

August 17, 2021

# ALLIANCE CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021

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

The Alliance City Council met in a Regular Meeting, August 17, 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 August 11, 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 August 17, 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 City Manager Sorenson, Finance Director Waggener, City Attorney Hoelsing and City Clerk Johnson.

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

**CONSENT CALENDAR – August 17, 2021**

1. Approval: Minutes of the Regular Meeting, August 3, 2021.
2. Approval: Payroll Costs for August 13, 2021: \$354,549.50.
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; \$1,436,674.62.
4. Approval: Issuance of Cemetery Certificates to Bryan Behm; Tracy L. Buskirk; Liz Prochazka; and Sandra and Greg Young.

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5. Approval: Resolution No. 21-85 authorizing the submittal of a grant through the Nebraska Library Commission to be utilized within the youth services programs at the Alliance Public Library.
6. Approval: Resolution No. 21-86 authorizing the Solid Waste Collection Agreement with H&H Sanitation and Recycling, Inc.
7. Approval: Resolution No. 21-87 authorizes the appointment of City Manager Seth Sorensen as the City of Alliance representative on the Nebraska Municipal Power Pool Members' Council and City Clerk Tarrah Johnson as the alternate.
8. Approval: Resolution No. 21-88 appoints Matt Reed with the Nebraska Municipal Power Pool as the City's Special Engineer to evaluate the statewide Request For Proposals for a solar project in Nebraska.

NOTE: 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, Mischnick, Jones, Bentley and McGhehey.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- The next agenda item on the agenda for Council was the second reading of Ordinance No. 2923 which presents the 2021-2022 proposed budget. The following information was provided:

[The 2021-22 annual budget appropriations as proposed total \$58,123,400 compared to \$54,537,300 in the prior year. The primary difference results from \$4 million of storm damage repairs in 2021-22.

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Prior Budget</b>	<b>Proposed Budget</b>
General	9,090,700	11,748,300
Electric	17,541,600	15,853,300
Refuse	1,968,700	2,141,900
Sewer	1,310,100	1,017,900

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Water	2,539,800	2,692,800
Golf Course	645,400	889,900
Airport Operations	6,387,800	7,567,100
Public Transit	381,000	449,100
Streets	5,176,600	3,341,300
Handyman Services	43,700	39,900
RSVP	75,300	77,700
Museum Exhibit	14,600	14,600
BID #1 and #2	12,500	12,500
HUD/Housing	150,000	450,000
Community Betterment (KENO)	20,200	20,200
Economic Development	168,400	188,400
LB 840 Fund	400,000	510,000
Redevelopment (TIF)	875,000	825,000
Sales Tax Fund	2,000,000	2,370,000
Lodging Occupation Tax	301,000	251,000
Capital Projects Fund	1,175,000	1,964,000
Public Safety Tax	50,000	150,000
State 911 Funds	100,000	140,000
General Internal Service	1,414,500	1,538,200
Enterprise Internal Service	634,200	534,300
Health Support Internal Service	1,930,000	1,842,000
General Debt Service	51,100	1,800
Airport Capital Reserve	60,000	60,000
American Rescue Plan Act Fund	0	1,432,200
	<b>54,517,200</b>	<b>58,123,400</b>

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A motion was made by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Bentley to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 2923. City Clerk Johnson read the ordinance by title which follows in its entirety:

ORDINANCE NO. 2923

AN ORDINANCE TERMED "THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BILL" TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES OF THE CITY OF ALLIANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022, BY IMPOSING A TAX ON ALL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY, ADOPTING A BUDGET, AND ADOPTING APPROPRIATIONS.

