

MINUTES OF THE AKELEY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD AT AKELEY CITY HALL 6:00PM, AUGUST 13TH, 2025

The Akeley City Council met in a regular meeting on Wednesday, August 13th, 2025. Mayor Brian Hitchcock called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Council members present: Brian Hitchcock, Dan Riggs, Dale Neslon, and Bobbie Wosika

Council members absent:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Council and attending audience.

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes from July 9th, 2025, Regular Meeting
- Treasurer's Report for July
- Total disbursements including all automatic payments equaling \$162,100.02. Check numbers #23177 - #23249. Check number #23200 was voided due to being lost in the mail. Total receipts including all automatic deposits equaling \$357,577.12.
- Administration Finance Report for July
- July Permits Issued – 2
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve the consent agenda with the additions of repairing Paul Bunyan and the cradle and bids under community projects, seconded by Dale Nelson, passed.**

City Hall – Kristi Kath

- Resolution 12-2025 is a resolution acknowledging donations for National Night Out.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve resolution 12-2025, seconded by Bobbie Wosika, passed.**
- Resolution 13-2025 is a resolution transferring state aid monies for roads account into capital improvement account number 2731364. It would be in the amount of \$4,251.50.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve resolution 13-2025, seconded by Dale Nelson, passed.**
- Discussion on setting the first work session budget meeting.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to schedule the work session budget meeting on September 3rd, 2025, at 6:00pm, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.**

Police Department – Jimmy Hansen

- Jimmy states that National Night Out was a wonderful turnout. He thanks everyone who helps put the work into this event.

Liquor Store - Lacey Hitchcock

- Lacey was absent.

Parks -

- Bobbie states that the community projects committee had a meeting and it was brought up that the Paul Bunyan statue needs to be repaired. The cradle needs some repairs also. Someone should reach out to Billy Krotzer and see if he can do the repairs.
- **Motion by Brian Hitchcock to allow city hall to get in touch with Billy Krotzer to see if he would do the repairs for Paul Bunyan, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.**

Water/Sewer/Maintenance Report-Mike Hubner/Reid Watson

- The council looked through the monthly report that was provided by Mike.
- Reid was Absent.
- Mike states that Johnson Jet Line was here to do the jetting and picturing of sewer lines. They could not get into two lines. One was the line that leads to the lift station in the campground. The other line

that goes under highway 64 is sagging. He thinks that the weight of the highway is slowly pushing it down. There is no noticeable damage. In another five years it will be checked again.

- Mike states that on the main lift station, the older pump test was zero. It still works but it needs to be replaced. He would have had them put in the back up pump that we have but the bracket is missing. The bracket cost is \$800.00. He states he would have the pump that is taken out torn apart and looked at and then have it fixed. He said he can have an estimate for the council at the next regular meeting. He states that there is another pump at lift station two that also tested at zero, but he doesn't think that that one should be looked at right now. The work is being done by Electric Pump. Mike states that well 2 is leaking. It is not a serious problem short term but will be long term. Electric Pump is estimating \$21,000 to replace the pitless. Mike reached out the Freeman's Well Drilling but has not heard back from them yet with an estimate.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve Mike to move on with getting the lift station pump fixed, seconded by Dale Nelson, passed.**
- Zach Thoma was there to discuss updates. The Minnesota Department of Health is doing updates to the lead service line inventory. Zach states that he input all the city's utility infrastructure needs into an online CIP tool. The city should schedule projects based on realistic funding scenarios or get started with the RD funding. The other funding opportunities will be reapplying to the DEED Small Cities Development Program.

East Hubbard County Fire District –Dan Riggs/Bobbie Wosika

- Report on July minutes.

Old Business

- Discussion on the invoice from Emcon for meetings, drafting, designing, and engineering.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve paying Emcon invoice number 6001 in the amount of \$900.00, seconded by Dale Nelson, passed.**
- Brian asked if bids were put out yet for the bathroom project. Kristi states that Mary Thompson said that she thought it would be better for more funds to be received before putting the project out for bid. Kristi states that Dan suggested that she get in touch with First National Bank North and they are donating \$20,000.00 to the project. Half in 2025 and the other half in 2026. Brian states that he doesn't understand why it wouldn't be put out for bids because the city could get a better idea of what the project is going to cost.

New Business

Public Forum

- Frank Lamb asks if anyone has shown interest in the open council seat. Kristi states that it will be published in the paper on August 20th and August 27th with information due back by the 3rd of September. Brian asks if Frank is interested. He states if there isn't anyone that shows interest he would maybe think about it.
- Bobbie thanks Jean Ruzika for cleaning the beds up at Paul's Patio before National Night Out.
- Jean Ruzika invited everyone to the August 30th customer appreciation event at the ARCC.

Motion by Bobbie Wosika to adjourn the meeting at 7:04pm, seconded Dan Riggs, passed.

**Respectfully Submitted by,
Michaella Becker Deputy Clerk**