

# ALLIANCE CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2008

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

The Alliance City Council met in a Regular Meeting, November 10, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., in the Board of Education Meeting Room, 1604 Sweetwater Avenue. The meeting had to be rescheduled due to the weather cancellation on November 6<sup>th</sup>. A notice of meeting was published in the Alliance Times Herald on October 30. 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 Kusek opened the November 10, 2008 Regular Meeting of the Alliance, Nebraska City Council at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Kusek, Council Members Dickenson, Benzel, Rowley, and Yeager. Also present were City Manager Caskie, City Attorney Miller and City Clerk Jines.

- Mayor Kusek read the Open Meetings Act Announcement.
- The first item to come before Council was the Consent Calendar

Motion by Councilman Dickenson, seconded by Councilman Rowley to approve the Consent Calendar which follows in its entirety:

**CONSENT CALENDAR – NOVEMBER 6, 2008**

1.    Approval:     Minutes of the Regular Meeting, October 16, 2008.
2.    Approval:    Payroll and Employer Taxes for the period October 4, 2008 through October 17, 2008 inclusive: \$153,505.94 and \$10,873.33 respectively.

3. Approval: Claims against the following funds for the period October 13, 2008 through November 3, 2008: 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; \$951,738.48.

NOTE: City Manager Caskie has reviewed these expenditures and to the best of her knowledge confirms that they are within budgeted appropriations to this point in the fiscal year.

Councilman Dickenson questioned a charge regarding ammunition by the Alliance Police Department. City Manager Caskie explained that it is used in rifle training. Councilwoman Rowley inquired about a charge for a crossing guard sign. City Manager Caskie advised Council that a request had been made by the Alliance Public School system to provide crossing guard signs for the intersection of 10<sup>th</sup> and Black Hills Avenue. Councilman Yeager questioned a charge for a screwdriver. City Manager Caskie will research the expenditure and report her findings to Council.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Kusek, Dickenson, Benzel, Rowley, Yeager.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- The next item on Council's agenda was the Introduction of Police Officer I Dustin Garner.

Police Chief John Kiss introduced Dustin Garner and presented him with his badge.

- The first reading of Ordinance No. 2633 amending the Alliance Municipal Code at Chapter 4, Sections 4-304 and 4-307 regarding water issues was the next order of business.

Motion by Councilman Yeager, seconded by Councilwoman Rowley to approve Ordinance No. 2633 on first reading. City Clerk Jines read the ordinance by title which follows in its entirety:

### **ORDINANCE NO. 2633**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ALLIANCE MUNICIPAL CODE BY AMENDING SECTION 304 AND 307, ARTICLE 3 AT CHAPTER 4, RELATING TO WATER RATES CHARGED BY THE CITY OF ALLIANCE; AND REPEALING EXISTING PROVISIONS OF CITY CODE NOT CONSISTENT HERewith.

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

## NEBRASKA:

SECTION 1. The City of Alliance operates the Alliance Municipal Water System (A.M.W.S.)

SECTION 2. The City of Alliance has previously charged a flat fee for connection to the City of Alliance Municipal Water System during the construction of an improvement on real estate.

SECTION 3. As a result of the restrictions on water use and the requirement to mitigate the arsenic levels in the water system staff has recommended changing the City Code so that all users are connected to meters and charged for the water based on use.

SECTION 4. Alliance Municipal Code at Chapter 4, shall be amended at Article 3, Section 304 and 307 to read as follows:

**4-304. APPLICATIONS AND CONTRACTS**

All applicants for water service shall be subject to all rules and regulations heretofore or hereafter adopted by the City Council, and to all applicable ordinances (or provisions thereof) of the City which may now or hereafter be in force.

All applicants for a new water service shall sign, prior to the start of service, such form of service contract as may be required by A.M.W.S.

Not more than one house or building shall be supplied from one tap, except by special permission by the City Manager, or designee. No user shall supply water to any other person. Each applicant shall have the water service installed by a licensed plumber, the cost of which shall be borne by the applicant.

