

March 2, 2021

ALLIANCE CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021

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 Regular Meeting, March 2, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Alliance Learning Center Community Meeting Room, 1750 Sweetwater Avenue, Alliance, Nebraska. A notice of meeting was published in the Alliance Times Herald on February 24, 2021. 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 March 2, 2021 regular meeting of the Alliance, Nebraska City Council at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Dafney, Council Members Mischnick, Jones, Bentley and McGhehey. Also present were Finance Director Waggener, City Attorney Hoelsing and City Clerk Johnson.

- Mayor Dafney read the Open Meetings Act Announcement.
- The Consent Calendar was the first item for Council. A motion was made by Councilman Mischnick and seconded by Councilman Jones to approve the Consent Calendar as follows:

CONSENT CALENDAR – March 2, 2021

1. Approval: Minutes of the Emergency Meeting, February 15, 2021, Regular Meeting, February 16, 2021, Special Meetings February 18, 2021, and Special Meeting February 23, 2021.
2. Approval: Payroll Costs for the period January 23, 2021 to February 5, 2021: \$313,159.52.
3. Approval: Claims against the following funds for the period of February 9, 2021 through February 24, 2021: 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; \$253,451.92.
4. Approval: Update to the Alliance Volunteer Fire Department by removing Seth McLaughlin.

March 2, 2021

NOTE: Interim Managers Johnson and Waggener have reviewed these expenditures and to the best of their knowledge confirm 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.

Councilman Bentley motioned to amend the February 16, 2021 minutes to include the motion to modify the February 2, 2021 minutes as follows,

“Councilman Bentley motioned to amend the February 2, 2021 meeting minutes to correct Resolution No. 21-07 to reference the 12.74k Electric Line Rebuild for Madison Road and CR 63 was awarded to IES Commercial Inc. of Holdrege, NE. In addition, Item H, Review of City Manager Application and Item I, Big Blue Bay 2021 Discussion needed to be included for the permanent record. The motion was seconded by Councilman Mischnick.”

Councilman Mischnick seconded the motion.

Roll call vote on the amendment with the following results:

Voting Aye: Dafney, Mischnick, Jones, Bentley, McGhehey.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

Roll call vote to approve the Consent Calendar as amended.

Voting Aye: Dafney, Mischnick, Jones, Bentley, McGhehey.

Voting Nay: None.

- Council next proclaimed the week of March 7 through March 13, 2021 as Girl Scout Week. Councilman Bentley presented the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, March 7, 2021, marks the 109th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA, founded by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Throughout its distinguished history, Girl Scouting has inspired millions of girls and women with courage, confidence and character to make the world and our community a better place; and

WHEREAS, Through Girl Scout Leadership Experience girls develop the skills and lessons that will serve them throughout their lives so that they may contribute to their communities; and

March 2, 2021

WHEREAS, Girl Scouting takes an active role in increasing awareness for girls of the opportunities in math, science, sports, technology, as well as outdoor and life skills along with the value of entrepreneurship; and

WHEREAS, More than 2.5 million current Girl Scout members nationwide along with 1.7 million girl members and 750,000 adult members working primarily as volunteers will be celebrating this American tradition, as well as the 50 million women who are former Girl Scouts and living proof of the impact of this amazing movement;

NOW, THEREFORE, on behalf of the Members of the City Council of the City of Alliance, Nebraska, we do hereby applaud the commitment Girl Scouts has made to America's girls and proudly proclaim the week of March 7-13, 2021 as:

GIRL SCOUT WEEK

And hereby applaud the commitment Girl Scouting has made to support the leadership development of America's girls.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Alliance to be affixed on this 2nd day of March in the year of the Lord Two Thousand Twenty-One.

- The next item on the agenda was Resolution No. 21-24 which will authorize the purchase of a LUCAS 3 chest compression system for the Alliance Fire Department in the amount of \$30,164.64. The following information was provided:

[Staff requested a quotation from Stryker/LUCAS through Savvik/Public Safety Associates competitive buying group under contract name and number Resuscitation Devices #2018-11 for the LUCAS 3 chest compression system. The Fire Department received the requested quotation from Stryker/LUCAS in the amount of \$30,164.64. The purchase will replace the one chest compression system that was donated by the Alliance Volunteer Fire Department in 2013 (valued at \$16,035) and equip both of the City ambulances.

