

ALTURA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 8, 2025

- Call to Order Mayor, Robert Schell, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Brad Brouwer, Paige Ellinghuysen, and Mike Olson were present. Andy VanLoon was absent. Michelle Herber, Brad Romine, Dave Schwantz, Steve Lueck, Joan Jensen Marlene Spencer, Adam Gudmundson, Holly Burt, and Amber Reps.
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Monthly Minutes Mike Olson made a motion to accept the previous months minutes. Brad Brouwer seconded. Motion carried.
- Monthly Disbursements/Receipts Brad Brouwer made a motion to accept the City disbursements and receipts. Mike Olson seconded. Motion carried.
- Planning Commission Steve Lueck reported to the Council the Commission requests letter be sent to the 2 residents that have unlicensed vehicle and junk in their yards. The Council agreed. The City of Altura Code Book currently states in the Agricultural District, there is a minimum of 10 acres to be split off. The Commission reviewed and recommended a change to 5 acres. The Council would like the Commission to revise the ordinance to add other details of the Winona County Ordinance into our code book. This will then be sent to legal to review and council approval.
- Maintenance Report The Maintenance Report was given by Brad Romine. The PFSA funds should be coming this month. Not sure the amount but may be around \$100000. Brad would like this deposited into the water fund as it pertains to water quality. The playground at the school needs to be addressed. There are welds broken and bolts missing and it need mulch. Brad will try to remove the unsafe equipment. Between Mike Olson, Robert Schell, and Brad, they may get equipment to clean out the base, put down new fabric, and mulch or pea gravel for now. There is no budget for new playground equipment. Robert Schell will bring his gravel sweeper up to take care of the gravel by the sewer ponds. Brad will try to sell the 2nd mower and purchase a side x side for the same dollar amount.
- Fire Department There was no report.
- Ambulance Department Jess Romine, Director prepared a report give by Dave Schwantz for the ambulance. The EMT student is riding along on calls this month. The purchase agreement for the new ambulance was signed and submitted on March 19. No payment is needed until finished which is expected November or December 2025. We did not renew our patient billing contract with Expert Ambulance Billing on March 31. Jessica is getting billing set up with Metro-Billing Services out of Billings ND. Hoping to have an update on the Zoll defibrillator next meeting.
- Treasury Report The Treasurer's Report was given by the Treasurer. Brad Brouwer made a motion to approve. Paige Ellinghuysen seconded. Motion carried.
- Old Business
Fire Relief Yearly Donation Request
- The Relief asked for the entire \$98000 donation from 2024 be put in the Fire Equipment Fund to build the fund as the new ambulance will be purchased out of there. There was much discussion about how these funds are to be used and will they continue in the future. Mike Olson made a motion to transfer the funds to the equipment fund. Brad Brouwer seconded. Motion carried. In the future, truck, equipment, and training needs will be looked at to see what funds will be needed.

Yearly Ordinance review The ordinance were reviewed. There will be some changes made to the existing ordinances.

Sound System for Council Boyd Stangler recommends a Owl 4 speaker, camera, and microphone system that is wireless. He will assist in hooking it up. The Council was asked to review and will be discussed further.

New Business

Liquor License Paige Ellinghuysen made a motion to approve Taqueri El Lunar LLC for a liquor license. Brad Brouwer seconded.

Cardinal Foundation Gambling Permit Holly Burt and Amber Bonow were present representing the Cardinal Foundation which raises money for the L-A School District . They were asking for approval for a bingo license to be held on 5/10 at Pooters. This is going to be a high end bingo at \$75 to play with larger prizes. Mike Olson made a motion to approve and waive the 10% donation to the City. Brad Brouwer seconded. Motion carried.

AYS Gambling Brad Brouwer made a motion to approve the Altura Youth Sports Gambling Permit. Paige Ellinghuysen seconded. Motion carried.

Blessing Boxes Holly Burt asked for permission to install a Blessing Box in Altura. This would be for food and non perishable item for people in need. Dawn Speltz would monitor it. This may be mounted by the lending library by the city parking lot.

Farmers Market The Farmers Market in town will start June 9. The license and insurance needs to be provided to the City prior.

Volunteers for City Clean Up. Mike Olson will be the contact.

SEMNLMC meeting The meeting will be Tuesday April 29 form 5 – 8:30. Robert Schell will attend and anyone else is welcome to.

Adjourn

Brad Brouwer made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Mike Olson seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Sandra Pasche
City Clerk

Robert Schell
Mayor