A refundable deposit for construction water service, as set by the City Council, will be collected at the Utility Customer Service Office at the same time that a similar fee is collected for temporary electrical service. Contractors will be required to sign the construction utility form at the Building and Zoning Department prior to the issuance of the building permit. The Building Inspector will forward a copy of the signed form to the Utility Customer Service Office. If the contractor does not desire construction water service, the Building Inspector will have the contractor acknowledge the same on the form provided. A copy of the signed form will be forwarded to the Utility Customer Service Office.

The fee schedule, as set by the City Council, includes residential, commercial, and industrial types of construction. The deposit is to be paid at the same time a temporary electric service account is opened. The person desiring metered water services must install an approved meter. The deposit will only be waived if the contractor agrees to sign a form that specifically requests that water not be used during construction. Standard metering is required at any time water service is provided,

except that when providing metered water during construction the City will only read the meter at the end of construction and will charge a one time fee which will be equivalent to one monthly meter fee and the cost of all the water used during construction. If A.M.W.S. becomes aware that water is being supplied to a location without the installation and continual use of a meter, the services to that location may be discontinued as notified by A.M.W.S. or the City Building and Zoning Department.

If a construction site uses unmetered water A.M.W.S. can charge an addition of \$100.00 prior to connection to metered water. A Certificate of Occupancy will not be issued nor will permanent water be released until such time as all fees are paid.

A.M.W.S. will not supply permanent water service until: the customer's application for service shall have been approved by A.M.W.S.; all necessary permits shall have been obtained by the customer; inspection has been approved as set forth by the Building and Zoning Department; and A.M.W.S. shall find it practicable to render such service.

All customers desiring permanent metered water service shall make application for service and enter into such contracts for service as may from time to time be required by A.M.W.S. All applications for permanent metered water service shall be made in the true name of the customer actually to receive such service, unless otherwise permitted by A.M.W.S. and the use of a fictitious name by the prospective customer shall be sufficient reason for refusal or termination of service.

Any change in the identity of the customer of record at the premises shall require a new application and A.M.W.S. may discontinue the water supply until such new application has been made and accepted by A.M.W.S. In the event the customer fails to make the required applications for service, the customer using and benefitting from such service shall be subject to all rules, regulations and tariffs and liable for all charges for services rendered.

#### **4-307. MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEM; TURNING ON WATER 4-307.MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEM; TURNING ON WATER**

Water will not be turned on into any service line, until a proper meter and backflow device(s) have been installed and the customer has complied with articles in Section 4-304. Permanent metered water services will not be will not be turned on to any service until an application for water service has been received; an occupancy permit has been issued; an inspection has been completed by the City Building Inspector or Water Superintendent; and a service request has been provided to the Utilities Customer Service Office and executed by A.M.W.S. service crew to verify installation and foundation readings of the required water meter.

When the water has been disconnected for any reason, the service shall not be reconnected without the consent of A.M.W.S. At no time shall water be turned on by anyone other than A.M.W.S. personnel, except for repairs to plumbing or the service line.

SECTION 5. That current applicable City Codes of the City of Alliance, Nebraska, and all other ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 6. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its approval, passage, and publication according to law.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Kusek, Benzel, Rowley, Yeager.

Voting Nay: Dickenson.

Motion carried.

- The next item to be presented to Council was Resolution No. 08-108 regarding the Keep Alliance Beautiful Recycling Center. Mayor Kusek stated, "Now is the date, time and place to conduct a Public Hearing on the Conditional Use Permit Application of Barry Harris on behalf of Keep Alliance Beautiful, Inc. to operate a recycling center. Mayor Kusek opened the public hearing at 7:16 p.m. Rick Houck, Community Development Director addressed Council explaining that the original application would have the recycling trailers moved to the new location which is no longer the case.

Pasha Gonzalez, 815 Toluca Avenue advised Council that cardboard and electronic waste recycling would be added to their services and implemented immediately. She explained that the preparations for the recycling center will take approximately one month. She read a letter of support for the recycling center from Ron Houck, manager of Bruce Furniture. She directed Council to a visual aid to address a concern raised by Tritle Plumbing relating to the traffic. The south lot adjacent to the recycling center will contain a storage trailer. Additional storage will be needed to accommodate the current waste which is over 130 tons per year. The addition of cardboard and electronic waste will possibly triple the amount of waste to be recycled. Keep Alliance Beautiful is not planning to move the recycling trailers from their current location. The recycling center will not be open for daily drop-off and there will be no public access. The new drop-off trailer for the cardboard and electronic waste will be located at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Cody Avenue for private individuals. A separate collection program will be instituted for business participants on a pre-scheduled basis. In 2007, Keep Alliance Beautiful conducted a Feasibility Study regarding the various nuances of recycling in our community. Another proposed option for collection is the reverse vending machine which collects and weighs aluminum cans and then prints out a receipt which can be redeemed for cash at various locations. KAB is currently negotiating with McDonald's to house a reverse vending machine on their property.

