

September 16, 2025

**ALLIANCE CITY COUNCIL**

REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

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

The Alliance City Council met in a Regular Meeting, September 16, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Alliance Learning Center Community Meeting Room, 1750 Sweetwater Avenue. A notice of meeting was published in the Alliance Times Herald on September 10, 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 September 16, 2025 regular meeting of the Alliance, Nebraska City Council at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor McGhehey, Vice Mayor Mashburn and Council Members Weisgerber, Turman, and Yates. Also present were City Manager Sorensen, City Treasurer Baker, City Attorney Selzer and City Clerk Bedient.

- Mayor McGhehey read the Open Meetings Act Announcement.
- The Consent Calendar was the first item on the agenda. A motion was made by Vice Mayor Mashburn, seconded by Councilman Turman to approve the Consent Calendar as follows:

**CONSENT CALENDAR – September 16, 2025**

1. Approval: Minutes of the Special Meeting, September 2, 2025, Budget Public Hearing, September 2, 2025, Regular Meeting September 2, 2025 and Budget Workshop, September 4, 2025.
2. Approval: Payroll from September 5, 2025 in the total amount of \$388,995.85.
3. Approval: Alliance Volunteer Fire Department Roster Update.
4. Approval: Claims against the following funds: General, General Debt Service, Trust and Agency, Street, Electric, Refuse Collection and Disposal, Sanitary Sewer, Water, Golf

September 16, 2025

Course, Downtown Improvement Districts, R.S.V.P., Keno, and Capital Improvement; \$519,050.58.

5. Approval: Resolution No. 25-111 which will accept and approve the amendments to the City of Alliance Personnel Policy.
6. Approval: Resolution No. 25-112 which will authorize the final payment in the amount of \$42,538.14 from Rural Rebuilds GL # 05-51-54-53-948 for the remaining balance of the transformer purchase.
7. Approval: Resolution No. 25-113 which will provide the City's annual certification to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classification and Standards for 2025.
8. Approval: Resolution No. 25-114 which will approve existing Interdepartmental loan from the Electric Fund to the Airport Fund be set at an interest rate of 4% in an amount of \$575,814.00 (remaining balance of principal plus interest for 2024-25) for a period of 120 months (10 years).
9. Approval: Resolution No. 25-115 which will approve existing Interdepartmental loan from the Electric Fund to the General Fund be set at an interest rate of 4% in an amount of \$2,407,951.92 (original amount plus interest for 2024-25) for a period of 180 months (15 years).
10. Approval: Resolution No. 25-116 which will approve the Plan and Project for Bruce and Debra Dopheide at 424 Toluca Avenue which has been determined that the Plan meets the requirements of Section 18-2155(2) of the Community Development Law and is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan.
11. Approval: Resolution No. 25-117 which will approve the Plan and Project for Wildflower Haven LLC at 424 Mississippi Avenue which has been determined that the Plan meets the requirements of Section 18-2155(2) of the Community Development Law and is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan.
12. Approval: Resolution No. 25-118 which will approve the Plan and Project for Wildflower Haven LLC at 507 Toluca Avenue which has been determined that the Plan meets the requirements of Section 18-2155(2) of the Community Development Law and is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan.
13. Approval: Resolution No. 25-119 which will approve the Plan and Project for Christina and Scott Yates at 820 Missouri Avenue which has been determined that the Plan meets the requirements of Section 18-2155(2) of the Community Development Law and is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan.
14. Approval: Resolution No. 25-121 which will approve the Plan and Project for Greg and Kelly Rasmussen at 613 Cheyenne Avenue which has been determined that the Plan

September 16, 2025

meets the requirements of Section 18-2155(2) of the Community Development Law and is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan.

NOTE: City Manager Sorensen and City Treasurer Baker 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.

Mayor McGhehey requested that Resolution No. 25-117, Resolution No. 25-118, and Resolution No. 25-119 be tabled from the Consent Calendar due to a Conflict of Interest of Councilman Yates; and Resolution No. 25-120 be removed from the Consent Calendar as the applicant withdrew their application.