Staff is recommending the purchase of two LUCAS 3 chest compression systems from Stryker/LUCAS for \$30,164.64. The Fire Department Ambulance Division has budgeted the mechanical CPR devices in the 2020-21 budget at \$35,000 in Capital Outlay-Machine, Equipment GL #01-37-38-59-950.]

A motion was made by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Bentley to approve Resolution No. 21-24 which follows in its entirety:

RESOLUTION NO. 21-24

WHEREAS, The Fire Department Ambulance Division has budgeted for a mechanical CPR device in the 2020-2021 budget, and

WHEREAS, The Alliance Fire Department received a quote Stryker/LUCAS for a LUCAS 3 Chest Compression System; and

March 2, 2021

WHEREAS, The City Council believes it is in the best interest of the citizens of Alliance to move forward with the purchase of a LUCAS 3 Chest Compression System in the amount of \$30,164.64 of which adequate budgeted funds are available within Capital Outlay-Machine, Equipment, Account No. 01-37-38-59-95

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Alliance, Nebraska, to approve the purchase of a LUCAS 3 Chest Compression System in the amount of \$30,164.64 from Stryker/LUCAS.

Councilman McGhehey stated for the record that the LUCAS 3 Chest Compression System includes two devices which allows for two separate ambulances the opportunity to have a CPR device.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Dafney, Mischnick, Jones, Bentley, McGhehey.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- Resolution No. 21-25 which approves the engineering services agreement with M.C. Schaff & Associates for the 2021 Pavement and Asphalt Overlay Projects in the amount of \$196,375 was next on the agenda for Council's consideration. The following information was provided:

[The City identified the following street rehabilitation projects for completion in 2021 as part of the One & Six Year Street Improvement Plan:

Schedule 1 - Concrete

- 4th Street to Dakota Avenue (Burlington Ave)

Schedule 2 – Asphalt Overlay

- Highway 385 East to Overpass (Tenth Street)
- 12th Street North to Dead End (Grand Avenue)
- 3rd Street to 10th Street (Potash Avenue)
- 3rd Street to 10th Street (Missouri Avenue)
- Sweetwater Avenue West to Dead End (24th Street)

M.C. Schaff & Associates has provided an Engineering Agreement that includes Civil Design, Bidding Services and Construction Oversight for both Schedule 1 and 2 with costs totaling \$196,375. Following the approval of the Agreement, bids will be published.]

A motion was made by Councilman Mischnick, seconded by Councilman Jones to approve Resolution No. 21-25 which follows in its entirety:

RESOLUTION NO. 21-25

March 2, 2021

WHEREAS, The City has determined that streets in the City of Alliance should be improved by overlaying the roads with asphalt; and

WHEREAS, Our engineer, M.C. Schaff & Associates have split the projects into Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 as follows:

Schedule 1

- 4th Street to Dakota Avenue (Burlington Avenue)

Schedule 2

- Highway 385 East to Overpass (10th Street)
- 12th Street North to Dead End (Grand Avenue)
- 3rd Street to 10th Street (Potash Avenue)
- 3rd Street to 10th Street (Missouri Avenue)
- Sweetwater Avenue West to Dead End (24th Street)

WHEREAS, An Engineering Services Agreement with M.C. Schaff & Associates is required to move forward with the projects; and

WHEREAS, M.C. Schaff & Associates, Inc. has submitted a proposal in the amount of One Hundred Ninety-six Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-five and NO/100ths (\$196,375) to provide the necessary engineering services to include civil design, bidding and construction oversight; and

WHEREAS, Funding is available within the Street Fund; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and City Council of Alliance, Nebraska, that the Mayor is authorized to sign the engineering agreement with M.C. Schaff & Associates in the amount of One Hundred Ninety-six Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-five and no/100ths (\$196,375).

