

ALTURA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 12, 2025

- Call to Order Acting Mayor, Brad Brouwer , called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Paige Ellinghuysen and Andy VanLoon were present, Mike Olson attending virtually by phone. Robert Schell was absent. Dave Schwantz, Joan Jensen, Yvonne Ruhoff, Marlene Spencer, Brad Romine, Jes Romine, Gary Heim, Dane Saxon, Kyle Kampschroer, Cheryl Lovlien, Matt Mohs, and Steve Lueck.
- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Monthly Minutes Andy VanLoon made a motion to accept the previous month’s minutes. Paige Ellinghuysen seconded. Motion carried.
- Monthly Disbursements/Receipts Andy VanLoon made a motion to accept the City disbursements and receipts. Paige Ellinghuysen seconded. Motion carried.
- Planning Commission Steve Lueck reported for the Commission. He discussed the Cannabis Ordinance and the Commission is wanting to include the engineer recommendations along with \$1,000,000 bond. The Council addressed the bond that the City can’t expect a bond from the cannabis business unless every business in town is required to obtain a bond. The property at 325 1st Ave SE is zoned Commercial 1. The State of Minnesota states that Cannabis businesses can be allowed in Industrial and Commercial zones. Andy VanLoon made a motion to add “Retail” to Section 901.1433 1. The *Retail* Business... and to add the recommendations from the engineer and submit to the attorney to update. Paige Ellinghuysen seconded. Motion carried. The Ordinance Public Hearing will be held at the September 8 meeting at 6 p.m. The Conditional Use Permit Hearing for Cadmus LLC will also be held on September 8.
- The discussion of Pat Thesing’s new broth business was discussed. Brad Romine will contact him to determine how his business will affect the water/wastewater system.
- Maintenance Report The Maintenance Report was submitted by Brad Romine. He had hoped to get volunteers to help with updating the playground but that didn’t turn out. He asked the Council if he could rent a stand behind skid steer to complete the work. Mike Olson wants to discuss options with Brad. Andy VanLoon made a motion to approve the rental if needed. Paige Ellinghuysen seconded. Motion carried. An estimate was obtained from Don’s Electric for 18 6” led lights for the pavilion for \$2264. The previous estimate from RP was \$2500 for 12 8” lights. It was Brad Romine recommendation to accept RP Electric as they have been responsive to the City’s needs. Paige Ellinghuysen made a motion to accept RP Electric’s bid. Mike Olson seconded. Motion carried. Brad Romine is looking at the energy usage for the wells and wastewater treatment plant. He will continue to look into and report back to the Council.
- Fire Department Brad Romine reported there was 1 mutual aide call last month. The Fire Relief will be donating \$3000 to the City to help with Playground expenses.
- Ambulance Department Brad Romine reported the new monitor is here. The new ambulance is scheduled to be here by the end of the year. Jess Romine will be engaging in an EMT recruitment by the end of the year.

Treasury Report

The Treasurer's Report was given by the Treasurer. Andy VanLoon made a motion to approve. Paige Ellinghuysen seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business

Lead Service Lines

Matt Mohs reported the State of Minnesota has approved the City's Application to proceed with the Lead Service Line project. The next step will be contacting the 30-40 customers that are the unknown to obtain their information. For the most part this will be done by Bolten and Menk staff.

New Business

OSMC Vegetable sharing

Cheryl Lovlien was in attendance to see if a vegetable sharing cart could be placed in the city parking lot. This would be monitored by their members. Paige Ellinghuysen made a motion to accept. Andy VanLoon seconded. Motion carried.

Sheriff meeting 8/19

Brad Brouwer and Andy VanLoon till try to attend the meeting with the sheriff regarding the parking ordinance.

Sidewalk clean up

Letters will be sent to residents that need to clean up their sidewalks of grass and weeds. If not cleaned up by 8/29, the city will take care of it at a charge of \$100/hour.

Building Official Designation

The City's current Building Official is Jay Kruger who will be retiring in September. Paige Ellinghuysen made a motion to appoint Tanner Young as the replacement. Andy VanLoon seconded. Motion carried.

Updating City Maps

Bolten and Menk can update the maps with GIS with address and make then colored if requested. The initial set up would be at our reduced rate of \$100/hour not to exceed \$1500. Paige Ellinghuysen made a motion to have them updated. Andy VanLoon seconded. Motion carried. The maps have not been updated for over 20 years.

SE MN LMC Meeting

There will be a meeting in Rochester on October 30.

Hometown Fest Gambling

Mike Olson made a motion to approve the Hometown Fest gambling license for 9/20/25, 9/21/25, and 11/26/25. Andy VanLoon seconded. Motion carried.

Farmers Market

The Farmers Market Board would like to have a petting zoo at the Market. The Council approved as long as they clean up after the animals.

Adjourn

Andy VanLoon made a motion to adjourn at 7:32 p.m. Paige Ellinghuysen seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Sandra Pasche
City Clerk

Brad Brouwer
Acting Mayor