

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

October 15, 2025

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Alma, Nebraska was held at City Hall on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

Present were Council Members: Larry Casper, Chris Mahalek, Joel Wheeler, and Mayor Hal Haeker. Absent: Tom Moulton. Also in attendance were City Clerk Janet Dietz, Treasurer Tashia Butterfield, City Utility Superintendent Russ Pfeil and Utility Floater Kent Felschmann, Leroy and Donna Bose, David Wells, and Angie Stuteville-Harhan County Journal. City Attorney Doug Walker joined the meeting at 6:13 pm. 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 October 15, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. and the following business was transacted:

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

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to approve the minutes of October 1st, 2025, council meeting. Motion by Casper, second by Wheeler to approve the regular minutes of October 1st, 2025, council meeting. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Casper, Wheeler, and Mahalek. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss the claims and invoices for October 1st, 2025, through October 15th, 2025, for a total of \$391,666.26. Motion made by Wheeler, second by Mahalek to approve the claims. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Wheeler, Mahalek, and Casper. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and or approve the Treasurer's report. Motion by Wheeler 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: Wheeler, Casper, and Mahalek. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and or approve Olson Project # 024-02280- Alma Storm Sewer & Hanger Invoice # 544951 for a total of \$12,250.00. Motion by Wheeler second by Casper to accept Olson Project #024-02280 Invoice #544951 for a total of \$12,500.00. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Wheeler, Casper, and Mahalek. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and or approve Resolution #1-2026 Special Assessment lien on 210 Hwy-183 utility bill for \$1,112.38. Councilman Wheeler noted the absence of City Attorney for this discussion. Councilman Casper noted this is the next step in the process. Motion was made by Wheeler to approve the Resolution #1-2026 Special assessment for \$1,112.38, for utility bill second by Casper. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Wheeler, Casper, and Mahalek. Voting no none: Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and or approve Resolution #2-2026 Special Assessment lien on 210 Hwy -183 nuisance mowing for \$1,450.00 Councilman Wheeler noted the absence of City Attorney for this discussion. Motion made by Wheeler to approve Resolution #2-2026 Special Assessment lien on 210-Hwy 183 for \$1,450.00 mowing, second by Mahalek. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Wheeler, Mahalek and Casper. Voting no none: Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker brought forth discussion and or approve emergency generator bid for purchase. Motion made by Wheeler, second by Casper to table (no info in packet). There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote: the following voted yes: Wheeler, Casper, and Mahalek. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to Hoesch Memorial Public Library Director Jennifer Roethke for discussion on (2) hires at the library. Jennifer discussed (1) hire for clerk position, working approximately 9-12, am-weekly, (3) hours as scheduled, and (1) position for cleaning, approximately, two hours every two weeks. Library Board has approved both hires. Motion made by Casper, second by Wheeler to approve both hires. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Casper, Wheeler, and Mahalek. Voting no none. Motion a carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss the city gas rate updates. Treasure Butterfield presented current gas rates for residential and commercial use. Charges per consumption, direct costs from the supplier, which vary each month, personnel costs associated with the gas dept, and auditors' notes of deficits. Councilman Wheeler and Mahalek discussed restructuring personnel costs , Councilman Casper discussed raising rates for individuals on a fixed income. Butterfield discussed the city not having raised rates in a ten year period, adjusting the based rate. Motion by Wheeler, second by Mahalek to table this discussion to gather additional information and review city options. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote: the following voted yes: Wheeler, Mahalek and Casper. Motion carried

Mayor Haeker called for a motion to move into executive session to discuss litigation. Casper moved to enter into executive for the purpose of discussing litigation, second by Wheeler at 6:23 pm. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Casper, Wheeler, and Mahalek. Voting no none. Motion carried. Mayor and Council, and City Administrator remained. At 6:38 pm, council resumed regular session with a motion made by Wheeler and second by Casper. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote: the following voted yes: Wheeler, Casper, and Mahalek. Motion carried.

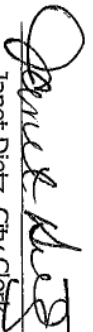
Mayor called for a motion to move into executive session for valuation of job performance of city administrator. Casper moved to move to enter into executive session to discuss city administrators job performance, second by Wheeler at 6:41 pm. There being no further discussion upon the motion made the following voted yes: Casper, Wheeler, and Mahalek, Voting no: None. Motion carried. Mayor, Council, City Attorney and City Administrator remained. At 7:58 pm council resumed regular session with a motion made by Mahalek and second by Wheeler. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote: the following voted yes: Mahalek, Wheeler and Casper, Motion carried.

City Administrator brought forth the Corp of Engineers City RV park annual review, fire extinguishers, also shower and bathroom leaks, picnic table storage. Auditorium updates, concrete work, interior painting, flooring, men's /women's restrooms, and kitchen updates, staying within budget. Also discussed were golf course parking issues, transfer of property has not been completed. Motion to adjourn made by Wheeler, second by Mahalek. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote: the following voted yes, Wheeler, Mahalek, and Casper. Meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm. Next council meeting will be November 5th, 2025.



Hal Haeker, Mayor

I the undersigned Clerk hereby certify that the foregoing 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 convened meeting of said body: that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of said body were provided advances notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subject.


Janet Dietz, City Clerk