

April 1, 2025

ALLIANCE CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP, TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2025

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 Budget Workshop, April 1, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Alliance Learning Center Community Meeting Room, 1750 Sweetwater Avenue. A notice of meeting was published in the Alliance Times Herald on March 26, 2025. 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 provided 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 McGhehey opened the April 1, 2025 Special Budget Workshop of the Alliance, Nebraska City Council at 9:00 a.m. Present were Mayor McGhehey, Vice Mayor Mashburn and Council Members Weisgerber and Turman. Also present were City Manager Sorensen, City Treasurer Baker and City Clerk Pitt.

- First action for Council was to excuse Councilman Liptack.
- Mayor McGhehey read the Open Meetings Act Announcement.
- Position Control Discussion – Animal Control Officer part-time position.
- Council discussed 4 Day work week with school schedule.

Vice Mayor Mashburn in favor of seasonal hours, is a benefit without costing us. Line seasonal hour with school.

No summer hours with the negative push back.

Need to inform the Public better, ways to make seasonal hours work.

Need to work 5 days a week, stagger schedule.

Public facing services need to be open to the Public 5 days a week.

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Council's consideration on the school changes with work schedule – NO.

- Grant Writer Renewal – Al Vicanti.

Council is in favor of renewal contract.

- Projects/Purchases from last year's budget.
- Loan for purchase of Ambulance, outsource loan no internal loan.
- Public Safety Tax is currently at \$.03, possibly increase to \$.05 to generate \$120,000 per year. Council has no objections for the increase.
- Cost of Living and Pay Increases, COLA 3% is recommended possibly higher for Department Heads.

Add a 10th Step at the 4.2% for pay scale. Council is requesting a list of not Comp. positions.

- CIP Fund, Budget Funds, Sinking Vehicle Fund, Property Insurance, Retirement, FOP, Utility Rate Study, Janitorial Contracts.

- Property Tax Pie – 2024 Tax Bill.

- Public Works Director Grant brought up Landfill Buildings set for April, Refuse containers, no tire amnesty, fencing, MSW Cell Construction, Bailer Replacement, Burner Box used, 2nd Street Sewer Extension, Hot patch trailer purchased, Salt Spreader and Snow Blade for Pickup Truck, Engineering for 2nd Street.

- Culture & Leisure Director Brown brought up Parks Playground redesign and waiting on timeline with install in fall of 2025, BN Ballfield turf seeding and irrigation, Tractor, Sprayer Cart replaced, Well Design underway, Shelter for Carhenge, Trouble with repairing train, Bathrooms at Bower Field.

- Electric Superintendent Bridge Old Power Plant RFP, Outside lot expansion, Substation Maintenance, Power Pole Inspections, Ballfield Pole Testing, 3rd Street Pole Replacement, Flack and East 2nd Replacement, Electrical Trucks need replaced too old to reinspect again, Rural Rebuilds, Walther Farm Extension

- Community Development Director Kusek Microsoft ending support for Windows 10, Eland to VPN to complete, Ethernet Switches, Library cable clean up.

- Police Chief Leavitt Patrol Vehicles, Radio Purchase, New Firearm Purchase, Recording system for Communications.

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- Fire Chief Shoemaker Ambulance delivery, Joint Public Safety Center.
- Council asked Department Heads to work on COLA and Raises with the understanding of the effects of the budget cuts, support going to public to increase 2.5% property tax levy.

No action was taken on any of the issues discussed.

The Alliance City Council adjourned the April 1, 2025 City Council Meeting at 11:02 a.m.

(SEAL)


John McGhehey, Mayor


Shelbi C. Pitt, 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