

September 29, 2022

ALLIANCE CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2022

STATE OF NEBRASKA)
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COUNTY OF BOX BUTTE) §
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CITY OF ALLIANCE)

The Alliance City Council met in a Special Meeting, September 29, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the City Manager's Office, 324 Laramie Ave, Alliance, Nebraska. A notice of meeting was published in the Alliance Times Herald on September 21, 2022. The notice stated the date, hour and place of the meeting, that the meeting was open to the public, and that an agenda of the meeting, kept continuously current, was available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk in City Hall; provided the Council could modify the agenda at the meeting if it determined an emergency so required. A similar notice, together with a copy of the agenda, also had been delivered to each of the City Council Members. An agenda, kept continuously current, was available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk during regular business hours from the publication of the notice to the time of the meeting.

Mayor Dafney opened the September 29, 2022 Special Meeting of the Alliance, Nebraska City Council at 9:09 a.m. Present were Council Members Dafney, McGhehey, and Bentley. Also present were, City Manager Sorensen, Finance Director Waggener, City Treasurer Baker and Recording Secretary Keller.

- Mayor Dafney first excused both Councilman Mischnick and Councilman Jones from the meeting.
- The Consent Calendar was the next item on the agenda for Council. A motion was made by Councilman Bentley and seconded by Councilman McGhehey to approve the Consent Calendar as follows:

CONSENT CALENDAR – SEPTEMBER 29, 2022

1. Approval: Minutes of regular meeting on September 20, 2022.
2. Approval: Payroll Costs for September 23, 2022: \$270,507.02.
3. Approval: Claims against the following funds: General, General Debt Service, Trust and Agency, Street, Electric, Refuse Collection and Disposal, Sanitary Sewer, Water, Golf Course, Downtown Improvement Districts, R.S.V.P., Keno, and Capital Improvement; \$758,323.78.

September 29, 2022

NOTE: City Manager Sorensen and Finance Director Waggener have reviewed these expenditures and to the best of their knowledge confirms that they are within budgeted appropriations to this point in the fiscal year.

Any item listed on the Consent Calendar may, by the request of any single Council Member, be considered as a separate item in the Regular Agenda.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Dafney, Bentley, McGhehey

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- Resolution No. 22-69 which establishes the four enterprise funds percentage transfers to the General Funds for the current fiscal 2021-22 was next for Council. The following information was provided:

[Since the 2014-15 fiscal year, the annual enterprise transfers to the general fund have been based on 12% of estimated enterprise fees revenue near the year-end. The Alliance City Council established the enterprise transfer rate in the 2021-22 budget at 12% of the *anticipated* revenue for each of the four enterprise funds (or \$2,192,500) with the provision that the actual transfer rate be reviewed prior to the end of the fiscal year.

Following is a chart that includes the budgeted enterprise revenues and transfers (at the 12% rate) along with the expected revenues and adjusted transfer amounts at several different transfer levels.

Enterprise Fund	Budgeted		Estimated					
	Revenue	Transfer	Revenue	%	11.0%	11.5%	12.0%	12.5%
Electric	14,787,500	1,774,500	14,062,525	12.6%	1,546,900	1,617,200	1,687,500	1,757,800
Refuse	1,204,800	144,600	1,135,285	12.7%	124,900	130,600	136,200	141,900
Sewer	488,200	58,600	465,997	12.6%	51,300	53,600	55,900	58,200
Water	1,790,100	214,800	1,925,445	11.2%	211,800	221,400	231,100	240,700
Totals	18,270,600	2,192,500	17,589,252	12.5%	1,934,900	2,022,800	2,110,700	2,198,600

City staff is recommending a transfer rate of 12% of the actual *estimated* revenues or \$2,110,700 as indicated on the chart above. This represents a \$9,700 (or .5%) increase over the prior year enterprise fee transfer.]