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Dafney, Mischnick, Jones, Bentley, McGhehey.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- Next on the agenda for Council's review was Resolution No. 21-26 which authorizes the Alliance Municipal Airport to submit a grant application for funds under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act to assist the airport in addressing the COVID-19 public health emergency. The following information was provided to Council:

[The Alliance Municipal Airport is eligible for funds under the Airport Coronavirus Response Grant Program (ACRGP) in the amount of \$13,000. This grant is similar

March 2, 2021

to the previous CARES Act in that there is no local match required. The airport may use these funds for costs related to operations, personnel, cleaning, sanitization, janitorial services, combating the spread of pathogens at the airport, and debt service payments. The funds can be drawn from this grant for up to four years and the airport does not need to show a loss of revenue to use these funds.

Staff is recommending that the funds be used for operating expenses of the airport. If possible it will be used for payment of debt service or utility bills.

The abbreviated application must be completed before a grant can be issued. Once the application is processed an email will be sent to have the Mayor and Attorney sign the acceptance of the grant electronically.]

A motion was made by Councilman McGhehey, seconded by Councilman Bentley to approve Resolution No. 21-26 which follows in its entirety:

RESOLUTION NO. 21-26

WHEREAS, The City of Alliance operates the Alliance Municipal Airport; and

WHEREAS, The City of Alliance Airport is eligible for funds under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act; and

WHEREAS, These funds will assist the airport to address the COVID public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Aviation Administration will distribute grant funds under the new Airport Coronavirus Response Grant; and

WHEREAS, The City finds it is in the City's best interest to apply for the Airport Coronavirus Response Grant in the amount of \$13,000 for the purpose of utility payments or debt reduction.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor of the City of Alliance is hereby authorized to accept and sign all grant documents if awarded.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Dafney, Mischnick, Jones, Bentley, McGhehey.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- Council next considered Resolution No. 21-27 authorizing the use of \$30,000 from the Electric System Contingency to cover the cost of the diesel fuel used to operate the generation plant. The following background information was provided:

[The City of Alliance Electric Department was requested by Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN) to assist during the recent Southern Power Pool

March 2, 2021

(SPP) electric shortage by operating its electric generator. The generator was operated a total of 38 hours from February 15 through February 18 and generated a just over 203 MWh. The City purchased 15,000 gallons of diesel fuel at a cost of almost \$32,000 to continue the operation of the generator.

This diesel purchase exceeds the \$8,000 annual budget for generation fuel thus resulting in the request for transfer of \$30,000 in Electric Contingency (GL #05-51-53-47-791) budget authority to Generation-Diesel Fuel (GL #05-51-51-45-552). The City will receive reimbursement of \$34,145.47 from MEAN for the fuel purchased.]

A motion was made by Councilman Bentley, seconded by Councilman Mischnick to approve Resolution No. 21-27 which follows in its entirety:

RESOLUTION NO. 21-27

WHEREAS, The City of Alliance has budgeted \$60,000 within the Electric Department System Contingency Account No. 05-51-53-47-791; and

WHEREAS, The Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN) requested the City of Alliance Electric Department provide assistance while the Southern Power Pool (SPP) experienced an electrical shortage; and

WHEREAS, The City's generator operated a total of 38 hours and generated just over 203 MWh from February 15 through February 18, 2021; and

WHEREAS, The City purchased 15,000 gallons of diesel fuel at a cost of almost \$32,000 to operate the generator; and

WHEREAS, The \$32,000 of diesel fuel exceeds the annual budget; and

WHEREAS, Council desires to transfer \$30,000 from the Electric System Contingency Fund (GL# 05-51-53-47-791) to the Generation-Diesel Fuel Fund (GL# 05-51-51-45-552) to cover the diesel fuel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Alliance, Nebraska, that the transfer of \$30,000 from the Electric System Contingency Fund (GL# 05-51-53-47-791) to the Generation-Diesel Fuel Fund (GL# 05-51-51-45-552) to cover the diesel fuel is hereby authorized.

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Alliance will be reimbursed \$34,145.47 from MEAN for the diesel fuel purchased.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Dafney, Mischnick, Jones, Bentley, McGhehey.

Voting Nay: None.

March 2, 2021

Motion carried.