WHEREAS, The City Manager, in accordance with the requirements of the Nebraska R.R.S. 1943, §19-646, has submitted to the City Council a preliminary budget to the City Council at a workshop that was held on July 22, 2021 with a proposed budget being produced thereafter. A public hearing will be held on said proposed budget on August 17, 2021, as required by law; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA:

	<b>City</b>	<b>MFO</b>	<b>Public Safety</b>	<b>Airport</b>	<b>Airport Reserves</b>	<b>Total</b>
Approved Budget Amount	1,178,900	177,200	156,600	266,500	55,500	1,834,700
County Treasurer's Fee (1%)	11,789	1,772	1,566	2,665	555	18,347
Total Property Tax Request	1,190,689	178,972	158,166	269,165	56,055	1,853,047
Using the following levies	0.225841	0.033950	0.030000	0.051054	0.010632	0.351477

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Approved Mill Levy for  
2021 0.351477

Based on Assessed  
Valuation 527,217,168

SECTION 1. The budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2021, submitted to and amended by the City Council, is hereby adopted.

SECTION 2. In order to provide revenue for municipal purposes, the following property tax revenues have been established for the City of Alliance:

SECTION 3. In accordance with Reissue Revised Statutes Nebraska Chapter 16, Section 704, the following amounts shall be and hereby are recognized as the budget for the City of Alliance, Nebraska for the fiscal year 2021-22.

General	\$11,748,300
Electric	15,853,300
Refuse	2,141,900
Sewer	1,017,900
Water	2,692,800
Golf Course	889,900
Airport Operations	7,567,100
Public Transit	449,100
Streets	3,341,300
Handyman Services	39,900
RSVP	77,700
Museum Exhibit	14,600
BID #1 and #2	12,500
HUD/Housing	450,000
Community Betterment (KENO)	20,200
Economic Development	188,400
LB 840 Fund	510,000
Redevelopment (TIF)	825,000
Sales Tax Fund	2,370,000
Lodging Occupation Tax	251,000
Capital Projects Fund	1,964,000
Public Safety Tax	150,000
State 911 Funds	140,000
General Internal Service	1,538,200
Enterprise Internal Service	534,300
Health Support Internal Service	1,842,000
General Debt Service	1,800
Airport Capital Reserve	60,000

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American Recovery Plan Act Fund	<u>1,432,200</u>
<b>Gross Expenditures</b>	<b>\$58,123,400</b>

There is hereby included \$110,000 within the General Fund Budget [City Council Activity]; \$10,000 within the General Fund Budget [Police Grant]; \$60,000 within the Electric Fund; \$160,000 within the Water Fund; \$200,000 within the Sewer Fund; \$30,000 within the Refuse Fund; \$25,000 within the Airport Fund; \$50,000 within the Streets Fund; and \$932,200 within the American Recovery Act Plan Fund to be known as "Contingency Reserves." Expenditures from any Contingency Reserve will not be authorized without an affirmative vote of the City Council for each amount to be expended.

SECTION 4. The City has a total Unused Restricted Funds Authority of \$416,344.95 for Fiscal Year 2021-22.

SECTION 5. The tax levied under this Ordinance shall become due and payable, shall become delinquent and shall be subject to penalties, the execution of distress warrants and sale of property levied upon as provided by law.

SECTION 6. The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed forthwith upon the passage, approval and publication of this Ordinance to forward a certified copy thereof to the County Clerk of Box Butte County, Nebraska.

SECTION 7. This Ordinance shall become effective October 1, 2021.

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

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- The next item on the agenda was the second reading Ordinance No. 2924 which will allow the City of Alliance with a 75% affirmative vote by Council to exceed the Allowable Growth and Basic Allowable Growth for the 2021-22 Fiscal Year Budget by 1%. The following information was provided:

[The attached ordinance will allow the City of Alliance (with a 75% affirmative vote by Council) to exceed the base allowable growth limitation of the restricted funds authority for the 2021-22 fiscal year budget by 1% (or \$75,339.05) with total restricted funds authority at \$7,797,591.95.

This does not increase the new fiscal budget, but rather allows the City to increase the unused budget authority for use in future years.]

