORDINANCE; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Council Member Casper introduced Ordinance Numbered #3-2026 and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three separate days be suspended. Council member Mahalek second the motion to suspend the rules and upon the motion; the following Council Members voted yes: Casper, Mahalek, Wheeler and Moulton. The following voted No: None. The motion was adopted by three-fourths of the Council and the statutory rule was declared suspended for consideration of this ordinance. Said ordinance is read by title and thereafter Council Member Moulton moved for the final passage of the ordinance and said motion was seconded by Council Member Wheeler. The Mayor then stated the question, " Shall Ordinance number 3-2026 be passed and adopted?" upon roll call vote, the following Council members voted yes: Moulton, Wheeler, Mahalek and Casper. Voting no: None. The passage of this ordinance having been concurred by a majority of all members of Council, the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted; and the Mayor in the presence of the City Council signed and approved the ordinance , and the Clerk attested passage and approval and affixed her signature thereto and ordered to be published as provided by law. A true and complete copy of the ordinance is attached hereto and incorporated by reference. Rates will take effect at the next billing period.

Mayor Haeker advised no executive session, nothing to discuss at this time.

City Administrator brought forth, auditorium updates, electrical project completion, new lights, doors, windows are on the way, north door entrance handrail price increase, formal proposal was requested, furniture delivery scheduled for Monday, America-250 flags are ordered, and city well monitoring. Discussion was brought up about changing the next first Council meeting in March. Motion was made by Casper, second by Wheeler to move Wednesday March 4th meeting to Monday March 2nd, at 5:30. There being no further discussion upon the motion made, and upon roll call votes, the following voted yes: Casper, Wheeler, Mahalek and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Casper, second by Wheeler to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Casper, Wheeler, Moulton, and Mahalek. Voting no: None. Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

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.

Janet Dietz, City Clerk.

City of Alma
Unpaid Claims by Vendor
February 19, 2026 thru March 2, 2026

Type	Date	Due Date	Memo	Account	Class	Amount
ACAP						
Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	2026 annual membership - Steve , 20.1035 · Dues & Fees		General Fund	25.00
Total ACAP						<u>25.00</u>
Alma Golf Course						
Bill	02/19/2026	03/02/2026	reimbursement for mower blade sl 20.1200 · Repairs & Maint. Equipm		Golf Fund	1,600.00
Total Alma Golf Course						<u>1,600.00</u>
Alma Public School						
Bill	02/13/2026	03/02/2026	Pump & Pantry	20.1135 · Liquor & Tobacco Licens	General Fund	200.00
Total Alma Public School						<u>200.00</u>
BARCO Municipal Products, Inc.						
Bill	02/16/2026	03/02/2026	street signs	30.1100 · Signs & Posts	Street Department	405.93
Total BARCO Municipal Products, Inc.						<u>405.93</u>
Big Booty Transport						
Bill	02/12/2026	03/02/2026	Freight delivery	20.1160 · Postage & Freight Exper	Golf Fund	110.00
Total Big Booty Transport						<u>110.00</u>
City Alma Utilities						
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Gas, Water, Sewer-Auditorium	20.1090 · Gas, Water, & Wastewat	Community Buildings	306.16
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Water, Sewer-Dump Station	20.1090 · Gas, Water, & Wastewat	Wastewater Utility De	34.00
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Gas, Water, Sewer - Johnson C	20.1090 · Gas, Water, & Wastewat	Community Buildings	111.19
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Trash - Johnson Center	20.1250 · Trash Removal	Community Buildings	116.91
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Gas, Water, Sewer-Library	20.1090 · Gas, Water, & Wastewat	Library Department	323.38
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Trash - Library	20.1250 · Trash Removal	Library Department	9.35
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Gas, Water, Sewer - Office	20.1090 · Gas, Water, & Wastewat	General Fund	34.00
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Trash - Office	20.1250 · Trash Removal	General Fund	9.35
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Trash - Trail (on City office stm	20.1250 · Trash Removal	Pheasant Ridge Trail	9.35
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Water - Park	20.1090 · Gas, Water, & Wastewat	Park Department	21.50
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Trash - Park	20.1250 · Trash Removal	Park Department	56.10
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Gas, Water, Sewer - Workshop	20.1090 · Gas, Water, & Wastewat	Shop Department	1,095.18
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Trash - Workshop	20.1250 · Trash Removal	Shop Department	75.47

City of Alma
Unpaid Claims by Vendor

February 19, 2026 thru March 2, 2026

Type	Date	Due Date	Memo	Account	Class	Amount
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Trash - Boat Dock (on Office B	20.1250 · Trash Removal	Recreation Departme	9.35
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Trash - EV Station (on Office B	20.1250 · Trash Removal	EV Charging Station	9.35
Total City Alma Utilities						2,220.64
City of Alma Utilities-Glf						
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Utilities	20.1090 · Gas, Water, & Wastewat	Golf Fund	755.15
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Trash	20.1250 · Trash Removal	Golf Fund	84.82
Total City of Alma Utilities-Glf						839.97
DCS Underground LLC						
Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	Bore Gas Line	20.1120 · Line Maintenance	Gas Utility Departmer	1,000.00
Total DCS Underground LLC						1,000.00
Eakes Office Solutions						
Bill	02/20/2026	03/02/2026	Contract 11/20/25 to 02/19/26	20.1200 · Repairs & Maint. Equipm	General Fund	859.30
Bill	02/15/2026	03/02/2026	Contract 11/15/25 to 02/14/26	20.1200 · Repairs & Maint. Equipm	Library Department	142.67
Total Eakes Office Solutions						1,001.97
First National Bank Omaha-CC 0274						
Bill	02/04/2026	03/02/2026	Pipeline Conference hotel	20.1260 · Travel & Meal Expense	Gas Utility Departmer	150.26
Bill	02/03/2026	03/02/2026	meal - Cunningham's Journal	20.1260 · Travel & Meal Expense	Gas Utility Departmer	24.77
Bill	02/04/2026	03/02/2026	meal - Angus Burgers	20.1260 · Travel & Meal Expense	Gas Utility Departmer	45.00
Bill	02/03/2026	03/02/2026	meal - Culver's	20.1260 · Travel & Meal Expense	Gas Utility Departmer	27.75
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Cornhusker Marriott - LONM MidWinte	20.1260 · Travel & Meal Expense	General Fund	232.00
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Cornhusker Marriott - LONM MidWinte	20.1260 · Travel & Meal Expense	General Fund	296.54
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	meal - Taco John's	20.1260 · Travel & Meal Expense	General Fund	8.66
Total First National Bank Omaha-CC 0274						784.98
First National Bank Omaha-CC 5410						
Bill	02/03/2026	03/02/2026	2025 MidWinter Conference - Steve	20.1180 · Professional & School	General Fund	443.00
Bill	02/02/2026	03/02/2026	USPS-Water Samples Postage	20.1160 · Postage & Freight Expen	Water Utility Departm	34.75
Bill	02/16/2026	03/02/2026	Hulu subscription	20.1015 · Cable Television Expens	Golf Fund	107.49
Total First National Bank Omaha-CC 5410						585.24
First National Bank Omaha-CC 5623						
Bill	02/03/2026	03/02/2026	2025 MidWinter Conference - Hal	20.1180 · Professional & School	General Fund	443.00
Total First National Bank Omaha-CC 5623						443.00

