

MINUTE RECORD OF BUDGET & TAX REQUEST HEARING
CITY OF ALMA
September 3 ,2025

A special meeting of the City Council of the City of Alma, Nebraska was held at City Hall on Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at 5:30 pm for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget Hearing and the Property Tax Request Hearing. Present were Council Members: Tom Moulton, Larry Casper, Chris Mahalek, Joel Wheeler and Mayor Hal Haeker and Administrator Steve Ardiana. Absent: None. City Clerk Janet Dietz, Treasurer Tashia Butterfield, City Utility Superintendent Russ Pfeil, City Attorney Doug Walker, Cody Simmons, and Donna Bose 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 meeting of September 3, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. and the following business was conducted: Roll call: Larry Casper-present, Chris Mahalek-present, Tom Moulton-present, and Joel Wheeler-present, and Mayor Hal Haeker.

Motion by Moulton, second by Mahalek by 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, Mahalek, Wheeler, and Casper. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Casper, second by Moulton to open the Budget Hearing at 5:35 pm. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call votes, the following voted yes, Casper, Moulton, Wheeler, and Mahalek. Voting no: None. Motion carried. Mayor opened the Budget Hearing for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations of taxpayers relating to the proposed budget.

Treasurer Butterfield presented the proposed 2025-2026 Budget. She noted the Property valuation of \$112,707,033 has increased 2% from last year. The General Fund and Street Fund combined are above the auditor's cash reserve recommendation. The Enterprise (Utility) Funds are also above the recommended cash reserve. She presented the proposed revenues, expenditures and ending Cash Balances and Investments. Butterfield gave detailed information for the expenditures in comparison to the previous fiscal year and explained the increase or decrease for each department. Charts were shown detailing transfers from the General Fund to the other Departments, Sales Tax Receipts, and expenditures broken down by Expense categories.

Mayor Haeker closed the hearing at 5:58 pm. Motion by Moulton, second by Wheeler to close the budget hearing. There being no discussion upon the motion made, the following voted yes: Moulton, Wheeler, Mahalek and Casper. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Moulton, second by Casper to open the Special Hearing to set Final Tax Request. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call votes, the following voted yes, Moulton, Casper, Mahalek, and Wheeler. Voting no: None. Motion carried. Mayor opened the Special Tax Request hearing at 5:59 p.m. for purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request at a different amount. Treasurer Butterfield walked through the Accountant's Report that will be filed with the State Auditor and County Clerk. She explained that during the budget process we increased the tax asking by the 2% base limitation plus the .92% real growth increase, bringing the tax request to 2.92%. In doing this, we will increase the Property Tax Request by \$3,252.00 for a total of \$342,763.70 which is under the asking authority. Requesting for \$ 262,973.00 for Non-Bond Purposes and \$79,790.00 for Bond Purposes (Swimming Pool). Our operating budget will increase 1% from the previous year and the property valuation has increased by 2%. This will set the Tax Rate at 0.304119, which is the same current tax rate.

Mayor Haeker asking for any other questions or comments and hearing none, Motion by Moulton, second by Mahalek to close the tax request hearing. There being no discussion upon the motion made, the following voted yes: Moulton, Mahalek, Casper, and Wheeler. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Tax request hearing was adjourned at 6:05 pm.



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 materials 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 (10) days and prior to the to the next meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of said body were provided advanced notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at the meeting


City Clerk, Janet Dietz