A motion was made by Councilman Mischnick, seconded by Councilman Bentley to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 2924. City Clerk Johnson read the ordinance by title which follows in its entirety:

ORDINANCE NO. 2924

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AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING FOR EXCEEDING THE ALLOWABLE GROWTH AND BASIC ALLOWABLE GROWTH LIMITS FOR THE 2021-2022 FISCAL YEAR BY ONE PERCENT OF BUDGETED RESTRICTED FUNDS, AND CORRECTING THE ADOPTED BUDGET STATEMENT AND ACCOMPANYING FORMS.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA:

SECTION 1. Governmental units are authorized pursuant to State law at Chapter 13, Section 519, to exceed the Allowable Growth (§13-518(1)) and the Basic Allowable Growth (§77-3446) for budgeted restricted funds authority up to an additional one percent, by affirmative vote of the City Council of at least 75%.

SECTION 2. The City Council finds that such limit as provided by Section 13-519 (a) and (b) should be exceeded by one percent.

SECTION 3. An affirmative vote of at least 75% in favor of this increase is hereby cast.

SECTION 4. Section 13-511 allows correction of an adopted budget statement for clerical, mathematical, and accounting errors, which correction does not affect the total amount budgeted by more than one percent or increase the amount required from property taxes. The one percent limit increase is calculated into the current budget statement; however the unused budget authority amount is in need of modification.

SECTION 5. The allowable increase in “restricted funds authority” with the additional 1% of \$75,339.05 and included in the resulting “total restricted funds authority” in the adopted budget ordinance is hereby amended to the amount of \$7,797,591.95.

SECTION 6. Those portions of the existing budget ordinance for 2021-2022 are amended accordingly.

SECTION 7. The City Treasurer is authorized to make appropriate changes in the submitted forms for computation of the limit for fiscal year 2021-2022, and transmit those changes to the State Auditor’s office.

SECTION 8. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its approval, passage, and publication according to law.

A motion was made by Councilman Mischnick, seconded by Councilman Jones to suspend the statutory rule requiring three separate readings of Ordinance No. 2924.

Roll call vote with the following results:

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

Voting Nay: None.

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Motion carried.

Roll call vote to approve Ordinance No. 2924 on final reading with the following results:

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

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

Mayor Dafney stated, "the passage and adoption of Ordinance No. 2924 has been concurred by a majority of all members elected to the Council, I declare it passed, adopted and order it published."

• Ordinance No. 2925 which will adopt the Classification and Compensation Plans to be incorporated in our 2021-22 Fiscal Year Budget, was next on the agenda. The following information was provided:

[The attached ordinance will adopt the Classification and Compensation Plans that will be incorporated as a part of the 2021-22 FY budget. The Compensation Plan includes three categories: Exempt, Non-Exempt and Fire Employees. (Police officer and dispatcher wages are contracted and previously approved and are not included in these documents).

The Classification Plan has the following changes from the most recent version approved by Council:

- **COLA** - Pay Grids reflect a 1.5% increase based on a cost of living adjustment.
- **Administrative Secretary – Human Resources** moves from 212 to 214 and will be provide full-time assistance the Human Resources Department. The job description now requires the employee to become a Certified Professional through the Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM-CP) before moving to this pay grade.]

• A motion was made by Councilman McGhehey, seconded by Councilman Mischnick to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2925. City Clerk Johnson read the ordinance by title which follows in its entirety:

#### ORDINANCE NO. 2925

#### AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING REVISED CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION PLANS FOR THE CITY OF ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA.

WHEREAS, Section 16-310 of R.R.S. 1943 authorizes the Mayor and Council to establish the compensation for employees and officers by stating that "The officers and

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employees in cities of the first class shall receive such compensation as the mayor and council shall fix by ordinance;" and,

WHEREAS, The Alliance City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget which included funds for revised Classification/Compensation Plans.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA:

SECTION 1. That the attached Classification Schedule for the City of Alliance dated to be effective October 2, 2021 and the attached Compensation Schedules for Exempt, Non-Exempt and Fire employees dated to be effective October 2, 2021 are hereby adopted by this reference.

Roll call vote with the following results:

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

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

There being no further business before Council, Mayor Dafney adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

  
Mike Dafney, Mayor

(SEAL)

  
Tarrah S. Johnson, City Clerk