City of Alma
Unpaid Claims by Vendor
February 19, 2026 thru March 2, 2026

	Type	Date	Due Date	Memo	Account	Class	Amount
Hal Haeker							
	Bill	02/25/2026	03/02/2026	Meals - LNM Annual Conference - 20.1260	Travel & Meal Expense	General Fund	70.89
	Bill	02/25/2026	03/02/2026	Mileage - LNM Annual Conference 20.1260	Travel & Meal Expense	General Fund	261.00
	Bill	02/25/2026	03/02/2026	Parking - LNM Annual Conference 20.1260	Travel & Meal Expense	General Fund	27.00
Total Hal Haeker							358.89
Harlan County							
	Bill	03/01/2026	03/02/2026	Law Enforcement-March	20.1020 · Contractual Services	Police Protection Dep	4,301.00
Total Harlan County							4,301.00
Harlan County Journal							
	Bill	02/13/2026	03/02/2026	Annual Subscription Renewal	20.1235 · Subscriptions	General Fund	41.50
Total Harlan County Journal							41.50
Hometown Leasing							
	Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	Sharp Copy Machine	40.1100 · Equipment Rentals	General Fund	228.54
Total Hometown Leasing							228.54
Jason Bach							
	Bill	02/25/2026	03/02/2026	supplied New Year's Eve dinner (p	20.1151 · Fundraiser Expenses	Golf Fund	1,469.85
Total Jason Bach							1,469.85
Matt Friend Truck Equipment							
	Bill	02/13/2026	03/02/2026	skidsteer tube brace	20.1200 · Repairs & Maint. Equipm	Street Department	128.02
Total Matt Friend Truck Equipment							128.02
Midwest Turf							
	Bill	02/12/2026	03/02/2026	mower parts	20.1200 · Repairs & Maint. Equipm	Golf Fund	2,295.44
	Bill	02/13/2026	03/02/2026	washer seal	20.1200 · Repairs & Maint. Equipm	Golf Fund	2.71
	Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	brush-rollers	20.1200 · Repairs & Maint. Equipm	Golf Fund	178.86
Total Midwest Turf							2,477.01
National Public Gas Agency							
	Bill	02/13/2026	03/02/2026	Gas purchased	20.1070 · Gas Purchased	Gas Utility Departmer	24,543.81
Total National Public Gas Agency							24,543.81

City of Alma
Unpaid Claims by Vendor
February 19, 2026 thru March 2, 2026

Type	Date	Due Date	Memo	Account	Class	Amount
Nebraska Aviation Council						
Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	2026 Aviation Symposium Registration 20.1035 · Dues & Fees		Airport Fund	135.00
Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	2026 Aviation Symposium Registration 20.1035 · Dues & Fees		Airport Fund	135.00
Total Nebraska Aviation Council						270.00
Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab						
Bill	02/17/2026	03/02/2026	Fluoride, Coliform, Nitrate	20.1280 · Water Testing	Water Utility Departm	64.00
Total Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab						64.00
Nebraska Public Power District, Gvt-3						
Bill	02/20/2026	03/02/2026	01-21-26 thru 02-17-26	20.1040 · Electric Expense	Water Utility Departm	716.87
Bill	02/20/2026	03/02/2026	01-21-26 thru 02-17-26	20.1040 · Electric Expense	Wastewater Utility De	463.87
Bill	02/20/2026	03/02/2026	01-21-26 thru 02-17-26	20.1040 · Electric Expense	Wastewater Utility De	168.67
Total Nebraska Public Power District, Gvt-3						1,349.41
Nebraska Public Power District,lby						
Bill	02/19/2026	03/02/2026	211010052496 Feb 2026	20.1040 · Electric Expense	Library Department	63.67
Total Nebraska Public Power District,lby						63.67
Pinpoint-Office						
Bill	03/01/2026	03/02/2026	City office	20.1102 · Internet Expense	General Fund	15.00
Total Pinpoint-Office						15.00
Pinpoint-Pool						
Bill	03/01/2026	03/02/2026	Internet-Pool	20.1102 · Internet Expense	Pool Department	5.00
Total Pinpoint-Pool						5.00
Pinpoint-Shop						
Bill	03/01/2026	03/02/2026	Internet-Shop	20.1102 · Internet Expense	Shop Department	69.99
Total Pinpoint-Shop						69.99
Pinpoint-Water Tower						
Bill	03/01/2026	03/02/2026	Internet-Water Tower	20.1102 · Internet Expense	Water Utility Departm	5.00
Total Pinpoint-Water Tower						5.00
Reliable Pest Control Services, Inc.						
Bill	02/05/2026	03/02/2026	Pest Control	20.1190 · Repairs & Maint. Building	Library Department	90.00
Total Reliable Pest Control Services, Inc.						90.00

City of Alma
Unpaid Claims by Vendor
February 19, 2026 thru March 2, 2026

Type	Date	Due Date	Memo	Account	Class	Amount
Servi-Tech Laboratories						
Bill	02/10/2026	03/02/2026	water sample - nitrate	20.1280 · Water Testing	Water Utility Departm	15.00
Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	water sample - nitrate	20.1280 · Water Testing	Water Utility Departm	30.00
Total Servi-Tech Laboratories						45.00
Steven Ardiana.						
Bill	02/26/2026	03/02/2026	mileage reimbursement - Kearney & Li	20.1260 · Travel & Meal Expense	General Fund	414.70
Total Steven Ardiana.						414.70
Titan Investments.						
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	utility deposit refund	20.1030 · Deposit Refunds	Gas Utility Departmer	22.12
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	utility deposit refund	20.1030 · Deposit Refunds	Wastewater Utility De	22.11
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	utility deposit refund	20.1030 · Deposit Refunds	Water Utility Departm	22.11
Total Titan Investments.						66.34
Travelers Insurance						
Bill	01/21/2026	03/02/2026	Workman's Comp - 1st quarter	20.1100 · Insurance Expense	General Fund	214.00
Bill	01/21/2026	03/02/2026	Workman's Comp - 1st quarter	20.1100 · Insurance Expense	Water Utility Departm	1,662.00
Bill	01/21/2026	03/02/2026	Workman's Comp - 1st quarter	20.1100 · Insurance Expense	Sanitation Departmen	2,583.00
Bill	01/21/2026	03/02/2026	Workman's Comp - 1st quarter	20.1100 · Insurance Expense	Gas Utility Departmer	2,590.00
Bill	01/21/2026	03/02/2026	Workman's Comp - 1st quarter	20.1100 · Insurance Expense	Pool Department	1,843.00
Bill	01/21/2026	03/02/2026	Workman's Comp - 1st quarter	20.1100 · Insurance Expense	Street Department	2,400.00
Bill	01/21/2026	03/02/2026	Workman's Comp - 1st quarter	20.1100 · Insurance Expense	Golf Fund	1,026.00
Total Travelers Insurance						12,318.00
Tripe Motor Company						
Bill	02/23/2026	03/02/2026	mount and balance tires	20.1200 · Repairs & Maint. Equipm	Water Utility Departm	100.00
Total Tripe Motor Company						100.00
Vadim - USTI						
Bill	02/17/2026	03/02/2026	E-Statement bills - January	20.1025 · Computer Services & So	Gas Utility Departmer	36.12
Bill	02/17/2026	03/02/2026	E-Statement bills - January	20.1025 · Computer Services & So	Water Utility Departm	36.12
Bill	02/17/2026	03/02/2026	E-Statement bills - January	20.1025 · Computer Services & So	Wastewater Utility De	36.12
Bill	02/17/2026	03/02/2026	E-Statement bills - January	20.1025 · Computer Services & So	Sanitation Departmen	36.12
Bill	02/17/2026	03/02/2026	ePrint Postage - January	20.1160 · Postage & Freight Expen	Gas Utility Departmer	73.53
Bill	02/17/2026	03/02/2026	ePrint Postage - January	20.1160 · Postage & Freight Expen	Water Utility Departm	73.53

