

Regular Meeting Minutes
December 1st, 2025

Mayor Lisa Hodgson opened Council at 6:00 PM.

Council members present: Nick Wieseler, Kerry Hedden, Kirsten Tschida, Brian Johnson, and Marvie Swanson

Others Present: Finance Officer David Hodgson, Kristi Burke, Tom VanRooyen

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

M Swanson moved and B Johnson seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried. Unanimous

K Tschida moved and M Swanson seconded to approve the meeting minutes of Monday November 10th, 2025. Motion carried. Unanimous.

No public input brought forward at this time.

For legal updates city attorney Sam Nelson updated council that there has been a default civil judgement awarded against former pool contractor Jacob Tetrick and at this the state's attorney's office has deferred prosecuting the charges brought against him pending payment of the judgement. Next, he updated that their office is still working on the case of getting the decrepit mobile home removed from the park and he explained the avenues they have taken thus far. Update was also given in regards to the home that has had its city services shut off for several months and that council will soon need to decide what actions they want to take. Last update given was in regards to the home that is in violation of the city chicken ordinance. Sam explained what steps have been taken and the party involved has been served paperwork and will have 30 days to respond.

Mayor Hodgson then introduced Tom VanRooyen who gave an update on the city park cleanup that he undertook. He explained all of the assistance from different groups that he got and the funding assistance that was received from the Alcester Community Foundation. He also asked council to explain the park maintenance and how that was funded. Finance Officer Hodgson explained what was budgeted for FY2026 and that Public Works oversees the use of those funds as appropriate and they would be able to walk him through the process if he had further questions. Tom was thanked for all of his work on this project by the council and commended for helping the city make the park look great.

For Banner Monthly Engineering Report, no representative was present for an update at this time. B Johnson moved and N Wieseler seconded to approve paying Banner invoice #46795 in the amount of \$3,238.70 for work completed on the Sanitary Sewer Improvements project through November 22nd, 2025. Motion carried. Unanimous. K Tschida moved and K Hedden seconded to approve paying Banner invoice #46792 in the amount of \$5,000.00 for work completed on the Water Tower Recoat project through November 22nd, 2025. Motion carried. Unanimous. M Swanson moved and K Tschida seconded to approve paying Banner invoice #46791 in the amount of \$20,080.00 for work completed on the 4th Street Watermain project through November 22nd, 2025. Motion carried. Unanimous. Finance Officer Hodgson then walked the council through several small maps showing 4 locations where trees and/or landscaping has been identified by Banner that will be required to remove during the watermain replacement project. He will be reaching out to those residents soon to discuss.

For Deputy Finance Officer K Tschida moved and M Swanson seconded to remove Kris Hedden as signer on all city accounts at Premier Bank. Motion carried. Unanimous. K Tschida moved and N Wieseler seconded to enter into Executive Session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) Deputy Finance Officer. Motion carried. Unanimous. Mayor Hodgson declared council in Executive Session at 6:51pm. Council was declared out of Executive Session at 6:56pm. B Johnson moved and M Swanson seconded to approve hiring Kristi Burke as Deputy Finance Officer at \$17.47 per hour effective immediately. Roll call vote was cast with all present council members voting aye and one council member being absent. K Tschida then moved and B Johnson seconded to approve adding Kristi Burke as signer on all city account at Premier Bank. Motion carried. Unanimous.

For Finance Office B Johnson moved and M Swanson seconded to approve November Warrants. Motion carried. Unanimous. Finance Officer Hodgson then gave a brief financial update and answered questions from council. Mayor Hodgson then introduced Ordinance 2025-13 2025 Supplemental Appropriations. K Tschida moved and N Wieseler seconded to approve the 1st reading of the ordinance as presented. Motion carried. Unanimous.

For 2026 Elections Finance Officer Hodgson explained the change in the state law now requiring municipal elections to be held at the same time as either the June primary or November general election dates. At this time positions will be coming up for election are K Tschida, Ward I; K Hedden, Ward II; and M Swanson, Ward III. After discussion K Tschida moved and B Johnson seconded to approve June 2nd as the City Election date for 2026.

K Tschida moved and B Johnson seconded to approve hiring Dustin Vik as part time cook at \$14.19 per hour effective immediately. Motion carried. Unanimous.

K Tschida moved and B Johnson seconded to approve hiring Don Drown as part time janitor at \$12.36 per hour effective immediately. Motion carried. Unanimous.

For Clubhouse Insurance Claim Update Finance Officer Hodgson explained the claim payout came out to \$43,000.09 plus an additional \$3,835 once all repairs/replacements have been done and invoices sent in. K Tschida moved and M Swanson seconded to table approving the purchase of patio heaters at this time until further discussion is held. Motion carried. Unanimous. K Tschida moved and M Swanson seconded to approve repairs of patio railing by AJ&D Contracting at a cost of \$1610.22. Motion carried. Unanimous. B Johnson moved and K Tschida seconded to approve replacement of the cart shed siding by AJ&D Contracting at a cost of \$35,801.00. Motion carried. Unanimous. K Tschida moved and K Hedden seconded to table further discussion on patio furniture replacement until further discussion can be held. Motion carried. Unanimous.

Finance Officer Hodgson then presented council with the final property maintenance code enforcement officers update for 2025. He walked council through the properties identified as needing abatement or further work needing to be completed and that he will update council again in the spring once inspections resume for 2026.

Finance Officer Hodgson then explained to council cyber security, city website, and city email updates than have been ongoing through SecureSD program at Dakota State University and funded through the state. He explained that there will be firewall upgrades happening within the city as well as migration of the city website to a .gov domain address: alcester.sdcity.gov in the near future. Along with this city employee and elected officials will be getting migrated from gmail and ISP provided email addresses to secure email through the same program and city website domain. Costs of this program will be covered through the state program for the next 1 ½ - 2 years depending on funding then the city will be required to take on the costs of maintaining it at an approximate cost of \$4,036.00 per year.

For reminders Mayor Hodgson encouraged all to attend the annual Christmas tree lighting this Friday December 5th at 5pm downtown. The city office will close at noon on Wed Dec 24th and all day Thurs Dec 25th for Christmas as well as all day Thurs January 1st for New Years holidays. Reminder was also given that all pet registrations are due no later than January 31st 2026.

K Hedden moved and N Wieseler seconded to adjourn council. Council was declared adjourned at 7:40pm

CITY OF ALCESTER, SOUTH DAKOTA

_____/s/_____
Lisa Hodgson, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____/s/_____
David Hodgson, Finance Officer