A motion was made by Mayor McGhehey, seconded by Vice Mayor Mashburn to table Resolution No. 25-117, Resolution No. 25-118, and Resolution No. 25-119 from the Consent Calendar; and removing Resolution No. 25-120 from the Consent Calendar.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Weisgerber, Yates, Mashburn, Turman and McGhehey.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

The Consent Calendar was approved with the following changes: tabling Resolution No. 25-117, Resolution No. 25-118, and Resolution No. 25-119; removing Resolution No. 25-120.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Turman, Yates, Weisgerber, Mashburn and McGhehey.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- The next item on the agenda for Council was the first reading of Ordinance No. 3005 which will approve the Final Plat for Karell Addition, a 9.14 acre tract of land described as Part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 34 and Part of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quart of Section 35, Township 25 North, Range West of 6<sup>th</sup> Principal Meridian, Alliance, Box Butte County, Nebraska. The following information was provided:

**[ORDINANCE – FINAL PLAT OF KARELL ADDITION TO THE CITY OF ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA.]**

September 16, 2025

The City of Alliance is in receipt of an application for a Final Plat for the dedication of Karell Addition to the City of Alliance, Box Butte County, Nebraska.

The proposed addition is located at the southwest corner of West 6th Street and Ramblin Rd. The addition is bordered by Ag, Agriculture zoning to the west, R-4, Atypical Residential Housing and C-3 Heavy Commercial to the north, R-1a, Single Family Residential and C-3 Heavy Commercial to the east, and C-3 Heavy Commercial to the south. The zoning is not proposed to change as part of this subdivision.

The proposed lots are currently vacant. The proposed land use of Lot 3 is camper storage, Lot 2 is cold storage, and Lot 1 is storage. Lot 4s proposed land use is currently unknown. Camper storage will require a Conditional Use Permit. The proposed subdivision is bordered by single family homes to the north, agriculture to the west, a tree trimming and landscaping business to the south, storage units and vacant land to the east.

The plat creates a 20 foot wide utility easement along the east side of proposed Lots 1, 2, and 3 for water main extension. It is a general utility easement so other utilities may co-locate there. The plat will create a 20 foot wide alley between proposed Lots 1-3 and the land to the west (Lot 4). This is primarily to replace an easement for a sanitary sewer trunk main installed in 1968 and provide a secondary means of access to the lots. The alley dead ends at the south end of the proposed subdivision. The Planning Commission recommended adding a 40' x 40' cul-de-sac at the south end of the alley for a turn around and the developer was agreeable to that.

The subdivision is bordered by Nebraska State Highway 2 / US Highway 385 to the west, West 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the north, and Ramblin Road to the east. There are not any proposed streets but there is proposed an approximately 650 foot alley north and south through the subdivision. Highway 2 is a principal arterial and Ramblin Road has begun to function as a minor arterial since the construction of the W 10<sup>th</sup> Street overpass (Transportation Pg. 2). West 6<sup>th</sup> Street is not paved but it would provide access between Ramblin Rd. and Highway 2 and the north sides of Lots 4 and 3 if it were. Ramblin Rd. and Highway 2 would be able to accommodate additional traffic from development of the proposed commercial lots.

Typically, technical drawings and installation guarantees for public improvements are required as part of the subdivision of property located in the City and adjacent to the City. The applicant is requesting the City waive the requirement to install watermain along Ramblin Road. Should Council choose to waive this requirement, staff

September 18, 2025

Jessica Trussell, 912 Colorado Avenue, Alliance, Nebraska, addressed the Council, stating that the Council holds great power, that elected officials can make a difference, bring the citizens together, and should table this ordinance.

Alex Jines, 1063 Duncan Avenue, Alliance, Nebraska, expressed understanding of grant reductions and urged the Council to make budget cuts to the Golf Course. Concerns were raised regarding wasteful spending, and it that there are no kickbacks from the City.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Yates, Turman, Mashburn and McGhehey.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- The next item on the agenda for Council was Resolution No. 25-124 which will accept and approve the proposed 2025-2026 Property Tax Request, which contains anticipated and estimated revenues for the next fiscal year.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Mashburn, seconded by Councilman Turman to approve Resolution No. 25-124. Which follows in its entirety:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 25-124**

A RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST FOR FY 2025-2026.