City of Alma
Unpaid Claims by Vendor
February 19, 2026 thru March 2, 2026

Type	Date	Due Date	Memo	Account	Class	Amount
Bill	02/17/2026	03/02/2026	ePrint Postage - January	20.1160 · Postage & Freight Exper	Wastewater Utility De	73.53
Bill	02/17/2026	03/02/2026	ePrint Postage - January	20.1160 · Postage & Freight Exper	Sanitation Departmen	73.53
Total Vadim - USTI						438.60
Van Wall Turf & Irrigation						
Bill	01/30/2026	03/02/2026	bushing & wheel assembly	20.1200 · Repairs & Maint. Equipm	Golf Fund	40.01
Total Van Wall Turf & Irrigation						40.01
Vestis (Aramark Uniform Services)						
Bill	02/25/2026	03/02/2026	laundry bag	30.1120 · Supplies	Shop Department	2.48
Bill	02/25/2026	03/02/2026	Uniforms-Russ	20.1270 · Uniform Expense	Gas Utility Departmer	9.93
Bill	02/25/2026	03/02/2026	Uniforms - Kent	20.1270 · Uniform Expense	Gas Utility Departmer	9.93
Bill	02/25/2026	03/02/2026	Uniforms - Travis	20.1270 · Uniform Expense	Street Department	8.82
Bill	02/25/2026	03/02/2026	Uniforms - Scott	20.1270 · Uniform Expense	Water Utility Departm	6.72
Bill	02/25/2026	03/02/2026	Uniforms - Jeff	20.1270 · Uniform Expense	Gas Utility Departmer	9.93
Bill	02/25/2026	03/02/2026	Service Charge	20.1270 · Uniform Expense	General Fund	7.66
Bill	02/25/2026	03/02/2026	Mops	30.1120 · Supplies	Community Buildings	18.00
Bill	02/25/2026	03/02/2026	EasyCare Charge	20.1150 · Miscellaneous Other Exp	General Fund	18.54
Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	laundry bag	30.1120 · Supplies	Shop Department	2.48
Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	Uniforms-Russ	20.1270 · Uniform Expense	Gas Utility Departmer	9.93
Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	Uniforms - Kent	20.1270 · Uniform Expense	Gas Utility Departmer	9.93
Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	Uniforms - Travis	20.1270 · Uniform Expense	Street Department	8.82
Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	Uniforms - Scott	20.1270 · Uniform Expense	Water Utility Departm	6.72
Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	Uniforms - Jeff	20.1270 · Uniform Expense	Gas Utility Departmer	9.93
Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	Service Charge	20.1270 · Uniform Expense	General Fund	7.66
Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	Mops	30.1120 · Supplies	Community Buildings	18.00
Bill	02/18/2026	03/02/2026	EasyCare Charge	20.1150 · Miscellaneous Other Exp	General Fund	18.54
Total Vestis (Aramark Uniform Services)						184.02
Waggoner Insurance Agency						
Bill	02/24/2026	03/02/2026	endorsement for updates to Auditoriurr	20.1100 · Insurance Expense	Community Buildings	798.00
Total Waggoner Insurance Agency						798.00

City of Alma
Unpaid Claims by Vendor

February 19, 2026 thru March 2, 2026

Type	Date	Due Date	Memo	Account	Class	Amount
Ward Laboratories						
Bill	02/20/2026	03/02/2026	Wells Tested for nitrate	20.1280 - Water Testing	Water Utility Departm	57.75
Total Ward Laboratories						<u>57.75</u>
 EFT'S						
Eagle Distributing of Grand Island	02/12/2026	02/12/2026	Beer	30.1041 - Purchases Beer	Golf Fund	96.30
Southern Glazer's of NE	02/11/2026	03/13/2026	Liquor	30.1045 - Purchases Liquor	Golf Fund	217.00
						<u>313.30</u>

City of Alma
Unpaid Claims by Vendor
 February 19, 2026 thru March 2, 2026

PAYROLL & BENEFITS

Type	Date	Due Date	Memo	Account	Class	Amount
	02/26/2026	02/26/2026	Payroll & Benefits		Gas Utility Departmer	9,548.03
	02/26/2026	02/26/2026	Payroll & Benefits		General Fund	5,999.46
	02/26/2026	02/26/2026	Payroll & Benefits		Golf Fund	4,633.23
	02/26/2026	02/26/2026	Payroll & Benefits		Library Department	1,495.63
	02/26/2026	02/26/2026	Payroll & Benefits		Sanitation Dept	2,188.93
	02/26/2026	02/26/2026	Payroll & Benefits		Street Department	2,874.10
	02/26/2026	02/26/2026	Payroll & Benefits		Water Utility Departm	2,733.27
						29,472.65

Total Expenditures

3/2/2026 **88,945.79**

 Mayor Hal Haeker

 Councilman Chris Mahalek

 Councilman Tom Moulton

 Councilman Joel Wheeler

 Councilman Larry Casper

City of Alma
 First Meeting Treasurer's Report
 re : Quickbooks Actual Balances - not reconciled
 February 26, 2026

Cash & CD's	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	2/26/2026	1/29/2026	INC/DEC	
Petty Cash			\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ -	
City of Alma Checking - 0410			\$ 2,109,503.90	\$ 1,991,273.17	\$ 118,230.73	
Municipal Golf Checking/Comm. Bank - 957		as of 2/24	\$ 34,987.33	\$ 22,767.40	\$ 12,219.93	
Hospital Sinking Fund Savings - 5320			\$ 11,723.40	\$ 10,040.41	\$ 1,682.99	
CRA Checking - 2010			\$ 138.62	\$ 138.18	\$ 0.44	
Credit Card Banking - 3010			\$ 18,578.25	\$ 17,552.48	\$ 1,025.77	
Subtotal			<u>\$ 1,974,040.48</u>	<u>\$ 1,974,040.48</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	
						INTEREST PAID OUT
Community Bank CD 417024 5 mo.	2.72%	4/7/2026	\$ 86,120.71	\$ 85,534.30	\$ 586.41	
Banner Capital Bank CD 7595 24 mo.	4.50%	4/7/2026	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ -	
Banner Capital Bank CD 40955 12 mo.	3.65%	10/14/2026	\$ 52,848.30	\$ 52,848.30	\$ -	
Banner Capital Bank CD 49686 12 mo.	3.65%	10/14/2026	\$ 52,848.30	\$ 52,848.30	\$ -	
Banner Capital Bank CD 44754 12 mo.	3.75%	1/13/2027	\$ 120,858.71	\$ 120,858.71	\$ -	
Banner Capital Bank CD 46898 12 mo.	3.75%	1/13/2027	\$ 120,858.71	\$ 120,858.71	\$ -	
Banner Capital Bank CD 48118 12 mo.	3.75%	1/13/2027	\$ 119,980.27	\$ 119,980.27	\$ -	
First State Bank CD 410328 13 mo.	3.94%	4/5/2026	\$ 113,456.90	\$ 113,456.90	\$ -	
First State Bank CD 410329 13 mo.	3.94%	4/5/2026	\$ 113,456.90	\$ 113,456.90	\$ -	
First State Bank CD 410330 13 mo.	3.94%	4/5/2026	\$ 118,527.30	\$ 118,527.30	\$ -	
First State Bank CD 410331 13 mo.	3.94%	4/5/2026	\$ 55,448.96	\$ 55,448.96	\$ -	
First State Bank CD 310412 5 mo. Hospital	3.65%	6/1/2026	\$ 293,366.11	\$ 293,366.11	\$ -	
First State Bank CD 410310 11 mo.	3.94%	6/14/2026	\$ 107,575.47	\$ 107,575.47	\$ -	\$ 350.84
First State Bank CD 6004 13 mo.	3.60%	11/28/2026	\$ 222,003.31	\$ 219,985.48	\$ 2,017.83	
CD Total			<u>\$ 1,617,349.95</u>	<u>\$ 1,614,745.71</u>	<u>\$ 2,604.24</u>	
			<u>\$ 3,591,390.43</u>	<u>\$ 3,588,786.19</u>	<u>\$ 2,604.24</u>	
Debt						
Sewer Relocate Forcemain w/DEQ	1.50%	6/15/2037	\$ 80,722.46	\$ 80,722.46	\$ -	
Sanitation Truck CB #0233-51469	1.89%	8/15/2026	\$ 31,095.32	\$ 31,095.32	\$ -	
Swimming Pool Bond	3.055% Ave	6/15/2034	\$ 955,000.00	\$ 955,000.00	\$ -	
Wastewater Bond	2.407% Ave	6/15/2034	\$ 155,000.00	\$ 155,000.00	\$ -	
Various Purpose - Annex & Subdivision	3.25% Ave	6/15/2039	\$ 690,000.00	\$ 690,000.00	\$ -	
Street Improvement Bond - Brown Street	3.26% Ave	9/1/2026	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$ -	
Street Improvement Bond - South St	.620% % Ave	4/15/2028	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00	\$ -	
			<u>\$ 2,050,817.78</u>	<u>\$ 2,050,817.78</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	