A motion was made by Mayor Dafney seconded by Councilman McGhehey to approve Resolution No. 22-69 which follows in its entirety:

RESOLUTION NO. 22-69

September 29, 2022

WHEREAS, The City of Alliance each year transfers Enterprise Fees to the General Fund to assist in balancing the budget; and

WHEREAS, Enterprise Fees are derived from the Electric, Water, Sewer and Refuse Funds; and

WHEREAS, The transfer has been maintained at approximately 12% of budgeted Enterprise Fund Revenues over the last few years; and

WHEREAS, The transfer was budgeted at \$2,192,500 for the 2021-22 fiscal year with the provision that the amount be reviewed prior to the end of the year to determine reasonableness in regard to actual Enterprise Revenue and General Fund operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Alliance, Nebraska, that staff is authorized to transfer Enterprise Fees of approximately 12% of Enterprise Fund Revenues to the General Fund for the fiscal year 2021-22 in the amount of \$2,110,700.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Dafney, McGhehey, Bentley.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- Next on the agenda for Council was Resolution No. 22-70 which authorizes the Electric Fund inter-department loan extension. The following information was provided:

[The Electric Fund presently has inter-department loans to two separate funds as detailed below:

Note Description	Rate	Balance	Payments	Proposed Balance
Electric Notes to General Fund	0.90%	125,000.00	125,000.00	0.00
Electric Notes to Airport Fund	0.90%	550,000.00	0.00	550,000.00
Totals	0.90%	\$675,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$550,000.00

Upon review of the cash reserve balances, staff is recommending payments of principal in the amount of \$125,000. This will pay-off the General Fund loan and leave \$550,000 in the Airport Fund including \$150,000 in revolving funds awaiting payment of FAA grant funds.

September 29, 2022

The recommendation is to extend the remaining balance of the inter-department notes to the Electric Fund through March 31, 2023 at the new rate of 2.75% beginning October 1, 2022.]

A motion was made by Councilman McGhehey, seconded by Councilman Bentley to approve Resolution No.22-70 which follows in its entirety:

RESOLUTION NO. 22-70

WHEREAS, The City of Alliance utilized Electric Fund reserves to provide interim inter-department loans to the General Fund and the Airport Fund to pay for the City's portion of the snow plow and runway improvements and the Bomgaars building purchase; and

WHEREAS, The original loan terms were not to exceed 12 months; and

WHEREAS, Staff is requesting an extension of the remaining loan balances through March 31, 2023 at a revised rate of 2.75% effective October 1, 2022; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Alliance, Nebraska, that interim inter-department loans to the Airport and General Funds be extended through March 31, 2023 at the rate of 2.75%.

Councilman McGhehey questioned Finance Director Waggener on how he came to that specific rate. Finance Director Waggener stated that he looked at CD rates, which are really all over the place right now, and then added fifty basis points.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Dafney, Jones, Bentley.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

● The next agenda item was Resolution No. 22-71 which will close the Handyman Program Fund and transfer remaining funds to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. Council was provided with the following background information:

[The City of Alliance has operated the handyman program since July 2014 through the Senior Center and funded in part by grants from the Office of Aging of Western Nebraska (AOWN). The program was discontinued at the end of March 2022 as a result of a significant decrease in the utilization of the services by seniors and the ongoing difficulty in finding qualified contractors. The Office of Aging in Scottsbluff continues to offer vouchers for eligible persons who have a need for housekeeping and yard services.

September 29, 2022

All grant funding has been received from AOWN and the fund has a remaining cash balance of \$965.12. These funds are donated matching funds. It is recommended that the cash balance be transferred to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) as matching funds for that program which benefits a similar clientele.]

A motion was made by Councilman Bentley, seconded by Councilman McGhehey to approve Resolution No.22-71 which follows in its entirety:

RESOLUTION NO. 22-71

WHEREAS, The City of Alliance has operated the Handyman Program since July of 2014; and

WHEREAS, The Handyman Program was discontinued in March of 2022; and

WHEREAS, The Handyman Program fund has a remaining cash balance of Nine Hundred Sixty-five and 12/100th Dollars (\$965.12); and

WHEREAS, Council believes it is in the best interest to transfer the remaining funds to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) as both programs are funded through donated matching funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Alliance, Nebraska, that staff is authorized to transfer the Handyman Program fund remaining cash balance of Nine Hundred Sixty-five and 12/100th Dollars (\$965.12) to the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Dafney, McGhehey, Bentley.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- Finance Director Waggener provided Council with a review of year-end financial notes. Councilman Bentley did ask about fixing the road out at the golf course from the gate into the golf course as it is in terrible shape. City Manager Sorensen noted we would need to budget for it in the coming years because more than just that road needs fixed out there and it would be more economical to do it all at once.

There being no further business before Council, Mayor Dafney adjourned the meeting at 9:19 a.m.

September 29, 2022


Mike Dafney, Mayor

(SEAL)


Recording Secretary, Kelly Keller

Complete minutes of the Alliance City Council may be viewed by the public during regular work hours at the City Clerk's Office, 324 Laramie Avenue, Alliance, Nebraska.