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that the Governing Body of the City of Alliance passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of the City of Alliance resolves that:

1. The 2025-2026 property tax request be set at:  
General Fund: \$ 2,185,598.59  
Bond Fund: \$ -
2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 4.82 percent.
3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be 0.293762 per \$100 of assessed value.

September 16, 2025

recommends requiring the applicant enter into a deferment agreement with the City that allows the deferment currently and guarantees installation at a future time according to the conditions in the agreement. These conditions are usually things like development, water system looping, pressure requirements, etc.

The City of Alliance Planning Commission met at its regular meeting February 11, 2025 and found that the final plat was consistent with the goals in the Comprehensive Plan and met the minimum requirements of the Alliance Municipal Code. They voted yes on a recommendation to the Alliance City Council for the

approval of Karell Addition to the City of Alliance, Box Butte County, Nebraska provided a 40' X 40' cul-de-sac be added at the south end of the alley, after making the following findings of fact:

- The subdivision would permit additional commercial development along Ramblin Road and Nebraska Highway 2.
- The commercial subdivision is consistent with the neighborhood identification in page LU 9 as commercial.
- The Final Plat contains all components required by Section 107-82 of the Alliance Municipal Code.
- Transportation routes along the west and east lot lines would provide sufficient access to the proposed lots.
- The subdivision meets the minimum requirements of Section 109-51 C-3, Heavy Commercial District (zoning) of the Alliance Municipal Code.

Possible reasons not to approve the plat would be:

- The alley proposed to be dedicated is a dead end.
- West 6<sup>th</sup> Street is not paved.
- The applicant is asking the public improvements not be required for platting.

**RECOMMENDATION: THE APPROVAL OF THE FINAL PLAT OF KARELL ADDITION TO THE CITY OF ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA PROVIDED THE APPLICANT ENTER INTO A DEFERMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY IN LIEU OF A COMPLETE WAIVER OF THE REQUIREMENT TO INSTALL THE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.]**

A motion was made by Councilman Yates, seconded by Councilman Turman to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 3005. Which follows in its entirety:

ORDINANCE NO. 3005

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA APPROVING THE FINAL PLAT FOR KARELL ADDITION, A 9.14 ACRE TRACT OF LAND DESCRIBED AS PART OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 34 AND PART OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST**

September 16, 2025

**QUARTER OF SECTION 35, TOWNSHIP 25 NORTH, RANGE 48 WEST OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ALLIANCE, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE PLAT; ORDERING THE FINAL PLAT TO BE FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS OF BOX BUTTE COUNTY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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

SECTION 1. The City of Alliance has received the application for approval of the Final Plat of Karell Addition, a 9.14 acre tract of land described as part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 34 and part of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 35, Township 25 North, Range 48 West of the 6<sup>th</sup> Principal Meridian, Alliance, Box Butte County, Nebraska from James Karell, President of Karell Remodeling Services and Properties, Inc.

SECTION 2. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on February 11, 2025, and has recommended the approval of the Final Plat.

SECTION 3. The Final Plat of Karell Addition, a 9.14 acre tract of land described as part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 34 and part of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 35, Township 25 North, Range 48 West of the 6<sup>th</sup> Principal Meridian, Alliance, Box Butte County, Nebraska is approved by the City of Alliance.