City of Alma
Utility Billing Balances as of February 24, 2026

Past Due

1-0850-1085	Lisa L. Overleese	59.38
1-0890-0089	Theresa Weeth	326.39
2-2040-2204	Spencer Brabec	231.68
2-2250-4225	Michelle Lewis	141.65
2-2540-0254	Bill & Caroline Garrison	7.71
2-3060-4306	Emily Vredeveld	157.13
3-4930-1493	Fisherman's Corner	10.53
3-5035-1503	Dollar General #17021	48.61
3-5050-0505	Tripe Motor Company	65.00
3-5055-0505	Tripe Motor Company	37.90
4-5820-0582B	Bev Kindler	210.86
4-6905-3690	Jose Gomez	264.35
4-7000-1700	Sam VanAsperen	109.82
		\$ 1,671.01

Disc/Lien

1-0080-2008	Mighty Tidy	460.25
1-0300-0091	Kurt Peterson	358.74
4-6905-2690	Erin Gehrig	180.10
		\$ 999.09

Past Due	1,671.01
Liens	999.09
Budget Billing	1,480.27
	\$ 4,150.37

Collections

1-1170-1243C	Eric Sealander	287.79
1-139D-4139C	Kacie Boydston	319.38
1-1470-1470C	Joshua Low	914.42
2-1860-0186C	Kristine Osborne	176.47
2-1980-3198C	Shawn Anderson	151.98
2-2000-1200C	Morgan Hoppe	100.99
2-2450-0002C	Jesse Goracke	238.79
2-2570-0800C	Chad & Leslie Mickel	254.52
2-2810-1176C	Shawn Harrison	607.97
2-2950-1125C	Janet Rockey	3,327.23
2-3040-0833C	Brenda Zimmerman	136.18
2-3260-1189C	Mark Mazuch	4.38
3-4390-0440C	Heidi Knox	150.99
3-4420-1172C	Denise Wolf	581.45
3-4450-0001C	Dan Marcum	69.55
3-4550-0460C	Courtney Noland	60.17
3-4630-0001C	Harlan County Auto & Bo	299.81
3-4760-1199C	Theresa White	1,383.78
3-4980-2498C	Benders Motorcycle Sen	202.76
4-6170-5617C	Jesse Hughes	11.59
4-6180-0001C	Richard Carter	8.67
4-6410-0125C	Ted Aregi	522.59
4-6560-1257C	Mark Stead	448.94
4-6650-0665C	Scott Haeker	352.71
4-7180-1225C	Shiela Nielsen	474.72
	Marilyn Anderson	146.43
	Shawn Feam	272.30
	Alisa Kovar	636.92
	Heidi Mackey	487.01
	Bobby McCarley	277.77
	Jamie Miller	740.83
	Shannon Palmer	45.63
	Cathy Swenson	417.89
	Joe Voyles	749.61
		\$ 14,862.22

**City of Alma
By Fiscal Year
Monthly Gas Sales & Usage**

	\$	Usage
October '23	\$ 22,050.56	13,521
November '23	\$ 60,445.98	49,681
December '23	\$ 74,089.13	62,574
January '24	\$ 111,434.45	98,716
February '24	\$ 76,746.35	63,982
March '24	\$ 55,549.09	44,904
April '24	\$ 44,981.05	33,775
May '24	\$ 23,304.31	15,246
June '24	\$ 16,933.53	9,116
July '24	\$ 17,757.72	9,274
August '24	\$ 16,854.21	8,432
September '24	\$ 17,140.15	8,916
	\$ 537,286.53	418,137

Budget **\$ 550,000**

	\$	Usage
October '24	\$ 25,255.19	14,072
November '24	\$ 51,513.96	33,360
December '24	\$ 93,315.40	67,893
January '25	\$ 121,885.03	87,848
February '25	\$ 127,631.42	93,177
March '25	\$ 61,930.31	42,335
April '25	\$ 35,960.99	24,017
May '25	\$ 22,690.70	12,399
June '25	\$ 23,656.89	12,582
July '25	\$ 18,927.27	8,611
August '25	\$ 20,772.17	9,979
September '25	\$ 19,774.04	9,405
	\$ 623,313.37	415,678

Budget **\$ 550,000**

	\$	Usage
October '25	\$ 28,496.74	12,653
November '25	\$ 66,640.39	35,988
December '25	\$ 108,070.99	63,095
January '26	\$ 103,551.38	62,725
February '26	\$ 119,749.69	79,738
March '26		
April '26		
May '26		
June '26		
July '26		
August '26		
September '26		
	\$ 426,509.19	254,199

Budget **\$ 834,466**

Gas Rates								
	Residential	General Services		Residential	General Services		Residential	General Services
October '23		0.9600	October '24	1.2370	1.0500	October '25	1.47454	1.55854
November '23		0.9960	November '24	1.3086	1.1216	November '25	1.37690	1.37690
December '23		0.9950	December '24	1.2695	1.0825	December '25	1.40640	1.40640
January '24		0.9890	January '25	1.3010	1.1140	January '26	1.34499	1.34499
February '24		1.0140	February '25	1.2918	1.1048	February '26	1.24887	1.24887
March '24		0.9980	March '25	1.2792	1.0922	March '26		
April '24	1.0060	1.0610	April '25	1.1703	0.9833	April '26		
May '24	0.8800	0.9630	May '25	1.1868	0.9998	May '26		
June '24	0.8522	0.9352	June '25	1.2514	1.0644	June '26		
July '24	0.9162	0.9992	July '25	1.2560	1.0690	July '26		
August '24	0.9082	0.9912	August '25	1.2804	1.0934	August '26		
September '24	0.8854	0.9684	September '25	1.2651	1.0781	September '26		