Keep Alliance Beautiful Director Deb Dopheide, 715 Box Butte Avenue, Suite 10 addressed Council and advised them that this is her seventh year with KAB which started out as a 15 hour per week job. Keep Alliance Beautiful has grown to two full time and three part time employees. KAB

has both environmental as well as an economic impact to our community.

Jim Parks, 1411 Duncan Avenue addressed Council as the Chief Operating Officer at Box Butte General Hospital and indicated that the hospital received a grant in 2006 to purchase a trailer to recycle their cardboard. In approximately eight months, 60,000 pounds of material was eliminated from the landfill. The hospital currently hauls their cardboard to Scottsbluff for recycling, so a local recycling center will be beneficial.

Misty Graham, 808 Missouri Avenue advised Council that she personally recycles and feels that a local recycling center will enable the trailers to be emptied more often.

Phillip Letcher, 101 Laramie Avenue addressed Council stating he does not anticipate a traffic problem. The public hearing was closed at 7:43 p.m.

Motion by Mayor Kusek, seconded by Councilman Benzel to approve Resolution No. 08-108 which follows in its entirety:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 08-108**

*WHEREAS*, Barry Harris the owner of the property and Debra J. Dopheide, Executive Director of Keep Alliance Beautiful, Inc. have made an application for a Conditional Use Permit for Keep Alliance Beautiful, Inc. to operate a recycling center on the alley between 1<sup>st</sup> Street and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street west of Niobrara Avenue; and

*WHEREAS*, The City of Alliance understands the need to recycle materials so the materials can be reused which preserves natural resources and eliminates waste from being disposed of in landfills; and

*WHEREAS*, The City of Alliance Planning Commission considered the request for a Conditional Use Permit for a recycling center at Lot 4, Block 27, Original Town of Alliance, Box Butte County, Nebraska; and

*WHEREAS*, The City of Alliance Planning Commission voted to recommend the granting of the Conditional Use Permit to Keep Alliance Beautiful, Inc. for a recycling center to be located at Lot 4, Block 27, Original Town of Alliance, Box Butte County, Nebraska; and

*WHEREAS*, City staff has viewed the property, and has found the property to be used consistent with the granting of a Conditional Use Permit; and

*WHEREAS*, City Staff has found that the proposed use of property would be in conformance with the City of Alliance Comprehensive Plan and the City of Alliance Zoning Ordinance; and

*WHEREAS*, The City Council finds that no sufficient reason exists why the Conditional Use

Permit should not be granted.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, by the Mayor and City Council of Alliance, Nebraska, that a Conditional Use Permit shall be issued to Barry Harris the owner of the property on behalf of Keep Alliance Beautiful, Inc. for the operation of a recycling center at Lot 4, Block 27, Original Town of Alliance, Box Butte County, Nebraska.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that as part of the continuation of the Conditional Use Permit Keep Alliance Beautiful, Inc. is required to:

1. Keep the area free from litter, waste, or worthless vegetation.
2. Not permit the use of recycle containers that do not have secure lids to prevent materials from becoming litter by forces of nature.
3. Not permit more than one semi trailer to be parked at this location other than when the trailer is being loaded.
4. Not permit outdoor storage of bailed recyclable materials.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that the City Staff will review the operation of the Conditional Use Permit yearly after commencement to determine whether the conditions have been met and report their findings to the City Council.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that the Conditional Use Permit shall be presumed inactive if the conditional use is not commenced within twelve months of November 6, 2008.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Kusek, Dickenson, Benzel, Rowley, Yeager.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- Resolution No. 08-109 authorizing the transfer of \$20,000 from the Electric Contingency Fund to the Electric Department's Storage Building Capital line item was the next item to be presented to Council.

