

March 25, 2013

ALLIANCE CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING, MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2013

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 Meeting, March 25, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. at the Knight Museum and Sandhills Center, 908 Yellowstone Avenue. A notice of meeting was published in the Alliance Times Herald on March 20, 2013. 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 Feldges opened the March 25, 2013 Special Meeting of the Alliance, Nebraska City Council at 8:07 a.m. Present were Mayor Feldges, Council Members Benzel, Lewis, Yeager and Seiler. Also present were City Manager Cox, Finance Director Waggener, Police Chief Kiss, Fire Chief Shoemaker, Water and Sewer Superintendent Hulquist, Public Facilities Director Lenz, Tourism Director Howard, Airport Manager Placek, Cultural and Leisure Services Director Brown, Personnel Administrator Mayhew, Electric Superintendent Heinrich, and City Clerk Jines.

- The Council conducted an all day goal setting/strategic planning session which was facilitated by Tammy Suit of Box Butte General Hospital. The group in attendance created a priority list for the various City departments for the upcoming year. The following is an outline, indicating the issues discussed by department in no particular order:

Personnel/Administration

Utilize talents of current employees
Employee recognition
Education opportunities
Improving the benefits package
Work with colleges and high school
Improve on-boarding process
Succession planning
More efficiency with City Manager's time

March 25, 2013

Finance

Cross training/segregation of duties
Financial benchmarks
Rate education process – dealing with customers
Encourage electronic bill pay/on line payments
Communicating with departments regarding alternate funding sources

Public Facilities

Create One and Six Year plans for facilities
Complete Emerson Avenue, Potash Avenue and Streetscape Projects
Refuse container replacement program
Crack Seal Program

Airport

Community presentations
Fly-in event on August 17, 2013
Surveys for airline use feedback
Funding team – Airport Authority question
Infrastructure issues
 Water
 Business recruitment
 Runway projects
Car rental
Increase flight options
Warehouse issues
Staffing

Cultural and Leisure Services

Facilities
 Evaluating options for shop
Xeri landscaping
 Public information
Recreation programs
Promote Library and Museum programs
Laing Lake improvements

Electric/Landfill

Finish substation upgrades
Coordination of City system
Keep pressure on WAPA
Modernizing system – smart meters
Disposal or re-use of old power plant
Better organization and beautification of landfill
Work with KAB for more recycling
Maintain 6 year plan for equipment upgrades
Educate staff, resources for teaching

March 25, 2013

Visitors Bureau

West entryway landscaping working east
 Get landowner involvement
 Finish signing program
 Continue expanding “The Best Hometown in Alliance”
 Consideration of Carhenge acquisition
 Railroad viewing opportunities

Water/Sewer

Replace 8” and 12” water main at Golf Course and water main extension to Airport
 Consider/discuss new well in City for alternate
 License all employees for basic level
 New vacator truck for sewer
 Future of Airport water tower

Police

Stability of personnel
 Emergency generator for annex
 Consolidation of communications between City and County
 County – RMS system
 Proactive community relations
 Physical fitness standard for officers
 Building and zoning code enforcement process

Fire

Recruit and retain volunteer firefighters
 Alternative staffing options – possible integration of part-time
 Increase training level of two employees to paramedic
 Feasibility of one safety center with the Police Department
 Completion of fire hydrant painting project
 Complete outdoor warning siren placement

Community Development

Building Code – learning interpretation of Baker and Assoc.
 Nuisance Code – staffing questions
 Land Use Code
 Consistent interpretation and equitable enforcement
 Learning and awareness
 Intent “spirit” of Code
 Amending and updating
 Comprehensive Plan
 Lacking guidance with future roads, zones, etc.

City Manager

Housing recruitment/development

March 25, 2013

Business recruitment/development
Actively engaging community and staff
Participating in departments, when needed
Efficient deployment of staff
Strive for fairness
West Plains project

City Council

Facilities upgraded
Building and Zoning – create shared understanding
Own meeting facility and equipment
Clarifying travel reimbursements
Business development
 Filling in voids
 Work with Box Butte Development Corporation

The groups reviewed two methods for creating action plans: “Decision Making Planning” and “To Deliver the Message.”

- Mayor Feldges stated, “there being no further business to come before the Alliance City Council, the meeting is adjourned at 3:50 p.m.”

(SEAL)

Fred Feldges, Mayor

Linda S. Jines, City Clerk