Delivery Charge updated October 1, 2025 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year: Residential \$1.040, General Services \$1.040
Minimum Charge updated November 19, 2025: Residential \$23.50, General Services \$40.00
Purchase Gas Charge varies monthly based on direct pricing from our natural gas supplier, NPGA

** Amounts are in month they are read, not due.*

Includes Taxes

City of Alma
By Fiscal Year
Monthly Water Sales & Usage

	\$	Usage
October '23	\$ 30,390.85	7,594
November '23	\$ 19,826.01	3,149
December '23	\$ 18,497.62	2,566
January '24	\$ 18,273.32	2,489
February '24	\$ 19,319.88	3,042
March '24	\$ 17,694.26	2,227
April '24	\$ 22,256.48	4,293
May '24	\$ 26,570.13	5,248
June '24	\$ 35,548.00	7,742
July '24	\$ 46,698.91	12,466
August '24	\$ 49,241.47	13,494
September '24	\$ 44,261.17	11,897
	\$ 348,578.10	76,207

Budget **\$ 315,000**

	\$	Usage
October '24	\$ 44,088.07	11,857
November '24	\$ 24,039.94	3,754
December '24	\$ 20,340.29	2,329
January '25	\$ 21,437.52	2,825
February '25	\$ 21,077.39	2,719
March '25	\$ 22,336.46	3,142
April '25	\$ 31,817.39	7,171
May '25	\$ 43,094.72	10,938
June '25	\$ 51,448.88	14,435
July '25	\$ 46,917.81	12,538
August '25	\$ 50,281.12	13,968
September '25	\$ 34,564.73	7,763
	\$ 411,444.32	93,439

Budget **\$ 345,000**

	\$	Usage
October '25	\$ 34,887.09	7,912
November '25	\$ 24,381.76	3,948
December '25	\$ 20,896.12	2,493
January '26	\$ 21,435.98	2,721
February '26	\$ 22,639.44	3,206
March '26		
April '26		
May '26		
June '26		
July '26		
August '26		
September '26		
	\$ 124,240.39	20,280

Budget **\$ 400,000**

Water Rate

New Water Rates have been in effect since June 25, 2024

\$21.50 Customer Charge

2.35 per 1,000 gal

** Amounts are in month they are read, not due.*

Includes taxes

City of Alma
A/R Aging Summary

As of February 26, 2026

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	> 90	TOTAL
CDBG Owner	30.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.31
CDBG Owner	93.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	93.98
Love Hotels Alma NE, LLC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,450.00	1,450.00
Matt Harrison	110.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	110.00
Mustang Aviation, LLC	110.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	110.00
Roger Tischner	185.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	185.00
TOTAL	529.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,450.00	1,979.29



Request for

Future Agenda Item

If you have a specific topic that you would like the City Council to discuss at a future meeting, please list your name, address, telephone number and the specific topic. The item will be reviewed and possibly scheduled for a future meeting or forwarded to City staff for appropriate action.

Name: Dennis Leonard

Address: 301 Cardinal Ln

Telephone #: (308) 390-7004

Date of Request: 2/18/2026

Description: Request City remove trees (2) on ROW of Dick Brown Dr near corner of Cardinal Ln that are in violation of Zoning Regulations Section 509 - visibility obstruction within 25' of intersecting ROW lines.

Deadline for Agenda Items is at 12pm the Thursday before the Council meeting. Except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda shall not be altered later than (a) 24 hours before the scheduled meeting or (b) 48 hours before the scheduled meeting outside the corporate limits of the municipality.

OFFICE USE	
Request Forwarded to City Staff <input type="checkbox"/>	Staff initials: _____ Date completed: _____
Action Taken: _____	
Request scheduled for Council meeting <input type="checkbox"/>	Date of meeting: _____

508.02 Storage or parking of licensed recreational vehicles, travel trailers, pickup campers, boat trailers and the like, except when in completely enclosed buildings, shall not occur in any front yard in any residential zoning district for a period exceeding seven (7) days. Storage or parking of such vehicles in a side yard of residential zoning district shall be permitted, provided that a minimum distance of five (5) feet between any such vehicle and the side lot line shall be maintained. Not more than two (2) such vehicles shall be stored on any lot and at no time shall such vehicle be occupied or used for living or sleeping purposes, except for visitations which are less than seven (7) days in length.

508.03 Storage or parking of licensed or unlicensed vehicles for sale on any residential and /or rental property where vehicles for sale are not owned by the owner or lessee or the residential and /or rental property shall be prohibited.

SECTION 509 STREET INTERSECTION VISIBILITY

On any corner lot in any zoning district within the corporate limits of the City, except the C-1, Central Business District, no building, fence, wall, structure or other obstruction, including trees, shrubs and flowers, shall be placed or maintained between a height of three and one-half (3 ½) feet and eight (8) feet above the centerline elevations of each of the intersecting streets within the triangular area formed by the intersection street right-of-way lines and a line connecting points on said right-of-way line which is twenty five (25) feet from the intersection of said right-of-way.

SECTION 510 ONE PRIMARY STRUCTURE PER LOT

No more than one (1) primary structure shall be located on a single lot, except where primary structures are designed and platted as a single entity, under single ownership and control, such as multi-family, clustered residential developments and townhouse developments. This limitation shall not apply to lots or tracts in any commercial or industrial zoning district, or shopping centers, commercial centers and lots located in recognized industrial parks.

SECTION 511 EASEMENTS

No building or structure shall be placed or erected on or over any utility or access easements, excepts for structures associated with such utility easements.

SECTION 512 ACCESSORY BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES AND USES

512.01 Accessory buildings / structures and uses shall be incidental to, subordinate to, and commonly associated with the principal use of the premises and shall be operated and maintained under the same ownership and on the same lot as the principal use.

512.02 Accessory buildings, structures and uses shall be subordinate to the principle structure on the lot in height, area, bulk, extent and purpose, shall not be located closer to any lot line than set forth in the minimum yard requirements for the zoning district in which it is located and shall be included in the calculation of maximum lot coverage regulations of the zoning district in which it is located.

SECTION 513 OPEN AIR BUSINESSES

513.01 Any business establishment where the principle use is the drive-in-type or is generally characterized by open air operations shall be permitted to locate such open-air aspects of the business in the front yard, provided that a landscape buffer, as defined in this Section 303.75 of this Ordinance, at least ten (10) feet in width shall be provided along the front property line.

513.02 For convenience stores and other businesses dispensing, gasoline or other fuels at retail, pump islands shall be permitted no closer than twenty (20) feet to the front property line and any canopy covering such pump islands shall not extend closer than twelve (12) feet to the front property line.

