

Almena City Council Minutes

The Almena City Council was called to order by Mayor Tracy Stutsman at 7:00 PM, Monday July 7th, 2025. Answering roll call were Bob Hawks, Ethan Hays, and Kevin Sides. A quorum was declared. Minutes were read and approved from the June 2nd, 2025 meeting. MOTION CARRIED

Fire Chief Report –Fire Chief - not present

Visitor Recognition- 3 residents present for NRP Hearing

New Business

- Brian Thompson presented the audit discussion draft for the council's review. Brian also stated he would have the budget for 2026 ready for the budget hearing on August 4th.
- A motion made to repeal Ordinance #463, due to premature passing of ordinance without a hearing scheduled first. MOTION CARRIED
- A motion was made to open public hearing for NRP. Dallas Gosselin answered questions regarding NRP. A new Ordinance # was assigned to NRP (Ordinance #464) and a motion was made to adopt ordinance #464. MOTION CARRIED. A motion was then made to close the public hearing for NRP. MOTION CARRIED.
- Compliance issues are being addressed throughout town
- 2 properties were given ½ forgiveness on water only, due to leaks: 410 Bryant (\$148.80) and 716 Wagner (\$225.20)
- Musk Thistle found on abandoned railroad property discussed. Not city property. Land should revert to the property owners. Current court cases pending.
- Pygmy goats in town are considered livestock and will have to be removed.

Old Business

- The library board has hired a Library Director (Deborah Martinez) and an Assistant (Gayle Alexander).
- Electronic Signs to slow traffic near school. Available grants will be researched.

Attorney Discussion/Report

- Discussion on NRP hearing

City Operator Report

- Street repairs and patching starting soon- Chip and Seal to begin 1st or 2nd week of August
- SCADA system South well field update- awaiting repairs by Don's Electric & Rewind.
- Generator purchase update- no transfer switch needed. Price now estimated at \$23,000. Shad will get it ordered this week.
- Council agreed to place a camera at the city shop to stop the illegal dumping of large items other than household waste items in the lot. Another camera will be placed at the tree dump to continue to monitor the dumping of illegal materials there.

City Clerk Report

- CD Maturing on July 24th- will shop rates.

Deputy City Clerk Report

- Main Street Memorial Park- Park posters to be picked up tomorrow to be placed on site for fundraising. Discussion on Open House to follow. EBH project manager has reached out to local contractors for bids- not much response. Beginning to look outside of the area.
- Delinquent Account Status

Financial Report

- Approve Bills MOTION CARRIED.
- Balance Sheet
- Check register

With no further business it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:54pm by President Bob Hawks, as Mayor had to leave at 7:30pm. MOTION CARRIED. The next meeting will be held on Monday, August 4th 2025, at 7PM. Annette Puent, Deputy City Clerk. Minutes are not approved until the next meeting.