

ALTURA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 15, 2024

- Call to Order Mayor, John Mask, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Brad Brouwer, Paige Ellinghuysen, and Mike Olson were present. Michelle Herber, Dan Horvat, Robert Schell, Shelly Schell, Yvonne Ruhoff, and Joan Jensen were in attendance.
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Monthly Minutes Brad Brouwer made a motion to accept last month's minutes. Paige Ellinghuysen seconded. Motion carried.
- Monthly Disbursements/Receipts Mike Olson made a motion to accept the receipts and disbursements. Brad Brouwer seconded. Motion carried.
- Planning Commission There was no report.
- Maintenance Report The Maintenance Report was given by Dan.
- Fire Department Dan Horvat, Chief, reported they are waiting to hear back from the grant that was submitted but it may be October. They are applying for a new \$50000 grant in case they are not awarded the other one.
- Ambulance Department Jess Romine wrote to the Council, Medicare application has been approved. The BLS hardship grant has been approved so we can run with 1 EMT and a CEVO driver. The rural EMS Funds from the State are estimated as \$46000. Jess is going to contact the billing company regarding their procedures.
- Treasury Report The Treasurer's Report was given by the Clerk. Brad Brouwer made a motion to approve. Mike Olson seconded. Motion carried.
- Old Business
- Memorial Park Joan Jensen reported that the State will be mowing the hillside and try to keep it mowed going forward. The lawn care company damaged the new sod but has it repaired. Rock was donated by Landon Kreidermacher and installed by the pavilion. The Council thanked Landon for the generous donation. Dirt will be brought in to fill in holes and add to trees. 10 personal pavers will be installed.
- Infrastructure Matt Mohs reported State Lead Service Line project deadline has been extended until August 30. 89% of private inspections in Altura are completed. Public lines are challenging as records were not kept. They are not sure how they can assess them without digging them up. The Department of Health will be sending letters around October with approvals and guidance. Thursday August 29 will be the 1st neighborhood meeting at City Hall from 4:30 – 6. Mike Olson and Paige Ellinghuysen will attend.
- Farmers Market Matt Neumann contacted the State Farmers Market Association and was able to get insurance, forms, and create a committee for the farmers market.
- Hometown Fest Mike Olson made a motion to approve the gambling license permit. Brad Brouwer seconded. Motion carried. Mike Olson made a motion to approve a variance to the noise ordinance for the dance until midnight. Brad Brouwer seconded. Motion carried. Brad Brouwer made a motion to close down 2nd and 1st street for the parade. Motion carried.
- New Business
- 2025 Tax Levy The Council approves an 8% increase to the General Fund, 50% decrease in Park Fund and no change in Fire/Ambulance Funds.

Parking Ordinance

Mike Olson is concerned of dangers of semis parking in town blocking view and distracting traffic. Brad Brouwer made a motion to amend Ordinance 92-2 to include no parking of any combination vehicle on any city road or alley.

sidewalk Ordinance

The sidewalk ordinance will be enforced, residents will receive notice and have 10 days to comply or the city will hire it done and charge the homeowner. Violations will be issued.

School building

Robert and Shelly Schell address the Council and wanted to put an offer on the school building to be used for housing. They would add a second floor to the building and have 6 – 8 condo units. The Council discussed that originally the property was purchased for the park and that they weren't entertaining the idea of selling the building for housing purposes. That park/playground is used several nights a week. John Mask will contact the Moravian Church to see if they would be interested in selling some of their property to expand the Centennial ball field and park. The town also likes the fact that there are 2 parks on each side of main street so children do not have to cross the State/County Road. There was discussion on demolishing the building and the asbestos in the building. Dan Horvat said asbestos assessment would cost the city about \$1000. The Council said they would look at the Schell's purchase agreement in a closed session. The Schell's want an answer by 8/29/24.

Batting Cage sign

Altura Youth Sports will be installing a sign at the park recognizing everyone who donated to the new batting case. The Council approved.

Recess

Paige Ellinghuysen made a motion to recess to a closed meeting. At 7:45. Brad Brouwer seconded. Motion carried.

Adjourn

Paige Ellinghuysen made a motion to recess to a closed meeting. At 7:50. Brad Brouwer seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Sandra Pasche
City Clerk

John Mask
Mayor