

**MINUTE RECORD FOR CITY OF ALMA**  
**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**November 15, 2023**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Alma, Nebraska was held at City Hall on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

Present were Council Members: Tom Moulton, Dyann Collins, Larry Casper, Chris Tripe and Mayor and Acting Administrator Hal Haeker. Absent: None. City Clerk Dawn McNulty, Treasurer Tashia Butterfield, City Utility Superintendent Russ Pfeil and Utility Floater Kent Fleischmann, 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 regular meeting of November 15, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. and the following business was transacted:

Roll call: Tom Moulton-present, Dyann Collins-present, Chris Tripe-present, Larry Casper-present, and Mayor Haeker-present. Motion by Casper, second by Tripe 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, Collins, Tripe, and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2023, council meeting. Motion by Tripe, second by Moulton to approve the regular minutes of the November 1, 2023, council meeting. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Tripe, Collins, Casper, and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss the claims and invoices for November 2, 2023, through November 15, 2023, for a total of \$154,617.28. Motion made by Tripe, second by Moulton to approve the claims. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Collins, Tripe, Moulton, and Casper. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

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

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and or approve Federal Share Summary and Progress Estimates related to Airport Taxiway Lighting Grant. Motion by Tripe, second by Moulton to accept Federal Share Summary and Progress Estimates related to Airport Taxiway Lighting Grant. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Moulton, Collins, Casper, and Tripe. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss and or approve Ordinance 2024-01. An ordinance prohibiting propane tanks of more than 100 lbs. within the city limits of Alma in areas of the city with gas service. Walker said that changes were made due to concerns that were made at the last meeting. Walker stated that Pfeil has looked it over and was satisfied with it. Walker said that a provision was put in that no aggregate amount over 100 lbs. could be used, in other words you could not hook up multiple bottles to go over 100 lbs. Walker stated that if someone already had service over 100 lbs., they would be grandfathered in. Moulton questioned about the tank at Joe Ehlers that is setting on the property but is not hooked up. The Ordinance states residential or commercial users of propane who had more than 100 lbs. tanks on their premises prior to the passage of this Ordinance. Russ stated that it is not hooked up and he is not using it, so it does not get grandfathered in and is against this ordinance. Moulton stated it is not what the Ordinance reads. Walker stated that he agreed with Moulton, and it is the way that the Ordinance reads. Walker said that he can make a change to the ordinance of 100 lbs. tanks that were installed and being used prior to the passage of the ordinance. Casper asked about the larger retailers. Moulton said that this only applies to residential. Casper stated that it states commercial. Casper asked about the commercial suppliers like CHS and Bosselman's and how this Ordinance affects them.

Walker read the changes and it was decided that the Ordinance needed to be rewritten. Motion made by Tripe, second by Moulton to postpone until the next council meeting.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss Miller and Associates Lift Station Recommendation. Fleischmann stated that more or less the whole pump needs to come out. The wet well has a set up that can be used to convert it back to what it was. Projected cost is \$350,000 to \$450,000. Fleischmann said that he thinks that number may be high, and Sewer Superintendent Dunse has reached out to other pump companies to get estimates of the costs. Fleischmann stated that he wanted to get an itemized report from Miller and Assoc. The current system does not have a bypass option, and this is needed as another safety aspect. The letter states that they have a concern about the metal that is deteriorating. Fleischmann stated that they did address some of this when they had the capsule exposed, which was of concern on the report. Fleischmann said that they did as much as they could to the areas in question. Casper asked what timeframe we are looking at to get this done. Pfeil stated 3-5 years. Treasurer Butterfield has begun to look for funding options and went over the information that she received from Miller & Assoc. Butterfield shared that she has also reached out to the clerk's group for more ideas. Moulton said that he would like to see an itemized cost listing due to there being \$100,000 price difference. Tripe asked about the Arpa funds and Butterfield stated that she thought there was about \$42,000 left. Pfeil stated that it is not something that has to be done tomorrow, but we need to start putting some money back for this. Fleischmann talked about the incidents with sewer gasses in confined spaces and the dangers of that with this system. Fleischmann said that they applied tar while they had the system open as a preventative. The current well can be utilized while the new one is being built. Fleischmann said that he would keep the Council informed.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss and or approve personnel. Attorney Walker said that he had reached out to Associated Staffing but had not spoken to anyone yet. Walker stated that he was going to submit the following changes to the contract. Client gives Supplier permission to submit applications and resumes to them and agrees to the following terms: All information presented to Client concerning a candidate Supplier refers is highly sensitive and confidential. Client will not disclose candidate information to third parties without Suppliers written consent unless required to do so pursuant to the Revised Statues of Nebraska since client is a political subdivision of the State of Nebraska. Client will become liable for Supplier fee if Client refers Supplier's candidate to a third party that results in Suppliers candidate being hired by a third party. Walker stated that this keeps us from incurring liability if we end up having to disclose names of our finalists for this position. Walker stated another change was the Client will become liable for Supplier fee anytime a candidate is hired by Client that was referred to Client by Supplier within 12 months of the referral date if the candidate becomes Clients employee. Walker said that language is quite a bit broader than what is in this document here. Walker stated that he is hoping to speak to the person in charge so that these changes can be implemented, and we can move forward.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Tripe, second by Casper. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Casper, Collins, Moulton, and Tripe. Voting no: None. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.




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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  
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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.

  
Dawn McNulty, City Clerk