SECTION 4. The Mayor is authorized to sign the Final Plat on behalf of the City of Alliance, Nebraska. Such Final Plat and related documents are ordered to be filed and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, Box Butte County, Nebraska

SECTION 5. 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: Turman, Yates, Mashburn, and McGhehey.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- The next item on the agenda for Council was first reading of Ordinance No. 3006 which will approve and amend the City of Alliance Municipal Code Section 26-52, titled *School Zones*. The amendment will allow for speed limits within all school zones, which shall be 15 miles per hour between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. when school is in session, with the exception of school zones on Box Butte Avenue and East 10<sup>th</sup> Street,

September 16, 2025

which shall be 20 miles per hour between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. when school is in session. The following information was provided:

**[ORDINANCE - Municipal Code Amendment Chapter 26-52, School Zones**

Due to later dismissal times related to the four-day school week, the Alliance Police Department is recommending an adjustment to school zone times, extending the duration on school days by one hour. In addition, we are requesting to lower the school zone speed limit to 15MPH, except for school zones on Box Butte Ave and East 10<sup>th</sup> St., which will remain 20MPH. After discussion with the SRO and other staff, it was decided that maintaining school zone speed limits for the duration of the entire school day was best. This allows for slower speeds as students and staff come and go from the schools due to lunch, physical education and other activities.

**Sec. 26-52. - School zones.**

(a)The school zones are described as follows:

(1)Alliance Middle School, Alliance High School and St. Agnes Academy: Box Butte Avenue from the north line of Tenth Street to the north line of Sixteenth Street; Laramie Avenue from the north line of Tenth Street to the north line of Fourteenth Street; Cheyenne Avenue from the north line of Tenth Street to the north line of Sixteenth Street; Big Horn Avenue from the north line of Tenth Street to the south line of Sixteenth Street; Eleventh Street from the east line of Box Butte Avenue to the west line of Laramie and the from the east line of Toluca Avenue to the east line of Cheyenne; Twelfth Street from the west line of Big Horn Avenue to the east line of Box Butte Avenue; Fourteenth Street from the west line of Big Horn Avenue to the east line of Box Butte Avenue; and Sixteenth Street from the east line of Box Butte Avenue to the west line of Cheyenne Avenue.

(2)Emerson Elementary School: Dakota Avenue from the south line of Sixth Street to the south line of Ninth Street; Colorado Avenue from the south line of Eighth Street to the south line of Ninth Street; Black Hills Avenue from the south line of Sixth Street to the south line of Ninth Street, Sixth Street from the west line of Platte Avenue to the west line of Dakota Avenue; Seventh Street from the west line of Platte Avenue to the west line of Dakota Avenue.

(3)Grandview Elementary School: Potash Avenue and Grand Avenue from the north line of Fifth Street to the north line of Seventh Street; from the east line of Mississippi Avenue to the west line of Hudson Avenue; and Seventh Street from the east line of Mississippi Avenue to the west line of Hudson Avenue.

September 16, 2025

(4) Little Angels Emanuel Lutheran School: Tenth Street from the west line of Block 1 of the YMCA Addition to the west line of Lot 4 of the Leo Rosa 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition.

(b) The speed limit within all school zones shall be 20 miles per hour between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. when school is in session.

(4) (b) to be revised as follows:

(b) The speed limit within all school zones shall be 15 miles per hour between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. when school is in session, with the exception of school zones on Box Butte Ave and East 10<sup>th</sup> St. which shall be 20 miles per hour between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. when school is in session.]

A motion was made by Councilman Weisgerber, seconded by Councilman Turman to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 3006. Which follows in its entirety:

#### **Ordinance No. 3006**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA AMENDING SECTION 26-52 OF THE ALLIANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO PROVIDE THAT THE SPEED LIMIT WITHIN ALL SCHOOL ZONES SHALL BE 15 MILES PER HOUR BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 7:00 A.M. AND 5:00 P.M. WHEN SCHOOL IS IN SESSION, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SCHOOL ZONES ON BOX BUTTE AVE AND EAST 10<sup>TH</sup> ST. WHICH SHALL BE 20 MILES PER HOUR BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 7:00 A.M. AND 5:00 P.M. WHEN SCHOOL IS IN SESSION; REPEALING EXISTING PROVISIONS OF THE CITY CODE NOT CONSISTENT WITH THIS ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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

SECTION 1. Section 26-52 of the Alliance Municipal Code is amended as follows:

#### **Sec. 26-52. School zones.**

(a) The school zones are described as follows:

(1) Alliance Middle School, Alliance High School and St. Agnes Academy: Box Butte Avenue from the north line of Tenth Street to the north line of Sixteenth Street; Laramie Avenue from the north line of Tenth Street to the north line of Fourteenth Street; Cheyenne Avenue from the north line of Tenth Street to the north line of Sixteenth Street; Big Horn Avenue from the north line of Tenth Street to the south line of Sixteenth Street; Eleventh Street from the east line of Box Butte Avenue to the west line of Laramie and the from the east line of Toluca Avenue to the east line of Cheyenne; Twelfth Street from the west line of Big Horn Avenue to the east line of Box Butte Avenue; Fourteenth Street from the west line

September 16, 2025

of Big Horn Avenue to the east line of Box Butte Avenue; and Sixteenth Street from the east line of Box Butte Avenue to the west line of Cheyenne Avenue.

(2) Emerson Elementary School: Dakota Avenue from the south line of Sixth Street to the south line of Ninth Street; Colorado Avenue from the south line of Eighth Street to the south line of Ninth Street; Black Hills Avenue from the south line of Sixth Street to the south line of Ninth Street, Sixth Street from the west line of Platte Avenue to the west line of Dakota Avenue; Seventh Street from the west line of Platte Avenue to the west line of Dakota Avenue.

(3) Grandview Elementary School: Potash Avenue and Grand Avenue from the north line of Fifth Street to the north line of Seventh Street; from the east line of Mississippi Avenue to the west line of Hudson Avenue; and Seventh Street from the east line of Mississippi Avenue to the west line of Hudson Avenue.

(4) Little Angels Emanuel Lutheran School: Tenth Street from the west line of Block 1 of the YMCA Addition to the west line of Lot 4 of the Leo Rosa 2nd Addition.

(b) The speed limit within all school zones shall be 15 miles per hour between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. when school is in session, with the exception of school zones on Box Butte Ave and East 10<sup>th</sup> St. which shall be 20 miles per hour between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. when school is in session.

SECTION 2. All ordinances, parts of ordinances, resolutions, and policies of the City of Alliance in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. 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: Yates, Mashburn, Weisgerber, Turman and McGhehey.

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- Council next held a Public Hearing for the consideration for the Purchase Agreement for the purchase of Lot 6, Block 5, First Addition to South Alliance, City of Alliance, Box Butte County, Nebraska from Box Butte County.

Mayor McGhehey stated, “now is the date, time and place to conduct a Public Hearing to hear support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of the taxpayers relating to the consideration of the Purchase Agreement for the purchase of Lot 6, Block 5, Frist Addition to South Alliance, City of Alliance, Box Butte County, Nebraska from Box Butte County opened the public hearing at 7:12 p.m.”

September 16, 2025

Community Development Director Kusek provided the City Council with an overview of the Property Purchase.

Councilman Weisgerber asked Community Development Director Kusek about the estimated cost to the City for demolishing the house on the property.

Community Development Director Kusek responded that the cost would be approximately \$15,000 - \$20,000.

No additional testimony was offered and the Public Hearing was closed at 7:16 p.m.

A motion was made by Mayor McGhehey, seconded by Councilman Turman to approve the Resolution No. 25-121. Which follows in its entirety:

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-121**

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

**Recital:**

On September 16, 2025, after giving notice, the City Council conducted a public hearing regarding the acquisition of Lot 6, Block 5, First Addition of South Alliance, City of Alliance, Box Butte County, Nebraska (the "Real Estate") from Box Butte County according to a purchase agreement executed by the County on July 23, 2025 ("Purchase Agreement").

**Resolved:**

1. The City Council approves the Purchase Agreement and acquisition of the Real Estate by the City of Alliance according to the Purchase Agreement.
2. The Mayor is authorized and directed to execute the Purchase Agreement and any other documents, and take such further actions, as are necessary to carry out the purposes and intent of the Purchase Agreement and acquire the Real Estate.
3. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Turman, Yates, Mashburn and McGhehey.