SDL – LOCAL RECOMMENDATION

NEBRASKA LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION
301 CENTENNIAL MALL SOUTH
PO BOX 95046
LINCOLN, NE 68509-5046
PHONE: (402) 471-2571
FAX: (402) 471-2814
EMAIL: lcc.sdl.licensing@nebraska.gov
WEBSITE: www.lcc.nebraska.gov

CK067595

Kent A Shaffer

License # _____ Licensee Name/Non-Profit Organization _____

Event location name: Alma City Auditorium

Event address/location: 807 Main Street Alma Ne 6820

Event Type: Fund Raiser

Event date(s): 04/25/26

Event start time(s): 1PM

Event end time(s): 1AM

Indoor area to be licensed in length & width: 110 X 60

Outdoor area to be licensed in length & width: _____ X _____ (Must submit a diagram)

Estimated number of attendees: 300

Alternate dates/times: _____

Alternate location name/location: _____

Type of alcohol to be served: Beer Wine Distilled Spirits

Event contact name: Kent Shaffer Event contact phone number: 308-920-1178

Event contact Email: thestation@frontiernet.net

*Signature Authorized Representative: *Kent Shaffer*

Local Governing Body completes below:

The local governing body for the City of _____ OR
County of _____ approves the issuance of a Special Designated License as
requested above.

Local Governing Body Authorized Signature

Date

FACILITY RENTAL APPLICATION

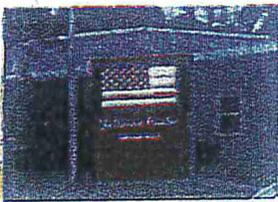
✓	Please indicate which facility		✓ Daily Rental Rate				SPECIAL OFFERS	Security Deposit
			Non-Profit	For Profit				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Johnson Center	509 Main Street	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$75	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100	Rent 2 days/3rd FREE	\$100
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	City Auditorium	807 Main Street	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$35	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$60	HALF PRICE FOR TUES OR WED RENTAL	\$100

PLEASE FOLLOW THE "NO SMOKING" POLICY.

Applicant Name: NEBKAN

Mailing Address: Po Box 140 Alma Phone Number: 920-3447

DATE OF RESERVATION: April 25th 2026 Type of Event: Fundraiser



Do you need any information put on the DIGITAL SIGN at the Johnson Center such as Happy Birthday, Happy Anniversary, etc? (Available for both Johnson Center & Auditorium)

- I HAVE INSPECTED THE RENTAL FACILITY AND I FIND IT IN ACCEPTABLE CONDITION.
- I HAVE INSPECTED THE RENTAL FACILITY AND I BELIEVE THE FOLLOWING FAULTS EXIST IN REGARD TO THE CLEANLINESS OF THE FACILITIES: _____
- I DO NOT WISH TO INSPECT THE FACILITIES PRIOR TO RENTING.

THE PERSON SIGNING OR EMAILING THIS APPLICATION OR WHO PAID THE FEES, STATES THEY HAVE RECEIVED AND READ THE RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING THE RENTING OF A FACILITY FROM THE CITY OF ALMA AND UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO BE PERSONALLY LIABLE FOR ANY AND ALL DAMAGES DONE BY ANYONE DURING THE USE OF THE FACILITIES.

Agreed: _____ (Signature of Applicant) _____ (Date) 11/12/25

Signature not required if application is emailed. Email receipt and payment will be used as verification of agreement.

*****-----To be completed by Alma City Office-----*****

Johnson Center - Date _____ Auditorium - Date _____

Rental Fee paid: Date: _____ Check or Cash Receipt #: _____ Amount: \$ _____
Security Deposit paid: Date: _____ Check or Cash Receipt #: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Deposit returned: Yes date: _____ No If no, why is deposit being retained? _____
Additional Notes: _____

614 Main Street
P.O. Box 468
Alma, NE 68920-0468

almacity.com
Fax: (308) 928-2683
Phone: (308) 928-2242

NITRATE IN DRINKING WATER Nitrate is a compound that occurs naturally and has many human-made sources. Nitrate is in some lakes, rivers, and groundwater in Nebraska. You cannot taste, smell, or see nitrate in water. Consuming too much nitrate can be harmful—especially for babies.

Background Information

Nitrate occurs naturally and at safe and healthy levels in some foods (e.g., spinach and carrots) and comes from natural processes, like plant decay. The primary source of inorganic nitrate is from fertilizers used on yards, gardens, golf courses, and crops. Certain industrial processes and leaks from fertilizer storage can also be a source of inorganic nitrate. Common sources of organic nitrate are human and animal waste.

Nitrate in Nebraska Water

Nitrate has been found in groundwater across Nebraska. While nitrate occurs naturally, levels in groundwater above 3 mg/L are considered an indicator of human-driven contamination.

Based on available data, there were 16,403 domestic well nitrate samples collected from 2003-2024. Of all the domestic wells sampled over this period, 6,468 (39.4%) of them were above 3 mg/L for nitrate and 2,775 (16.9%) of them were above 10 mg/L for nitrate. For more information about nitrate in Nebraska surface water and groundwater, see the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy's (NDEE's) annual water program publications included in the Resources section.

Health Effects

HUMANS: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for nitrate in drinking water at 10 milligrams of nitrate (measured as nitrogen) per liter of drinking water (mg/L NO₃-N).

Drinking water with nitrate above the MCL can affect how blood carries oxygen and may cause methemoglobinemia (also known as blue baby syndrome). Bottle-fed babies under six months old are at the highest risk of getting methemoglobinemia. This illness can cause the skin to turn a bluish color and result in serious illness or death. Other symptoms connected to methemoglobinemia include decreased blood pressure, increased heart rate, headaches, stomach cramps, and vomiting.¹ Pregnant women are also a high-risk group and should not consume water with nitrate above the MCL.² The following conditions may also put people at higher risk of developing nitrate-induced methemoglobinemia: anemia, cardiovascular disease, sepsis, glucose-6-phosphate- dehydrogenase deficiency, gastrointestinal diseases and other metabolic problems.^{2,3}

The EPA standard was set based on immediate health effects of consuming nitrate above 10 mg/L. There is additional research being done by others, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), on other potential health effects, including chronic health effects. Chronic health effects occur from ingesting a contaminant over a long period of time.

For more information about other potential health effects, visit the UNL websites located in the Resources section.

LIVESTOCK: It is recommended to not allow livestock to drink water with a nitrate level above 100 mg/L. Nitrate can affect livestock similarly to how it affects humans.⁴ Additionally, nitrate levels above 100 mg/L may cause reproductive problems in adult cattle and reduce growth rates in replacement heifers.⁵ It is recommended that you consult with a veterinarian if you have questions about an acceptable nitrate level in drinking water for other species of animals.

How to Protect Yourself and Your Family

IF YOU ARE ON A PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM: Your public water system regularly tests for nitrate and makes sure levels meet the EPA standard. You can find the level of nitrate detected in your public water system by reading the system's Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) which is a water quality report that is required to be provided to water customers annually. Call your water system to get a paper copy of your community's most recent report or find drinking water quality information about your system online at the Drinking Water Watch website listed in the Resources section.

IF YOU HAVE A PRIVATE WELL: The following types of wells are the most vulnerable to nitrate contamination, especially if they are near or downgradient of septic tanks and absorption/leach fields, certain industrial areas, areas with agricultural activities, or areas with known high concentrations of nitrate in groundwater:

- Shallow wells 50 feet or less in depth.
- Wells in sand aquifers.
- Dug wells or wells with casings that are not watertight due to damage or construction materials used.
- Wells in a pit.
- Improperly constructed wells.
- Wells constructed prior to the 1988 construction standards.

¹ Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). 2015. ToxFAQs™ for Nitrate and Nitrite (<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts204.pdf>). Accessed April 2024.

² ATSDR. 2013. ATSDR Case Studies in Environmental Medicine Nitrate/Nitrite Toxicity (https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/csem/nitrate_2013/docs/nitrite.pdf). Page 37. Accessed April 2024

³ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 1991. Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) Chemical Assessment Summary (https://iris.epa.gov/static/pdfs/0076_summary.pdf). Accessed April 2024.

