

City Council Minutes, August 18th, 2025

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Alma, Nebraska was held at City Hall on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

Present was Council Members: Larry Casper, Tom Moulton, Joel Wheeler, and Mayor Hal Haeker. Absent: None, City Clerk Janet Dietz, Treasurer Tashia Butterfield, City Attorney Doug Walker, and City Superintendent Russell Pfeil, Kent Fleischmann, Allan Brugh, Cody Simmons, Chris Simmons, Jon Davis, Dyann Collins, Rick Calkins, Dave Schofield, Chris Mahalek 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 August 18, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. and the following business was transacted:

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

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to approve the minutes of August 4, 2025, council meeting. Motion by Casper, second by Moulton, to approve the regular minutes of August 4, 2025, council meeting with the correction that the placement of Caring Cupboard sign and Pelicans will be placed east of the auditorium as previously determined. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Casper, Moulton, Wheeler. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss the claims and invoices for August 5, 2024, through August 18, 2025, for \$195,416.92. Motion made by Wheeler, second by Casper, to approve the claims. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Wheeler, Casper, and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

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

Mayor opened the floor for discussion the request for one percent increase in restricted funds for 2025-2026 fiscal year. City Treasurer advised the council this is something that is done every year at budget time, also is recommended by the auditor. Motion made by Wheeler to approve the request for one percent increase for 2025-2026 fiscal year, second by Casper. There being no further discussion upon the motion made the following voted yes: Wheeler, Casper, and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss the appointment to fill the vacancy of East Ward.(formally held by Dyann Collins) Councilman Wheeler questioned the approval tonight, there was no time for consideration, no knowledge of whom, the appointment would be, no information in packet, didn't like the process. Mayor Haeker stated it is the intention per Statues and Ordinances that it is the Mayor's job to bring the name forward. Wheeler questioned should this be added this to the next meeting agenda. Mayor Haeker proposed the new council member to be Chris Mahalek. Motion by Casper to accept Chris Mahalek as the new councilmember, second by Moulton. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Casper, Moulton, and Wheeler. Voting no: None. Motion carried. Chris Mahalek read and signed the oath and was appointed as the new council member and took his place at the council chamber's desk. All welcomed him aboard.

Mayor Haeker opened floor for the discussion for the Schofield Conditional Use Permit. Motion was made by Casper to open the public hearing, at 5:55 pm, second by Wheeler. Roll call vote,

Casper, Wheeler, Moulton, and Mahalek. Motion carried. Public Hearing was to consider a request for a conditional use permit for Dave Schofield to build a 21KW Solar System on property located at 11478 Cornhusker Drive. (previously approved by Planning Commission on 07.23.2025) Public input was sought, Fleischmann advised Dave has followed the zoning permit and has followed the rules, and regulations. No one was present in opposition of the permit. Motion to close the public hearing at 5:57 by Moulton second by Casper. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Moulton, Casper, Mahalek, and Wheeler. Motion to approve conditional use permit for Dave Schofield made by Moulton, second by Wheeler. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Moulton, Wheeler, Casper, and Mahalek. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss/approve the Resolution #10-2025, Municipal Annual Certification Program Compliance to Nebraska of Public Roads Classification and Standards, 2025. City Administrator advised the council this is a standard formality for city road mileage and ROW within the city limits. Motion made by Wheeler to approve Resolution 10-2025, Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance to Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classification and Standards 2025, second by Mahalek. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following voted yes: Wheeler, Mahalek, Casper and Moulton. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the floor to discuss the painting of the NPPD poles in the downtown area. City Administrator brought forth several color options. Motion made by Wheeler to allow the decision to be made by City Administrator second by Moulton. There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote: the following voted yes: Wheeler, Moulton, Casper, and Mahalek. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

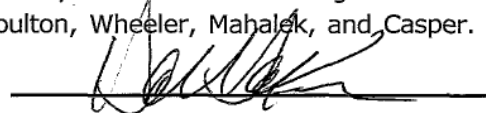
Mayor opened the floor for discussion on the Land Deed to the City of Alma Golf Course. City Administrator requested to move the Dick Brown Road plat ahead of the Land Deed to the City of Alma. Mayor then proceeded with the Dick Brown Road plat and survey to end at property pin# discussion. City administrator advised the council that there are (3) options in your packet. Through discussion with the City Street Superintendent Reed Miller, Dick Brown Memorial Drive has never been platted, or has a designated right of way. Option (1) would survey and plat "Dick Brown Memorial Drive" and create a "Public right of Way" from State Highway 183 to the property pin on 142.02 feet west from pin N 89'58E. This would become the entrance into the City of Alma Parking lot at the Ball fields and golf course. Option (2) Stop Dick Brown Drive at the west side of Cardinal Lane. Survey and plat Dick Brown Memorial Drive and create a Public Right of Way" from State Highway 183 to property pin N89'58E. this would become the entrance into the City of Alma parking lot at the Ball fields and golf course. Option (3) do nothing. The property is City Property, with no "Public Right of Way." It would the access to the City of Alma ball fields and the Municipal Golf Course. City Administrator Ardiana recommended option (1) as it adds flexibility on parking and potential driveway issues and seems most logical to fix all the issues with Dick Brown Memorial Drive, (with the zoning, the driveway issues would be fixed, public hearing is not required at this time) . Motion was made by Wheeler to approve option (1), survey and plat Dick Brown Memorial Drive and create a public right of way from State highway 183 to the property pin on 142".02 feet west from pin N 89'.58" east, 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 for discussion on the Land Deed to the City of Alma Golf Course. City Administrator thanked the Teri Brugh family for the proposed donation located east and north of the golf clubhouse. City administrator discussed the proposal that would maximize parking lot issues, create improvements to the golf club house, (donated parcel would not be used for parking). Rick Calkins advised that this is contingent on the approval of the Dick Brown Drive becoming a street. Motion was made by Moulton to accept the Brugh land gift contingent that is not used for parking, second by Wheeler. There being no further discussion and upon roll call vote: the following voted yes: Moulton, Wheeler, Mahalek and Casper. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

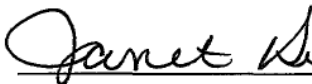
Mayor Haeker opened the floor for the discussion/approve of the Leonard Zoning permit issue. (Leonard's were in attendance.) City Administrator advised with the replatting, making Dick Brown Memorial a street, and forming a corner lot per Zoning, the Leonard's could have an exit drive coming out on Dick Brown Memorial Drive. City Administrator will move forward with the survey and replatting. Motion was made by Wheeler to approve the request to put a driveway in the south entrance driveway to enter and exit second by Mahalek. 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 meeting to the City Administrator report. First item was already discussed to get a comprehensive parking plan with the Ball fields and golf course. Harlan County Hospital is looking at replat and zoning for expansion, making it a campus, possibility to relocate a high-pressure gas line. Scooters and e-bikes, Harlan County Sheriff would like to work with the Council to create an ordinance and look at city options, having a public meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Moulton second by Wheeler. There being no further discussion upon the motion made the following voted yes: Moulton, Wheeler, Mahalek, and Casper. Voting no: None. Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.


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 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