September 16, 2025

Voting Nay: Weisgerber.

Motion carried.

- The next item on the agenda for Council was Resolution No. 25-122 which will accept and approve the amended rates of Solid Waste Disposal. The following information was provided:

**[RESOLUTION – CHANGE TO REFUSE UTILITY RATES**

The attached resolution will adopt updated refuse utility rates that will be incorporated as a part of the FY 2025-26 budget, with rates effective January 1, 2026.

**A. Background**

The City of Alliance has been increasing refuse utility rates over the past few years in an attempt to make the refuse fund solvent, but it is not quite there yet. The Refuse Fund is an Enterprise, or Business, Fund and as such is expected that it can pay for itself. Historically this fund has relied heavily on borrowing from the Electric Fund and recent capital projects have reduced the small amount of reserves the funds had to practically nothing. Without an increase, the City will be unable to fund capital projects necessary for the ongoing operation of the landfill. In 2025, SCS Engineers performed a rate study for the Refuse Fund and provided a recommendation for rate increases.

**B. Summary**

It is the finding of SCS that a rate increase of 35% is necessary to get the refuse utility fund back on the proper track where it can pay for annual operating costs, pay its debt service, and perform capital improvement projects necessary for the ongoing operation and lawful compliance of the landfill and refuse collection. While it is possible to break this 35% increase over two years, with the need to prepare a new cell and other capital investments already upon us, staff recommends improving the cash flow of refuse operations as soon as possible, preferably by passing the 35% increase this year in one go. Future increases, mostly to keep up with inflation, will be necessary from this point on as well.

**RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NEW REFUSE UTILITY RATES]**

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Mashburn, seconded by Councilman Turman to approve Resolution No. 25-122. Which follows in its entirety:

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-122**

A RESOLUTION AMENDING DISPOSAL RATES FOR SOLID WASTE AND REPEALING PORTIONS OF ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE CHANGES HEREIN.

September 16, 2025

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

SECTION 1. Staff has prepared amendments to disposal rates for solid waste for submission to the City Council.

SECTION 2. The City Council has received and reviewed the proposed changes and finds such changes to be in the best interest of the City of Alliance and should be therefore adopted pursuant to Sec. 28-483(a) and 28-484(a) of the Alliance Municipal Code. All such rates are hereby amended effective January 1, 2026, in the following particulars:

		<b>January 1, 2026</b>
<b>Rate Class</b>	<b>Existing Rate</b>	<b>New Rates</b>
Residential – City	\$25.36	\$34.24
Commercial – City (3 yard container)	126.11	170.25
Commercial – City (1.5 yard container)	64.56	87.16
<b>Disposal Fee Types</b>		
Asbestos	Not Accepted	Not Accepted
Ashes	76.11	102.75
Brush	23.89	32.25
Construction and Demolition	78.66	106.19
Contaminated Soil	128.36	173.29
Fill	20.88	28.19
Metal	28.34	38.26
Municipal Solid Waste - Residential	79.47	107.28
Municipal Solid Waste - Commercial	75.69	102.18
Non-baleable MSW	128.36	173.29
Shingles	78.66	106.19
Tire – Truck and Tractor	25.16	33.97
Tire – Over 16”	12.71	17.16
Tire – 15” and below	7.83	10.57

September 16, 2025

White Goods	15.70	21.20
White Goods w/Freon	39.57	53.42
Minimum Fee	11.49	15.51

SECTION 3. All other ordinances, resolutions, or policies of the City of Alliance not consistent with the amendment made herein are hereby repealed. Provided, however, that the annual adjustment as set forth in Sec. 28-483(h) and Sec. 28-484(c) of the Alliance Municipal Code shall not be repealed by this Resolution.

SECTION 4. This resolution shall go into effect as upon its passage, approval, and publication according to law, provided that rate increases shall not take effect until January 1, 2026.

Electric Department Bridge stated the reason for the Electric Rate increase is due to the rate of buying power has increased.