Motion by Councilwoman Rowley, seconded by Councilman Benzel to approve Resolution No. 08-109 which follows in its entirety:

**RESOLUTION NO. 08-109**

*WHEREAS*, The Electric and Water Department had on their capital improvements for the fourth quarter of 2008, the purchase of a steel building for storage; and

*WHEREAS*, The Mayor and City Council of Alliance, Nebraska, authorized the Electric and Water Superintendent to enter into a contract for the purchase of a 40 foot by 60 foot steel building from Premiere Steel Building, Inc.; and

*WHEREAS*, Staff has requested that additional funds be transferred from the Electric Contingency Fund in the amount of Twenty Thousand and No/100ths Dollars (\$20,000.00) to provide for the foundation, floor, and erection of the building; and

*WHEREAS*, The Mayor and City Council of Alliance, Nebraska agree that the foundation and floor should be completed during the erection of the building.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, that Twenty Thousand and No/100ths Dollars (\$20,000.00) shall be transferred from the Electric Contingency Fund to the Storage Building Capital line item.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED* that the City Treasurer shall transfer Twenty Thousand and No/100ths Dollars (\$20,000.00) from the Electric Contingency Fund to the Storage Building Capital line item.

Electric Superintendent Larry Heinrich advised Council that two separate quotes have been obtained. One quote is \$18,950 for erecting the building and pouring a foundation without the floor. The other quote is \$20,000 also without the floor. A balance of \$9,000 remains in the Capital line item which combined with the remaining \$1,050 from the Electric Contingency Fund will be used to purchase a concrete floor. There is a possibility of lower estimates. M.C. Schaff will be providing a stamped set of plans for the foundation.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Kusek, Dickenson, Benzel, Rowley, Yeager.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- Resolution No. 08-110 authorizing staff to make payments to vendors in a timely manner to avoid finance charges or additional fees was the next item for Council's consideration.

Motion by Councilman Dickenson, seconded by Councilman Benzel to approve Resolution No. 08-110 which follows in its entirety:

**RESOLUTION NO. 08-110**

*WHEREAS*, The City of Alliance holds meetings of the Alliance City Council semi monthly;  
and

*WHEREAS*, The City of Alliance receives claims from vendors for services, supplies and other things of value; and

*WHEREAS*, As a result of timing issues between the City of Alliance Council Meetings and the billing cycle of the vendors, the City is charged additional fees; and

*WHEREAS*, The City of Alliance desires to eliminate the payment of service fees to vendors as a result of the schedule of the Alliance City Council Meeting and the vendor's billing cycle.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, by the Mayor and City Council of Alliance, Nebraska, that the Finance Director or her designee is authorized to prepay any bill that a finance charge or additional fees, may be incurred, and the expense has been properly included in the budget.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that prior to payment, the bill must be approved by the City Manager and the Financial Director or their designees.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that the following vendors are specifically included in the authorization, to wit: Nebraska Department of Revenue, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, Regional Care, Inc., First Bank Card, First National Bank, and Fremont National Bank.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that any bill that is paid prior to Council's approval shall be submitted to the Alliance City Council at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Kusek, Dickenson, Benzel, Rowley, Yeager.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- The next item for Council's consideration was Resolution No. 08-111 authorizing the issuance of a Non-Renewal Notice regarding a land lease by the Alliance Roping Club.

Motion by Councilman Benzel, seconded by Councilman Dickenson to approve Resolution No. 08-111 which follows in its entirety:

**RESOLUTION NO. 08-111**

*WHEREAS*, The City of Alliance currently leases a parcel of land with certain improvements to the Alliance Roping Club under a lease dated April 1, 2003; and

*WHEREAS*, The City of Alliance has decided that the improvements are not being used to their highest potential; and

*WHEREAS*, The City of Alliance desires to see the improvements used to encourage more participation in civic activities and to develop more tourism for Alliance and Box Butte County.

