

January 6, 2026

**ALLIANCE CITY COUNCIL**

REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026

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

The Alliance City Council met in a Regular Meeting, January 6, 2026, 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 December 31, 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 January 6, 2026, regular meeting of the Alliance, Nebraska City Council at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor McGhehey, Vice Mayor Mashburn and Council Members Turman, Yates and Hitchcock. Also present were Interim City Manager(s) Shoemaker and Brown, City Treasurer Baker, City Attorney Selzer and City Clerk Bedient.

- Mayor McGhehey read the Open Meetings Act Announcement.
- The first item on the agenda was for City Clerk Bedient to administer the Oath of Office to Police Officer Laake.
- Mayor McGhehey proclaimed January 26, 2026, to January 31, 2026, as National Catholic Schools Week. Mayor McGhehey read the following proclamation:

**PROCLAMATION**

*WHEREAS*, The week of January 26, 2026 to January 31, 2026 is National Catholic Schools Week; and,

*WHEREAS*, The theme of which is “Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence, Service; and,

*WHEREAS*, St. Agnes Academy has been part of Alliance, Nebraska since September 1908 and St. Agnes Academy has helped to make our town a loving community; and,

*WHEREAS*, St. Agnes Academy prepares its’ students not only with fine academic training, but also with

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spiritual values that will make them good citizens able to contribute their community and become the leaders of the future.

*NOW, THEREFORE*, the City Council of Alliance, Nebraska, does hereby proclaim:

The week of January 26, 2026 – January 31, 2026 as:

## **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**

In the City of Alliance, Nebraska, and urge all citizens to recognize Catholic Schools for their commitment to excellence in quality education.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Alliance to be affixed on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year of the Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six.

- A motion was made by Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Turman to approve the Consent Calendar as follows:

### **CONSENT CALENDAR – January 6, 2026**

1. Approval: Minutes of the Regular Meeting, December 16, 2025.
2. Approval: Payroll from December 12, 2025, in the total amount of \$397,284.06.
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; \$1,712,328.30.
4. Approval: Resolution No. 26-01 which will authorize the execution of a Sign Lease with Bradley Petersen for the placement of a billboard on Northeast Quarter of Sec 24, T33, Range 49 W 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., Dawes County, NE along Highway 20 west of Chadron, Nebraska for the advertisement and marketing of Carhenge at the rate of \$825.00 per year.

NOTE: Interim City Manager(s) Shoemaker and Brown 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.

Roll call vote with the following results:

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

Voting Nay: None.

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Motion carried.

- The next item on the agenda for Council was Ordinance No. 3012 which will approve and amend the City of Alliance Municipal Code Sec. 26-127, title Restricted Parking. The amendment will allow for “no parking” restrictions on the North side of West 10<sup>th</sup> Street, commonly known as A-Row between the East line of Buffalo Avenue to the West line of Cody Avenue.

A motion was made by Councilman Turman, seconded by Councilman Yates to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 3012. City Clerk Bedient read the Ordinance by title which follows in its entirety:

**Ordinance No. 3012**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA AMENDING ALLIANCE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 26-127 TO RESTRICT PARKING ON THE NORTH SIDE OF WEST 10<sup>TH</sup> STREET WITHIN HILES ADDITION TO THE CITY OF ALLIANCE (COMMONLY KNOWN AS A-ROW) BETWEEN THE EAST LINE OF BUFFALO AVENUE TO THE WEST LINE OF CODY AVENUE; RENUMBERING EXISTING PROVISIONS; 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 26-127 of the Alliance Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 26-127. Prohibited and limited parking.**

- (a) No vehicle may park at any time in the following spaces or locations, which spaces or locations may be painted red as appropriate but are not required to be:
- (1) In front of or within a space of 40 feet in front of the front entrance or entrances of any school;
  - (2) Where any other street or avenue intersects another, in the intersection of or within 25 feet from the intersection of the streets or avenues, beginning at the nearest perpendicular curb of the intersection;
  - (3) On the north side of First Street between the west line of Niobrara Avenue, if extended south, and the east line of Laramie Avenue if extended south;
  - (4) Within any alley or in a manner that obstructs the entrance or exit to the alley, and on a street or avenue within five feet of any alley entrance or exit, on either side, except when the actual operation of loading or unloading merchandise is in progress;
  - (5) In a manner that obstructs entrance or exit to any private drive, and on any street or avenue within five feet of any private drive entrance or exit, on either side, except when the actual operation of loading or unloading is in progress;
  - (6) On any street or avenue within ten feet of any fire hydrant, on either side of the fire hydrant, and within ten feet of any stop sign on the right side of any two-way street or on either side of any one-way street;

