

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 19TH, 2025**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Alma, Nebraska was held at City Hall on Wednesday , November 19th , 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

Present was Council Members: Tom Moulton, Chris Mahalek ,Larry Casper, Joel Wheeler, and Mayor Hal Haeker. City Clerk Janet Dietz, City Treasurer Tashia Butterfield, City Attorney Doug Walker, City Superintendent Russell Pfeil, Street Superintendent Travis Dunse 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, comments are allowed on agenda items only.

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 November 19th, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. and the following business was transacted:

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

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to approve the minutes of the November 5th, 2025, council meeting. Motion by Moulton second by Mahalek, to approve the regular minutes of the November 5th, 2025, council meeting. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Moulton, Mahalek, Casper, and Wheeler. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss the claims and invoices for November 6th, 2025, through November 19th, for \$162,493.97. Motion made by Wheeler, second by Moulton, to approve the claims as presented. 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 Haeker opened the floor to discuss and or approve the Treasurer's report. Councilman Wheeler questioned the deficit in the October gas department report, Treasurer advised, wages, gas purchases were part of the big expenses. Motion by Wheeler, second by Mahalek, 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, Mahalek, Moulton and Casper. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss Harlan County Sheriff request for animal catch pole equipment. City Administrator advised the request is for (5), one for each deputy, discussion was held on splitting the cost with Harlan County, where would the expense come from with City funds. Motion made by Wheeler second by Casper to purchase (1) dog catching mechanism for Harlan County Sheriff office, second by Casper. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Wheeler, Casper, Mahalek and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to the Public Hearing for the City of Alma One & Six Year Street improvement plan as advertised. Motion made by Moulton, second by Mahalek to open the public hearing at 5:52 pm. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote the following voted yes; Moulton, Mahalek, Casper and Wheeler. Voting no: none. Lewis Hyatt, Miller, and Associates Consulting Engineers presented the council with a map of projected 1 and 6 year plans, and the projected 2026 allocation for the City is \$181,994. Motion made by Moulton, second by Casper to close the public hearing at 5:57 pm. There being no further discussion upon the motion made the following voted yes: Moulton Casper, Mahalek and Wheeler. Voting no: none. Motion carried. Motion made by Casper second by Mahalek to approve as 1 & 6 year plan presented. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Casper, Mahalek, Moulton, and Casper. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and or approve the Year End Certification of City Street Superintendent for 2025, Resolution 2026-#3. Councilman Casper discussed this being a formality for the City. Motion made by Wheeler second by Casper to approve Year End Certification of City Street Superintendent Reed Miller, for 2025, Resolution 2026-#3. There being no further discussion upon the motion made, and upon roll call vote: the following voted yes: Wheeler, Casper, Moulton, and Mahalek. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and review the opening bids for the South Street lift station, as provided by Miller & Associates. Lewis Hyatt provided information that on November 13th, 2025, six (6) bids were received and read aloud at Miller & Associates, Lewis provided a tabulation sheet for review. The Engineers opinion of probable cost was \$ 550,000.00, the low bid from Philip Carkoski Construction and Trenching, Inc., is 13.93% below Engineers opinion of probable cost. It is therefore recommended the bids be accepted and contract awarded to Philip Carkoski Construction and Trenching Inc, in the amount of \$473,383.50. City Administrator reviewed the line items, added a possible new generator that could be needed in the future. Motion was made by Wheeler to hire Philip Carkoski Construction for south street lift station and accept the bid of \$473,383.50, second by Mahalek. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call votes, the following voted yes: Wheeler, Mahalek, Moulton and Casper Voting no none. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and review the proposed Ordinance 2026-1 to establish new City gas rates.

Council Member Moulton introduced **Ordinance Number 2025-01 Establishing Municipal Gas System Rates: Repealing all prior Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance; providing for publication; and to provide for an effective date** and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different dates be suspended. Council Member Casper 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: Wheeler, Moulton, Casper, and Mahalek. The following voted no: None. The motion to suspend the rules was adopted by three-fourths of the Council and the statutory rule was declared suspended for consideration of these ordinances. These ordinances were then read by title and thereafter

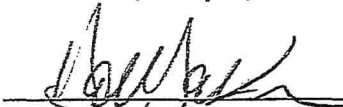
Council Member Moulton moved for final passage of these ordinances and said motion was seconded by Council Member Casper. The mayor then stated the questions, "Shall. Ordinance Number 2026-01 be passed and adopted? Upon roll call vote, the following Council members voted yes: Casper, Wheeler, Mahalek and Moulton.

Voting no none. The passage and adoption of these ordinances having been concurred in by a majority of all members of the Council, the Mayor declared the ordinances adopted; and the Mayor in the presence of the City Council signed and approved the ordinances and the City Clerk attested the passage and approval of the ordinances and affixed her signature thereto and ordered the ordinances to be published as provided by law.

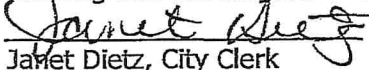
Mayor Haeker brought forth the request for executive session. At 6:15 pm, Council member Casper moved to move into executive session for the purpose of discussing potential litigation, second by Moulton, there being no further discussion upon the motion made, the following voted yes: Casper, Moulton, Wheeler, and Mahalek. Motion carried. Mayor Haeker, Council Members, Casper, Moulton, Mahalek, and Wheeler remained, along with City Attorney Doug Walker and City Administrator Steve Ardiana. At 6:37 pm Council returned to regular session with a motion made by Moulton, second by Mahalek. There being no further discussion upon the motion made the following voted yes: Moulton, Mahalek, Wheeler and Casper. Motion carried. Mayor Haeker advised no formal action was taken.

City Administrator requested the council allow the South Street lift station project be overseen by City administrator, Travis Dunse, Street/Sewer Superintendent, Russ Pfeil, City Superintendent and Lewis Hyatt with Miller and Associates.

At 6:40 pm, motion was made by Moulton second by Casper to adjourn. With no further discussion upon the motion made, the following voted yes: Moulton, Casper, Wheeler, and Mahalek. Voting no: none. Meeting was adjourned .


Mayor Hal Haeker

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