Karen Trussell, 1117 Meadowlark Avenue, Alliance, Nebraska, addressed the Council with concerns regarding Refuse and Electric rate increases.

Tom Broeder, 723 Emerson Avenue, Alliance Nebraska, spoke in support of Ms. Trussell's concerns, noting that he is on a fixed income.

Ralph Hoxworth, 1002 West 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Alliance Nebraska, expressed concerns about the impact of the rate increase affecting the H & H Sanitation customers, and stated that these rates are among the highest in the US.

Mayor McGhehey expressed that the City of Alliance should consider phasing in the Refuse Rate increase over two years instead of all at once.

A motion was made by Mayor McGhehey, seconded by Councilman Turman to amend Resolution No. 25-122 to reflect the rate increase over two years.

Roll call vote to amend Resolution No. 25-122 to reflect the rate increase over two years with the following results:

Voting Aye: Turman, Yates and McGhehey.

Voting Nay: Weisgerber and Mashburn.

Motion carried.

- The next item on the agenda for Council was Resolution No. 25-123 which will accept and approve the amended rates to the Electric Rate Schedule. The following information was provided:

September 16, 2025

**[RESOLUTION – CHANGE TO ELECTRIC UTILITY RATES**

The attached resolution will adopt new electric utility rates as part of the FY 2025-26 budget, with rates effective October 1, 2025.

**A. Background**

The City of Alliance purchases power which it then resells to citizens in and around Alliance. Our power providers are enacting a price increase of 9%, which is being passed onto our customers without markup.

**B. Additional information**

The 9% proposed rate increase is for usage only (which includes security lights) and is not being applied to base customer rates.

**RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE RESOLUTION ADOPTING NEW ELECTRIC UTILITY RATES.]**

A motion was made by Councilman Yates, seconded by Councilman Turman to approve Resolution No. 25-123. Which follows in its entirety:

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-123**

A RESOLUTION AMENDING ALL ELECTRIC RATE SCHEDULE CLASSIFICATIONS, REPEALING PORTIONS OF ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE CHANGES HEREIN AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

SECTION 1. Staff has prepared amendments to electric rates for submission to the City Council.

SECTION 2. The City Council has received and reviewed the proposed changes and finds such changes to be in the best interest of the City of Alliance and should be therefore adopted pursuant to Division 3, Article III of the Alliance Municipal Code. All is hereby amended with an effective date of this resolution, in the following particulars:

**RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING SERVICE ON RESIDENTIAL RATE SCHEDULE (CLASS 1)**

1. Urban Residential Rates: (within corporate limits)

	<u>October 1, 2025</u>
Monthly Customer Charge	\$21.53
<u>Summer</u>	
First 600 kWh@	\$.1159 per kWh
Excess kWh @	\$.1159 per kWh
<u>Winter</u>	
First 600 kWh @	\$.1159 per kWh
Excess kWh @	\$.0893 per kWh

September 16, 2025

2.	<u>Rural Residential Rates: (outside corporate limits)</u>	<u>October 1, 2025</u>
	Monthly Customer Charge	\$30.00
	<u>Summer</u>	
	First 600 kWh @	\$.1159 per kWh
	Excess kWh @	\$.1159 per kWh
	<u>Winter</u>	
	First 600 kWh @	\$.1159 per kWh
	Excess kWh @	\$.0893 per kWh

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING SERVICE ON GENERAL SERVICE RATE SCHEDULE (CLASS 2)