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, by the Mayor and City Council of Alliance, Nebraska, that notice of Non-Renewal shall be given to the Alliance Roping Club on the lease of Tract K, East of Golf Course Pasture and Rodeo Grounds, more specifically described as follows:

A tract of land in Section 7, Township 24 North, Range 47, West of the 6<sup>th</sup> Principal Meridian, in Box Butte County, Nebraska, more particularly described as follows: commencing at the northeast corner of said Section 7, thence southerly along the east section line of said Section 7 700 feet, thence westerly on a line parallel to the north section line of said Section 7 690 feet, thence southerly along a line parallel to the east section line of said Section 7 560 feet, thence easterly along a line parallel to the north section line of Section 7 690 feet, thence southerly along the east section line of Section 7 1,460 feet, thence westerly along a line parallel to the north section line of Section 7 130 feet, thence southerly along the west line of Eighth Street, a distance of 2,180 feet to a point intersecting the north line of Avenue A, thence westerly along said north line of Avenue A distance of 1,790 feet to a point intersecting the east line of Sixth Street, thence northerly along said east line of Sixth Street if extended northerly and generally parallel to the east line of said Section 7 a distance of 2,180 feet, thence westerly along a line parallel to the north section line of Section 7 180 feet, thence northerly along a line parallel to the east section line of Section 7, thence northerly 1,256 feet to a point that intersects the south fence surrounding the area consisting of the drive-in theater, thence east northeast along the fence surrounding the area consisting of the drive-in theater for 402 feet, thence north northeast along the fence 270 feet, thence north northwest along the fence 390 feet to a point where the fence intersects with the south line of a road which marks the north boundary of the drive-in theater, thence westerly along the south line of this road 256 feet, thence northerly along a line parallel with the east section line of Section 7 874 feet to a point which intersects with the north section line of Section 7, thence easterly along the north section line of Section 7, 2,100 feet to the point of beginning, and containing an area of 200 acres more or less.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that City staff shall attempt to negotiate a lease with all entities who are interested in the use of the improvements on an event basis.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that City staff shall take action to determine if there is any grazing land that is not necessary for use with the improvements and staff is authorized offer that grazing land for lease as provided by law.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Kusek, Dickenson, Benzel, Rowley, Yeager.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- The next item on Council's agenda was Resolution No. 08-112 approving an Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Roads for the installation of a pedestrian traffic signal.

Motion by Councilman Benzel, seconded by Councilwoman Rowley to approve Resolution No. 08-112 which follows in its entirety:

**RESOLUTION NO. 08-112**

*WHEREAS*, The City of Alliance is responsible for maintaining the streets and alleys within the City; and

*WHEREAS*, The State of Nebraska has jurisdiction in matters involving the installation and operation of traffic control devices on State Highway extensions through corporate areas as provided by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 60-6,120; and

*WHEREAS*, The City of Alliance desires to provide a traffic signal installation on N-2 midway between Mississippi Avenue and Grand Avenue for the purpose of accommodating an orderly flow of traffic; and

*WHEREAS*, The State of Nebraska is willing to participate in the actual costs of the installation of the traffic signal; and

*WHEREAS*, The State of Nebraska has prepared an Agreement for the City of Alliance to assume responsibilities for part of the costs and duties necessary to the installation of a traffic signal on N-2 midway between Mississippi Avenue and Grand Avenue; and

*WHEREAS*, The Mayor and City Council deem it expedient to enter into the Agreement with the State of Nebraska to assume responsibilities for part of the costs and duties necessary for the installation of a traffic signal on N-2 midway between Mississippi Avenue and Grand Avenue for the purpose of accommodating an orderly flow of traffic.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, By the Mayor and City Council of Alliance, Nebraska, that the Mayor is authorized to execute the Agreement between the City of Alliance and State of Nebraska Department of Roads for Traffic Signal Installation.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, That staff is directed to comply with the terms of the Contract.

City Manager Caskie explained the signal will be located in the middle of the block because of turning movements. Research has shown that pedestrian crossings at the corners of the block are unsafe due to motorists attempting to turn. Crossings located in the center of the block are safer because the pedestrian only has to be concerned with traffic coming from one direction. Public Facilities Director Eric Lenz advised Council the location will be located by the alley next to the Espresso Lane business. Mayor Kusek inquired about an advance warning signal. Mr. Lenz advised Council that a discussion can take place with Nebraska Department of Roads regarding a signal or signage.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Kusek, Dickenson, Benzel, Rowley, Yeager.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- Resolution No. 08-113 authorizing the sale of approximately 65,000 cubic yards of earth from the Alliance Airport property to Koozer Construction, Inc. to be utilized as part of the Nebraska Veteran's Cemetery was the next item to be presented to Council.