⁴ Rasby, R. & Walz, T. 2011. Water Requirements for Beef Cattle. University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension. (<https://extensionpubs.unl.edu/publication/q2060/html/view>). Accessed May 2024.

⁵ Kononoff, P. & Clark, K. 2017. Water Quality and Requirements for Dairy Cattle. University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension. (<https://extensionpubs.unl.edu/publication/q2292/html/view>). Accessed May 2024.

Prevent Contamination

- **Construct your well in a safe spot.** Domestic wells constructed in Nebraska are required to adhere to setback distances and construction standards set in Nebraska Administrative Code (NAC) Title 178, Chapter 12. Ensure your installer is a licensed Water Well Professional using the NDEE website listed in the Resources section or by calling 402-471-0546
- **Keep nitrate sources away from your well.** Sources may include fertilizer application and storage, fuel storage, septic systems, wastewater treatment facilities, and livestock facilities. See NAC Title 178, Chapter 12, Chart 1 for setback distances from common sources of well contamination. Consult with a Certified Onsite Wastewater Treatment (OWT) Professional if you have concerns about the location or condition of your septic system in relation to your well. A link to find a Certified OWT Professional is listed in the Resources section.
- **Get your well inspected.** Work with a licensed professional to take any corrective actions that may be needed. Water Well Professionals with a current license are listed on the NDEE website listed in the Resources section.
- **Test for nitrate and bacteria every year.** You are responsible for regularly testing your well water. NDEE recommends using an accredited laboratory to test your well water. Well owners can request sample kits from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NDHHS) online at the website listed in the Resources section or by calling 402-471-3935. Additionally, the NDHHS's website has a list of other accredited laboratories. Contact the laboratory to get sample containers and instructions or ask your local Natural Resources District (NRD) or public health services if they provide well water testing services. If you need help finding your local NRD, visit the website in the Resources section.

Address Contamination

If nitrate is detected in your water at levels above 10 mg/L, follow these steps:

- **Get your drinking water from a safe source,** such as bottled water, or a public water system including rural water districts. This is especially important if babies under six months old drink the water or formula is made with the water. Pregnant or nursing mothers should consult with their doctor about how elevated nitrate levels in drinking water may affect them. Boiling water is not a solution for elevated nitrate levels as it causes evaporation and concentrates the nitrate in the water.
- **Consider testing the well for other contaminants that commonly occur with nitrate such as bacteria and uranium.** Sample test kits for other contaminants, such as bacteria and uranium may be requested from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services online at the website listed in the Resources section or by calling 402-471-3935. For more information about other potential contaminants in your well, visit the NebGuides link under the UNL Resources section.
- **Contact a local rural water district.** Connection to the rural water district-supplied water may be an option in your area.

- **Consider your well construction.** If your existing well is poorly constructed or is located near a contamination source such as a septic system, drilling a new well or rehabilitating your well may be an option. However, this can be costly and is not a guarantee that the new or modified well will have nitrate below 10 mg/L. Water Well Professionals with a current license that can help drill a new well or rehabilitate an existing well are listed on the NDEE website listed in the Resources section.
- **Consider a Point of Use (POU) or Point of Entry (POE) treatment system to remove nitrate from drinking water.** POU treatment systems treat water at one tap while POE treatment systems treat all the water that enters your home. Reverse osmosis, ion exchange, or distillation filtration systems are the typical types of treatment systems used to remove nitrate from drinking water. These systems require regular maintenance and testing to ensure they are working correctly and must be properly installed, operated, and maintained to be effective. You may be able to purchase a basic system from your local home improvement store. Consult with a licensed plumber for help installing a more sophisticated system. Additionally, your local NRD may have assistance available to help fund the installation of a treatment system. If you need help finding your local NRD, visit the website located in the Resources section.

Resources

- Drinking Water Watch
<https://drinkingwater.ne.gov>
- Find Your NRD
<https://www.nrdnet.org/>
- NDEE Annual Report to the Legislature
<https://dee.nebraska.gov/forms/publications-grants-forms/ndee034>
- Groundwater Quality Monitoring Report
<https://dee.nebraska.gov/forms/publications-grants-forms/24-026>
- NDEE Water Quality Integrated Report
<https://dee.nebraska.gov/forms/publications-grants-forms/23-012>
- NDEE Certified Onsite Wastewater Treatment Professionals Lookup
<https://dee.nebraska.gov/water/wastewater/onsite-wastewater-program/certified-installers-mound-endorsement-and-professional-engineers>
- NDEE Water Well Professionals Licensee Lookup
https://deq-iis.ne.gov/zs/www/main_pro.php
- NAC Title 178 (Chapter 12 Setback Distances)
<https://rules.nebraska.gov/rules?agencyId=37&titleId=107>
- NDHHS Water Sampling Test Kit Request
<https://www.nebraska.gov/dhhs/water-test-kits/private.html>
- NDHHS Certified Labs
<https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Lab-Certification-Requirements.aspx>
- EPA Fact Sheet
<https://archive.epa.gov/water/archive/web/pdf/archived-consumer-fact-sheet-on-nitrates-and-or-nitrites.pdf>
- UNL Resources:
<https://water.unl.edu/category/water-and-health>
<https://water.unl.edu/category/water-and-health/resources>
<https://water.unl.edu/article/drinking-water/nebguides>

Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy
402-471-2186
ndee.moreinfo@nebraska.gov

Wellhead Protection Program

The Wellhead Protection (WHP) Program is a voluntary program and the first step a PWS can utilize to understand where their source water is coming from. The WHP Program models time of travel (TOT) paths for the next 20 to 50 years for each well in a PWS and creates a boundary around the TOT called a Wellhead Protection Area. PWSs can then voluntarily develop a WHP Plan to protect the land and groundwater surrounding the wells from contamination.

For more information visit <http://dee.ne.gov/NDEQProg.nsf/OnWeb/WHPA> or call 402-471-3376.

Source Water Protection Program

The Source Water Protection (SWP) Program administers a competitive grant program for PWSs serving 10,000 people or less to help fund WHP planning and source water protection projects. Education projects in conjunction with on-the-ground projects to protect source water are eligible for the SWP Grant.

For more information visit <http://dee.ne.gov/NDEQProg.nsf/%24%24OpenDominoDocument.xsp?documentId=4EB2E252F471C2C886257CB5005CE945&action=openDocument> or call 402-471-9249.

Capacity Development Program

The Capacity Development Program helps PWSs serving 10,000 people or less to ensure they have the required level of technical, managerial, and financial capacity to provide safe and adequate water to their consumers. The Capacity Development Program provides direct and indirect assistance through contracted Technical Assistance Providers and EPA funded Technical Assistance Providers for anything from PWS Board trainings to rate setting studies. Capacity development assessments are required for all PWS receiving a DWSRF Loan.

For more information visit <http://dee.ne.gov/NDEQProg.nsf/OnWeb/DWCD> or e-mail NDEE.DWCapDev@nebraska.gov or call 402-471-0088.

Nebraska Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

The Nebraska Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF) program provides low interest loans and loan forgiveness to owners of public drinking water systems. To pursue funding through the DWSRF program, a project must be identified during the needs survey process and placed on the annual Intended Use Plan (IUP) priority list. Additional priority is given to projects addressing regulated contaminants like nitrate. PWS on an AO for nitrate are compelled to address elevated nitrate levels, which may include DWSRF funds. NDEE typically initiates funding outreach when systems exceed 5 mg/L nitrate level.

