

MINUTE RECORD FOR CITY OF ALMA  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
May 1, 2017

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Alma, Nebraska was held at City Hall on Monday, the 1st day of May, 2017, at 5:30 p.m.

Present were Council Members: Tom Moulton, Mayor Haeker, Randy Stahlecker and Jon Davis. Also present were: Administrator Doug Wilson, Attorney Doug Walker, Superintendent Russ Pfeil, Treasurer Lorri Bantam, Library Director Keri Anderson, and Clerk Lori Tripe. 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 Hal 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 May 1, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. and the following business was transacted:

Roll Call: Jon Davis-present, Tom Moulton-present, Mayor Haeker-present, Randy Stahlecker-present and Mike Clements-absent. Motion made by Stahlecker seconded by Moulton to determine this meeting as previously publicized, duly convened and in open session. There being no discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Stahlecker, Moulton, and Davis. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2017, Regular Council Meeting. Motion made by Moulton seconded by Stahlecker to approve the April 19, 2017, regular council minutes as presented. There being no discussion and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Moulton, Stahlecker and Davis. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss the claims and invoices for the period of April 20, 2017, through May 1, 2017 for a total of \$294,618.37. Payments noted were to the Rural Fire Department to close out the fire department's money market pension account and the 2015 & 2016 fire calls, a payment to FYR-TEK for 4 sets of bunker gear and to Woodward's for shredding paper during the city-wide cleanup and the roll off drop fees. Several payments were added since the claims were emailed to the Council such as Eagle Communication, Midlands Contracting for forcemain project and R & S K-Lawn for fertilizer and weed control to name a few. Motion by Davis, seconded by Moulton to approve the April 20, 2017, through May 1, 2017 claims as presented for a total amount of \$294,618.37. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Davis, Moulton, and Mayor Haeker. Voting No: None. Stahlecker abstained. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss the treasurer's report. Treasurer Bantam said she noticed that she didn't have the current account balances on the report but Wilson had a corrected copy on the TV Monitor for the Council. She noted the money market account for the fire department is at zero because it has been closed. On the past due utilities report there is one customer who has been disconnected. On the customer aging report one range of dates is the airport fuel billing and the 60-90 days range is for compost keys. There was a brief discussion on usage of compost keys and how a key holder is not to loan the key to anyone unless they are riding with. Councilman Moulton suggested having the key holder sign a contract each year as a reminder of the rules. Motion made by Moulton, seconded by Stahlecker to approve the treasurer's report as presented. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Moulton, Stahlecker and Davis. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss and possibly approve a special designated license requested by Kent Shaffer for a wedding reception at the Alma City Auditorium on June 10, 2017. Motion made by Davis, seconded by Stahlecker to approve a special designated license requested by Kent Shaffer for a wedding reception at the Alma City Auditorium on June 10, 2017. There being no further discussion upon the motion made, the following voted yes: Davis, Stahlecker and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the floor to DISCUSS AND POSSIBLY APPROVE Ordinance 2017-4 – Adding an appeal to the City Council as an option for aggrieved customers of municipal utility services. It had been discussed at the

previous council meeting at length. The current code grants the Utility Superintendent some power to change the utility billing if the water meter is not registering properly. Councilman Clements at the last meeting, stated he would like for the council to be able to negotiate with the customer. Another reason to change the ordinance is to give people a chance to be heard by the council. Mayor Haeker said one of the most common complaints he receives is when someone thinks they are being treated differently than someone else. He feels the city code is pretty much cut and dry. If the meter is registering properly, the water went through the meter, the customer pays. If it's not, then the Superintendent has authority to set a rate. Another thing the City can do is verify the meter is recording water usage accurately. The test takes approximately 2 hours to run. Council asked if we could check with other communities' ordinances and to table this agenda item until later.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss and possibly approve the Library Board's recommendation for a new library clerk. Keri Anderson, Library Director, had just been at the library board meeting today. Kim King resigned as library clerk due to health issues. The Library Board voted on hiring Sandra Hoard to take her place. Keri Anderson asked if the Council would approve the hire of Sandy Hoard and inquired what her hourly rate should be. The Council set her rate to \$8.25 per hour. Motion made by Moulton, seconded by Stahlecker to accept the Library Board's recommendation to hire Sandra Hoard as library clerk at an hourly rate of \$8.25 per hour and to continue her current cleaning contract for the Library at \$156 per month. There being no further discussion upon the motion made, the following voted yes: Moulton, Stahlecker, and Davis. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

The Mayor opened the floor for administrator comments.

Doug's nuisance report - weeds are growing and he is starting to contact several locations that are in need of mowing.

Everything is going smoothly at the RV Park.

Repairs have been made on the street sweeper and the OK has been given to send the check for payment of the sweeper.

Street repairs have been made on 10th Street and the street is open for traffic.

Nebraska Department of Roads has scheduled a preconstruction meeting for the Alma South Bridge in Holdrege on May 23rd for the bridge work on Highway 183. Russ and I plan on attending.

Doug is continuing to work on the plans for the terminal building's open house.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to open comments.

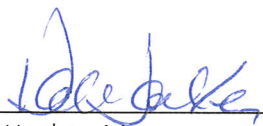
Councilman Davis said he has been asked about Lincoln Street and the ruts caused by the rains. Administrator Wilson has as well. Wilson is working with the County to have Lincoln Street maintained after the rains we have recently received. There was also a question about the railroad. Once the railroad has been officially abandoned, will the rails be removed and if so, who will be responsible for filling them in at the street crossings. Attorney Walker said he believed the rails would be yanked out when the railroad is officially abandoned and the City will more than likely have to fill them in. He said the only way to fix Lincoln Street is to put in a storm sewer. Someone else said it would help if there were ditches. Wilson believes the street will be repaired by County crew as the City has hired them.

Attorney Walker reported that nothing has been resolved regarding the pool litigation.

Clerk Tripe notified Council that the Appreciation Dinner is no longer May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Stahlecker asked if the city streets are patrolled for potholes. Pfeil said they don't specifically patrol for potholes but mainly go with what is reported to them by the public.

Motion made by Stahlecker, seconded by Moulton to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 PM. There being no further discussion upon the motion made, the following voted yes: Stahlecker, Moulton and Davis. Voting no: None. Meeting was adjourned at 6:33 pm.

  
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 Hal Haeker, Mayor

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.



  
Lori Tripe, City Clerk