

**ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
School Board Meeting Room
1604 Sweetwater Avenue
September 1, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.
AGENDA**

- **Call to Order**
- **Roll Call**
- **Open Meetings Act Announcement**
For the public's reference a copy of the Open Meetings Law has been posted on the north wall of this room in the audience area. This posting complies with the requirements of the Nebraska Legislature.
- **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

A. Consent Calendar

B. City Manager's Report

C. Presentation – Tourism Program Update

Tourism Director Kevin Howard will be updating City Council on the current activities of his department.

**D. Ordinance No. 2684 – First Reading
Municipal Code Amendment - Electric Rates**

Ordinance No. 2684 is before Council on first reading and will amend the Alliance Municipal Code with regard to electric rate revisions. The Ordinance will incorporate the rates that were recommended from the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN) rate study which was recently completed. The proposal provides for two adjustments the first being effective November 1, 2011, the second effective October 1, 2012. Language has also been included within the ordinance which allows for a 1% annual increase to the electric rates each year beginning October 1, 2013.

**E. Ordinance No. 2685 – First Reading
Municipal Code Amendment - Solid Waste Collection Rates**

This ordinance will amend the Alliance Municipal Code regarding solid waste collection rates and is before Council on first reading. Ordinance No. 2685 will increase residential rates \$1.75 per month for a total of \$21.00 per year, which will be partially offset with the City providing two free landfill passes per year at a value of \$15.00. The ordinance also includes language for an additional 1% annual increase each year beginning October 1, 2012.

**F. Ordinance No. 2686 – First Reading
Municipal Code Amendment - Water Rates**

Ordinance No. 2686 will amend the water rates within the Alliance Municipal Code. The proposed rates reflect a fifteen cent increase per 1000 gallons as proposed at the Council's Utility Rate Workshop held on August 18th. This ordinance also includes language for an additional 1% annual increase each year beginning October 1, 2012.

G. Ordinance No. 2687 – First Reading
Sale of Property – Lot 11, Block 2, Drake’s Addition

Ordinance No. 2687 will authorize the sale and conveyance of Lot 11, Block 2, Drake’s Addition. The City of Alliance received one sealed bid for the property located in the 200 block of Mississippi Avenue, east side, south of Kees Computer Helpline building. The high bid was received from Tim Kees in the amount of \$5,250.00. State Statute provides for a thirty day remonstrance period prior to closing on the property, therefore Council is being requested to waive the statutory requirement of the reading of the ordinance on three separate dates.

H. Ordinance No. 2688 – First Reading
Sale of Property – Lot 1, Block 1, Simonson’s Addition

The City of Alliance received two sealed bids for Lot 1, Block 1, Simonson’s Addition which is located at the southwest corner of 12th Street and Flack Avenue. The high bid was received from Gary Fritzler in the amount of \$4,275.00. Ordinance No. 2688 authorizes staff to proceed with the sale of the property. State Statute provides for a thirty day remonstrance period prior to closing on the property, therefore Council is being requested to waive the statutory requirement of the reading of the ordinance on three separate dates.

I. Ordinance No. 2683 – Second Reading
Municipal Code Amendment – Utility Type Vehicles

Ordinance No. 2683 is before Council on second reading. This ordinance was amended at our last meeting to require the use of safety restraint belts and that amendment has been highlighted in yellow. Following a review by City Attorney Miller additional language changes are being recommended for Council’s consideration and are shown using a red highlight.

J. Public Hearing – Resolution No. 11-96
Property Tax Approval

Now is the date, time, and place to conduct a Public Hearing on the 2011 property tax request. Enclosed for Council’s review is the Box Butte County Assessor’s determination of taxable value which has been set at \$361,080,370.00. The City of Alliance has determined to keep the mill levy unchanged at \$0.3838700, which corresponds to \$1,386,079.32.

K. Ordinance No. 2689 – First Reading
Additional 1% for Budgeted Restricted Funds

Ordinance No. 2689 will allow the City of Alliance with a 75% affirmative vote by Council to exceed the Allowable Growth and Basic Allowable Growth for the 2011-2012 Fiscal Year Budget by 1%. This does not increase the 2011-2012 Fiscal Year Budget; it allows us to increase the unused budget authority for use in future years. Staff is recommending Council waive three readings of this ordinance.

L. Ordinance No. 2690 – First Reading
Classification and Compensation Plans

This Ordinance will adopt the Classification and Compensation Plans which will be incorporated in our FY 2012 budget. The Classification Plan has several adjustments which have been identified in the attached memorandum. The Compensation Plan includes five categories: Exempt, Non-Exempt, Police Bargaining Unit, Communications Bargaining Unit, and Fire Employees and none reflect a cost of living adjustment. All wage adjustments will be made effective October 1, 2011. Staff is recommending the statutory required reading of this ordinance on three separate dates be waived.

M. Resolution No. 11-97 – Authorized Strength

Resolution No. 11-97 provides direction to the City Manager for the hiring of City employees by adopting the Total Authorized Strength document. The document lists the number of employees by department.

† Added by addendum to agenda 24 hours prior to the meeting

**N. Ordinance No. 2681 – Third Reading
Appropriations (Budget)**

Ordinance No. 2681 is before Council on third reading. The Ordinance will approve the Appropriations Bill (budget) for fiscal year 2011-2012 and reflects all amendments which have been previously approved by Council.

O. Resolution No. 11-98 – Contribution to the School for Performing Arts Center Sign

Resolution No. 11-98 authorizes the City of Alliance to make a \$20,000 contribution to the Alliance Public Schools for use toward electronic signage as part of the construction of the Performing Arts Center. Community Betterment Funds will be the source of funding.

P. Resolution No. 11-99 – Fire Station Roof Bid Award

Resolution No. 11-99 will award the roof replacement at the Fire Station to Twin City Roofing & Sheet Metal of Scottsbluff, NE in the amount of \$78,275. The City received three bids for the project with this bid being the lowest, responsive, and responsible. The Alliance Rural Fire District will be reimbursing the City for one-half of the cost of the project. The resolution also provides for a 5% change order allowance should it be needed.

Q. Resolution No. 11-100 – Substations Breaker Purchases

This resolution will authorize staff to proceed with the purchase of substation equipment as recommended by our engineering firm Olsson Associates Inc. The purchase will be from Siemens Energy, Inc. of San Carlos, CA in the amount of \$130,435.00. The resolution also provides for a 5% change order allowance should it be necessary.

R. Resolution No. 11-101 – WAPA Contract Amendment

Resolution No. 11-101 will amend our current contract with the United States Department of Energy Western Area Power Administration Rocky Mountain Region (WAPA). This Contract deals with the consolidated facility arrangements we have for the purchase of our power allocation. Copies of the current contract along with the proposed amendment have been made part of the Council packet for your consideration.

S. Resolution No. 11-102 – Street Closure Request for the United Methodist Church

The United Methodist Church has requested the closure of 7th Street between Box Butte and Laramie Avenues on Sunday, September 11, 2011 between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. The closure will coincide with their church picnic and allow activities to honor first responders. Copies of their request along with the required Certificate of Insurance have been provided.

T. Action Recap

U. Executive Session

Strategy Session with Respect to a Real Estate

▪ **Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted,

Linda S. Jines
City Clerk