For more information, visit <http://dee.ne.gov/NDEQProg.nsf/OnWeb/DWSRLE>, email ndee.srf@nebraska.gov, or call 402-471-4200.

Water Wastewater Advisory Committee (WWAC)

The Water Wastewater Advisory Committee (WWAC) consists of the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) and the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development (USDA-RD) and utilizes a common preapplication format to reduce costs to applicants in developing water infrastructure projects, including those that address nitrate. Communities are encouraged to submit a joint pre-application for federal assistance through WWAC, but communities may also submit funding applications to the individual agencies. Since funding availability through WWAC is limited, communities are encouraged to be proactive in the planning process.

For more information, visit <http://dee.ne.gov/publica.nsf/pages/WAT029> or email ndee.wwac@nebraska.gov.

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Resources.

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

CONTACT INFORMATION

Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy

Front Desk: 402-471-2186

Email: ndee.moreinfo@nebraska.gov

Website: dee.ne.gov

P.O. Box 98922

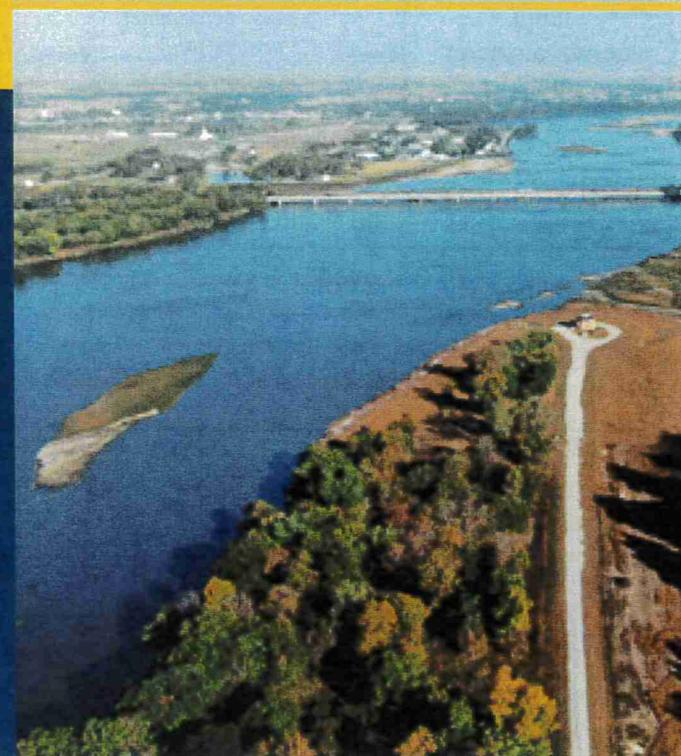
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-8922

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM

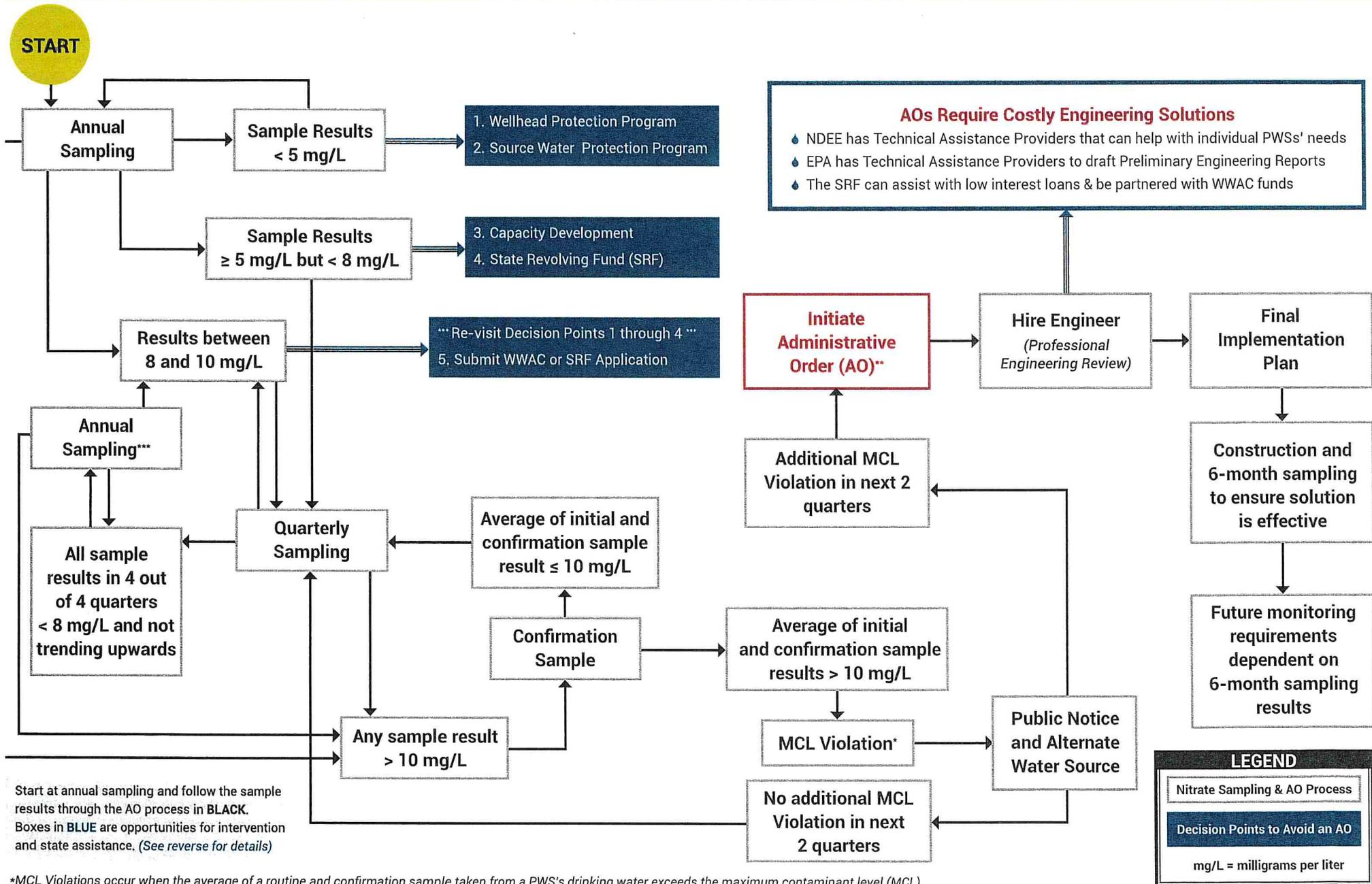
Nitrate Decision Tool

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Resources.



Public Water System (PWS) Nitrate Sampling Requirements and Decision Points to Avoid an Administrative Order (AO) Flowchart



Start at annual sampling and follow the sample results through the AO process in BLACK. Boxes in BLUE are opportunities for intervention and state assistance. (See reverse for details)

*MCL Violations occur when the average of a routine and confirmation sample taken from a PWS's drinking water exceeds the maximum contaminant level (MCL).

**Administrative Orders (AO) are enforcement actions issued by NDEE that require a PWS to take corrective action to address MCL Violations within a three-year time frame.

***Annual Sampling: After a PWS is required to conduct quarterly monitoring, when they meet the requirements to return to annual sampling, the new trigger point for returning to quarterly monitoring is 8 mg/L, instead of 5 mg/L.