- Resolution No. 21-28 which will adopt the ACE Funds Authorized Use Policy was next on the agenda. The following information was provided:

[ACE (Public Alliance for Community Energy) has distributed \$238,195 to Alliance since its formation in 1998. Funds in the amount of \$115,474 have been utilized for various capital projects. Recently, City staff received requests to award some of the ACE funds to community organizations. At the February 16, 2021 meeting, Council reviewed the history of ACE revenue returns and the usage of those funds and directed staff to prepare a policy that would provide guidelines for the use of the funds in the future.

The policy as presented is designed to provide the Council considerable latitude in their decisions regarding the distribution of ACE funds with a preference to City projects and an allowance for other projects undertaken by tax-exempt organizations. The desired use of funds is for capital or start-up costs (not ongoing operating expenses) and specifies that any outside agency would have the “project” open to the general public without charge. The guidelines require some level of match by any outside agency requesting funds. The use or distribution of funds may be delayed to allow the approval of adequate budget authority.]

A motion was made by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Mischnick to approve Resolution No. 21-28 which follows in its entirety:

RESOLUTION NO. 21-28

WHEREAS, The City desires to adopt an ACE Funds Policy for the purpose of providing financial assistance to nonprofit organizations; and

WHEREAS, All City of Alliance nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply for funds;
and

WHEREAS, To be eligible for assistance under the City of Alliance ACE Funds Policy:

1. The Outside Agency must be able to show a Charitable or Community Betterment purpose of its sponsored projects, as that term is contemplated by Title 316, Ch. 35, Neb. Admin. Code § 401.01A, as amended or recodified from time to time.
2. The Outside Agency must be able to show a contribution of matching funds to some degree towards the capital or start-up costs of the sponsored project.
3. The Outside Agency must generally show the use and benefits of its sponsored project to the City of Alliance and its residents, and will be open to the general public.
4. The Outside Agency generally should not charge a direct fee or cost for the public’s participation in the sponsored project.

March 2, 2021

5. An Outside Agency should generally be a tax-exempt organization under 26 U.S.C. § 501(c), as amended or recodified from time to time.

WHEREAS, Preference will be provided to capital expenditure request, without expectation for contribution of operating costs. Requests will be expected to be one-time only basis, and recurring requests for the same project are not preferred; and

WHEREAS, The City's budget process may require delay and timing in applications. Preference will be provided toward budgeted requests rather than requests that may necessitate the use of Council contingency funds; and

WHEREAS, The Council finds that it is in the best interest of the City to adopt the ACE Funds Policy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Alliance, Nebraska, adopts the ACE Funds Policy for the purpose of providing financial assistance to eligible nonprofit organizations for community betterment projects within the City of Alliance.

Councilman McGhehey praised staff for precisely incorporating Council's vision into the policy.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Dafney, Mischnick, Jones, Bentley, McGhehey.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- Board appointments and announcements were the final items on the agenda for Council's consideration.

A motion was made by Councilman McGhehey, seconded by Councilman Bentley to appoint John Leon to serve on the Police/Citizen Advisory Board as the Hispanic Representative with a term set to expire December 31, 2021.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Dafney, Mischnick, Jones, Bentley, McGhehey.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

Currently there remains one vacancy on the Community Redevelopment Authority, four vacancies on the A-2 Downtown Improvement District Board, one vacancy on the A-1

March 2, 2021

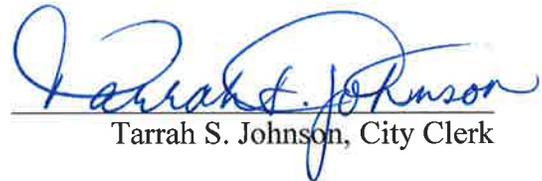
Downtown Improvement District Board, one vacancy on the Economic Development Plan Citizen Advisory Board, one youth representative on the Library Board, one vacancy on the Museum Board, and two vacancies on the Planning Commission.

Anyone interested in serving on these Boards should contact the City Clerk's Office. Information on all of the City Boards is also available on our web site, www.cityofalliance.net.

There being no further business before Council, Mayor Dafney adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.


Mike Dafney, Mayor

(SEAL)


Tarrah S. Johnson, City Clerk

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.