Motion by Councilman Yeager, seconded by Councilwoman Rowley to approve Resolution No. 08-113 which follows in its entirety:

### **RESOLUTION NO. 08-113**

*WHEREAS*, The City of Alliance owns real estate which is part of the Alliance Municipal Airport; and

*WHEREAS*, Koozer Construction, Inc., a Nebraska Corporation desires to purchase Sixty Five Thousand (65,000) cubic yards, of fill dirt, more or less; and

*WHEREAS*, The City of Alliance has determined that the sale of the fill dirt is necessary for the construction of the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery and would be beneficial to the City of

Alliance.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, by the Mayor and City Council of Alliance, Nebraska, that the Mayor is authorized and directed to execute a Contract for Removal of Fill and Grading granting Koozer Construction, Inc., the right to purchase, Sixty Five Thousand (65,000) cubic yards, of fill dirt, more or less at the price of seventy five cents (75¢) per cubic yard.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Kusek, Dickenson, Benzel, Rowley, Yeager.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- The next item on Council's agenda was Resolution No. 08-114 authorizing the City Manager to award a hiring bonus to new police officers and dispatchers that meet certain criteria.

Motion by Councilwoman Rowley, seconded by Councilman Dickenson to approve Resolution No. 08-114.

Councilwoman Rowley asked if there is a contractual stipulation that mandates a minimum time of employment. City Manager Caskie explained that an employee that is non-certified is already required to sign a three year contract. Councilwoman Rowley would like to see a contract with a payback clause prorating the bonus to time actually worked.

Motion by Mayor Kusek, seconded by Councilwoman Rowley to amend Resolution No. 08-114 by deleting paragraphs 3-5.

Roll call vote on the amendment with the following results:

Voting Aye: Kusek, Dickenson, Benzel, Rowley, Yeager.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 08-114**

*WHEREAS*, The City of Alliance Police Department has experienced difficulties in attracting qualified candidates for employment with the Alliance Police Department including but not exclusive to Police Officers and Police Dispatchers; and

*WHEREAS*, The Alliance Police Department proposed establishment of a policy to pay a hiring bonus for new employees of the Alliance Police Department.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, by the Mayor and City Council that the City of Alliance is authorized to pay a Hiring Bonus for new employees of the Police department which shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the maximum salary of th position being offered.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED*, that the actual amount of the Hiring Bonus to be paid shall be based upon qualifications and will be determined by the City Manager and the Chief of Police.

Roll call vote on Resolution No. 08-114 as amended with the following results:

Voting Aye: Kusek, Dickenson, Benzel, Rowley, Yeager.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- The next item on Council's agenda was a discussion on whether or not to pursue adding more wind energy to the City's Energy Portfolio.

Electric Superintendent Larry Heinrich explained that wind energy currently comprises five percent of the City's total energy portfolio. Wind energy costs the City of Alliance approximately 4.6 cents per kilowatt hour. MEAN is in the process of accessing their future of wind energy needs and are inquiring about the City's future wind demand. A one percent increase in wind energy at current cost levels equates to a fifty cent increase in cost per customer each month. City Manager Caskie advised Council that the City can increase its wind energy and pass the cost on to the customer. Council indicated a desire to increase our wind power by ½ percent per year.

- The last item on Council's agenda was a board resignation and a board appointment.

Motion by Councilman Dickenson, seconded by Councilman Benzel to accept the resignation of Rayna Waggener as an ex-officio member of the Alliance Library Board.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Kusek, Dickenson, Benzel, Rowley, Yeager.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

Motion by Councilman Dickenson, seconded by Councilman Benzel to reappoint Delinda J. Neville to the A-2 Downtown Improvement Board for a term expiring October, 2011.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Kusek, Dickenson, Benzel, Rowley, Yeager.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- Mayor Kusek extended a Veteran's Day thank you to all those men and women who have served our country proudly.
- Mayor Kusek stated, "there being no further business to come before the Alliance City Council, the meeting is adjourned at 9:08 p.m."

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Dan Kusek, Mayor

(SEAL)

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Linda S. Jines, City Clerk