

MINUTE RECORD FOR CITY OF ALMA  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
January 21, 2026

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Alma, Nebraska was held at City Hall on Wednesday, the 21<sup>st</sup> of January 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Present was Council Members: Larry Casper, Chris Mahalek, Tom Moulton, Joel Wheeler, and Mayor Hal Haeker. Administrator Steve Ardiana, City Attorney Doug Walker, City Treasurer Tashia Butterfield, City Clerk Janet Dietz and City Utility Superintendent Russ Pfeil, Jennifer Roethke, Hoesch Memorial Library, and Cody Simmons, and Doc 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 were 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 which is posted on the east wall of the meeting room, and then proceeded to call the regular meeting of January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026, 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 made 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, Mahalek, and Wheeler. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to approve the minutes of January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026, regular council meeting. Motion made by Moulton, second by Mahalek to approve the minutes as presented. 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.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss the claims and invoices. Council reviewed claims, motion by Wheeler, second by Moulton to approve the claims and invoices as presented for period January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026, through January 21, 2026, for a total of \$242,091.37. 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 the Treasurer's report. Treasurer advised EV station now has its own fund account, advised council of legal fee expenses, auditorium expenses, EFT's, and payroll. Motion by Moulton, second by Casper 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, Casper, Mahalek and Wheeler. Voting no: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor to discuss approval of Jesse Langley to the golf board, and Kristi Heft to Golf Board as Secretary. Motion made by Wheeler, second by Casper to approve Jesse Langley to the Golf Board and Kristi Heft as Golf Board Secretary. 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 for discussion on the process of selling off the Quonset at the Alma City Golf course. City Attorney Doug Walker recommended advertising, taking bids, (the building will have to be taken apart, and relocated) possibly setting a \$5,000.00 threshold. Cody Simmons advised the new building will have to be built first to relocate the golf carts, City Attorney will review the process with Cody Simmons, and the golf board. Motion was made by Wheeler, second by Casper to allow the golf board to proceed with the sale and keep the proceeds. 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 Jennifer Roethke, Hoesch Memorial Library Director to present the annual report to the City council. Jennifer provided the council with fiscal year 2024/2025 stats, (library card holders, visits, children's attendance, and funding.) Motion was made by Moulton, second by Mahalek to accept the report as presented. 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. Council member Casper spoke he has heard good things about the library.

Mayor Haeker opened the floor for the Administrator's report. Administrator Ardiana brought forth (2) issues for zoning regulations. (no permits were issued, one building was moved and one new building was constructed.) City Attorney Walker will respond with a letter and request for a zoning permit and fee to be paid. City Attorney Walker will bring a modification for review of the current Zoning Ordinance for Council at the next meeting. Council member

Wheeler wanted it to be noted, threats were received by an individual, that it was possible city could require removal of the back ten feet of a building when a building permit was not issued at Western Sky Subdivision. Administrator Ardiana reported on the (2) proposals for furniture at the city auditorium. Eakes quote was \$38,532.00 and Banquet Pro came in at \$29,624.26. Seating, spacing capacity, and durability on the furniture was the lengthy discussion. Council recommended City Administrator bring (3) options to the next meeting, with a budget of \$30,000. City Administrator brought forth the discussion for a possible handrail at the north entrance to the auditorium. Discussion held on position of the handrail/safety rail located on the platform outside the north door, and continuing to the east in full length. Questions arose with difficulty in snow removal with the handrail. Motion was made by Moulton, second by Casper to add a safety rail on the vertical step, (and or platform). There being no further discussion upon the motion made and upon roll call vote, the following votes Yes: Moulton, and Casper, voting no: Wheeler and Mahalek. Motion failed. City Administrator will bring additional information and a proposal to the next meeting. City Administrator also furnished updated proposals on the flashing speed limit signs. First quote was (3 signs) at a cost of \$17,147.82 and second quote was \$19,992.98. Discussion was held on the need for (3) signs and cost. Motion made by Wheeler, second by Casper to proceed with (1) speed sign, located north of Dollar General, near the 50 mph sign on 183, for southbound viewing, City Administrator's choice. 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. Discussion moved to Auditorium rental fees. City Administrator brought forth various venue rental fees, deposit fees, also discussed was charitable organization usage, permits for alcohol usage, and cleaning expectations for the auditorium. City Administrator will review the current policy, Clerk would like to move forward with (2) separate rental agreements, one for Johnson Center and one for City Auditorium/Event Center.

With no further business, Mayor Haeker called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, motion made by Moulton, second by Casper. There being no further discussion upon the motion made the following voted yes, Moulton, Casper, Mahalek and Wheeler. Voting no None. Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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 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