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- (7) Outside of the business district as herein defined, on that portion of any right-of-way outside the roadway, including in any curb strip as prohibited by chapter 20 of the City Code;
  - (8) On the south side of Sixth Street between the east line of Flack Avenue and the west line of Boyd Avenue;
  - (9) On the north side of Fourth Street between the east line of Flack Avenue and the west line of Boyd Avenue;
  - (10) On the north side of Fourth Street between the east line of Box Butte Avenue and a point 70 feet from said east line of Box Butte Avenue;
  - (11) On the east side of Boyd Avenue from Fourth Street to Sixth Street, except for those vehicles parked for residential purposes for immediately adjacent residential property;
  - (12) On the east side of U.S. Highway 385 beginning at a point 301 feet south of the northwest corner of Section 4, Township 24 North, Range 48 West of the 6th Principal Meridian, Box Butte County, Nebraska, northerly along the highway right-of-way to a point where the highway intersects West Third Street in the city;
  - (13) On the north and south sides of Third Street from the west line of Howard Street Avenue westerly to the east line of Highway 385;
  - (14) On the south side of Sixteenth Street from the west line of Emerson Avenue to the east line of Buchfinck Avenue.
  - (15) On the north side of West 10<sup>th</sup> Street within Hiles Addition to the City of Alliance (commonly known as A-Row) between the east line of Buffalo Avenue to the west line of Cody Avenue.
  - (16) On any area and at any time where parking has become prohibited pursuant to article IV, chapter 26 of the City Code.
  - (17) In any manner not stated herein but that otherwise violates the State of Nebraska statutory rules of the road, as codified in R.R.S. 1943, ch. 60, as re-codified or amended from time to time.
  - (18) Any other parking space or spaces which may hereafter be designated by the city manager where parking shall be prohibited to provide for safety and the orderly flow of traffic and after such prohibited parking is plainly marked, painted on the curb or posted.
- (b) No vehicle may park Monday through Friday of any week between the hours of 8:00 a.m., and 6:00 p.m., and on Saturdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., holidays excepted, as follows:
- (1) No vehicle shall park in the posted area in front of the U.S. Post Office building located on the northeast corner on Box Butte Avenue and Fourth Street;
  - (2) No vehicle shall park for more than two consecutive hours on the following described streets:
    - a. Box Butte Avenue from the north line of First Street to the south line of Sixth Street;
    - b. Laramie Avenue from the north line of Third Street to the north line of Fourth Street;
    - c. Third Street from the west line of Niobrara Avenue to the east line of Cheyenne Avenue;
    - d. Fourth Street from the west line of Niobrara Avenue to the east line of Laramie Avenue;
    - e. Fifth Street from the west line of Niobrara Avenue to the east line of Laramie Avenue;
    - f. Laramie Avenue north of Fourth Street for two parking spaces on the east side of the street and three parking spaces on the west side of the street.

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- g. For the west one-half block on the north side of Tenth Street between Niobrara and Sweetwater Avenues and the east side of Niobrara Avenue between 10th and 11th Streets, which time-limited spaces are plainly marked, painted on the curb or posted.
- (c) No vehicle shall park for a period of time longer than 15 minutes or 30 minutes, as either may be marked by signs, in a parking space in the municipal parking lot located southwest of the Library/Learning Center, Lot 1, Block 1, Library/Attendance Center Addition, which time-limited spaces are plainly marked, painted on the curb or posted.
- (d) Notwithstanding applicable portions of subsection (b)(2) above, no vehicle shall park for a period of time longer than 15 minutes in a parking space, or spaces, on Box Butte Avenue, which time-limited spaces are plainly marked, painted on the curb or posted.
- (f) Notwithstanding applicable portions of subsection (b)(2) above, no vehicle shall park between the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the east side of the 400 block of Niobrara Avenue from the north line of Fourth Street to a point 87 feet north of the north line of Fourth Street in the parking space or spaces which are plainly marked, painted on the curb, or posted.
- (g) No vehicle shall park for longer than one half hour on the East side of the street in front of the property at 903 Big Horn Avenue in the area designated by signage during the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays.
- (h) No vehicle, other than vehicles operated by the Alliance Police Department shall park on the east side of Niobrara Avenue in front of 511 Niobrara Avenue. The city shall, by signage, designate such parking areas as Police Parking Only.

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.

Councilman Turman had concerns on how we are going to enforce the no parking.

Chief Leavitt emphasized the importance of proper signage for effective enforcement. Chief noted that without clear signage, officers cannot reasonably cite violations as citizens cannot be expected to know the entire municipal code.

Roll call vote with the following results:

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

Voting Nay: None.

Motion carried.

- The last item on the agenda for Council was a Discussion Item for the Power Plant Abatement of Asbestos Cost Estimate.

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Electric Superintendent Bridge discussed the estimate received from Burns & McDonnell, which totals approximately \$1.3 million. He requested direction on whether to keep moving forward with the project or to stop at this point.

Vice Mayor Mashburn inquired about the condition of the building, if it is sound or could be potentially repurposed.

According to Interim City Manager Shoemaker the building is structurally sound per previous structural engineering inspection done by Stephen Claus. The main issues are asbestos, lead paint, roof condition, and the bird/rodent infestation.

Councilman Hitchcock stated that he does not believe citizens should be responsible for the cost of maintaining the building after more than 40 years of it being unmaintained.

Vice Mayor Mashburn voiced concerns that the building poses a liability, noting that a fence has been installed to keep out squatters. She stated that the City is responsible for the building's current condition and emphasized that action needs to be taken to address the issue.

Mayor McGhehey questioned whether the City should reapply for the Brownstone Grant now that the required information to obtain the grant is available.

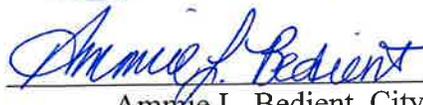
Electric Superintendent Bridge stated there is a Zoom meeting scheduled with the grant writer to explore additional grant opportunities. He noted that funds for this project have been budgeted over the past couple years, leaving a substantial amount available to apply toward the project, particularly if grants can cover part of the cost. He also reiterated that there are salvageable materials in the building that could help reduce overall expenses.

Councilman Yates expressed a desire for a short- and long-term strategy to be developed outlining potential options for the property, rather than proceeding without a plan and risking the building remaining vacant for several more years.

The Alliance City Council adjourned the January 6, 2026, City Council Meeting at 7:34 p.m.

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John McGhehey, Mayor

  
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Ammie L. Bedient, City Clerk