1.	<u>General Service Urban Rates Single Phase: (inside corporate limits)</u>	<u>October 1, 2025</u>
	Monthly Customer Charge	\$25.00
	<u>Summer</u>	
	All use	\$.1154 per kWh
	<u>Winter</u>	
	All use	\$.1154 per kWh
2.	<u>General Service Urban Rates Three Phase: (inside corporate limits)</u>	<u>October 1, 2025</u>
	Monthly Customer Charge	\$56.77
	<u>Summer</u>	
	All use	\$.1182 per kWh
	<u>Winter</u>	
	All use	\$.1182 per kWh
3.	<u>General Service Rural Rates Single Phase: (outside corporate limits)</u>	<u>October 1, 2025</u>
	Monthly Customer Charge	\$27.50
	<u>Summer</u>	
	All use	\$.1161 per kWh
	<u>Winter</u>	
	All use	\$.1161 per kWh
4.	<u>General Service Rural Rates Three Phase: (outside corporate limits)</u>	<u>October 1, 2025</u>
	Monthly Customer Charge	\$68.51
	<u>Summer</u>	
	All use	\$.1237 per kWh
	<u>Winter</u>	
	All use	\$.1237 per kWh

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING SERVICE ON GENERAL SERVICE DEMAND RATE SCHEDULE (CLASS 3)

1.	<u>General Service Demand Urban Rates: (inside corporate limits)</u>
----	--

October 1, 2025

Monthly Customer Charge	\$68.51	
Energy	Summer	Winter
	\$.0946	\$.0946
Demand	Summer	Winter
	\$9.00	\$9.00

2. General Service Demand Rural Rates: (outside corporate limits)

October 1, 2025

Monthly Customer Charge	\$68.51	
Energy	Summer	Winter
	\$.0839	\$.0839
Demand	Summer	Winter
	\$12.00	\$12.00

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING SERVICE ON LARGE POWER RATE SCHEDULE (CLASS 4)

October 1, 2025

1. <u>Large Power Rates:</u>		
Monthly Customer Charge	\$130.00	
Energy	Summer	Winter
	\$.0742	\$.0742
Demand	Summer	Winter
	\$13.00	\$13.00

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING SERVICE ON IRRIGATION RATE SCHEDULE (CLASS 5)

October 1, 2025

1. <u>Irrigation Rates:</u>	
Customer charge per month	\$75.00
Energy	\$.1090 per kWh
Annual Horsepower charges <sup>#</sup>	
<sup>#</sup> The following annual horsepower charges will be made available at the discretion of the City:	
	Summer/Winter
No Load Control	\$84.18
Two (2) Day per Week Control	\$57.00
Three (3) Day per Week Control	\$43.00
Four (4) Day per Week Control	\$28.00
Full Load Control	\$14.00

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING MUNICIPAL SERVICE RATE (CLASS 6)

1. Municipal Rates will be charged on the applicable General Service Rates.

September 16, 2025

SECURITY LIGHT (CLASS 7)

October 1, 2025

1.	<u>Security Light Rates:</u>	
	<u>Rates - Urban:</u>	
	150 W HPS/175 W MV	\$13.12 per month
	250 W HPS/MV	\$17.71 per month
	400 W	\$27.16 per month
	<u>Rates – Rural:</u>	
	150 W HPS/175 W MV	\$14.52 per month
	250 W HPS/MV	\$19.19 per month
	400 W	\$28.65 per month

SECTION 3. All other ordinances, resolutions, or policies of the City of Alliance not consistent with the amendment made herein are hereby repealed. Provided, however, that the annual adjustment as set forth in Sec.28--159 of the Alliance Municipal Code shall not be repealed by this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall go into effect as upon its passage, approval, and publication according to law, provided that rate increases shall not take effect until October 1, 2025.

Tom Broeder, 723 Emerson Avenue, Alliance Nebraska, questioned why the City of Alliance is making Interdepartmental Loans from the Electric Fund while also increasing the Electric Rates, and noting that he is on a fixed income.

Shelia Walker, 1031 Sweetwater Avenue, Alliance Nebraska, also questioned the Interdepartmental Loans from the Electric Fund, and expressed concern that many citizens are on fixed incomes.

Roll call vote with the following results:

Voting Aye: Yates, Mashburn, Turman, and McGhehey.

Voting Nay: Weisgerber.

Motion carried.

The Alliance City Council adjourned the September 16, 2025 City Council Meeting at 7:52 p.m.

(SEAL)

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 John McGhehey, Mayor

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ammie L. Bedient, City Clerk

September 16, 2025

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