

New Salem-Almont School Board Proceedings

NEW SALEM-ALMONT SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
APRIL 20, 2026 | 6:00 P.M.
HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM

President John called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. John, Hoovestol, Feland, Reiner-Pletan, Gilstad, and Lausch were present in person; Miller was present via phone.

Superintendent Christopherson, Business Manager Dukart, and Principals Bennett and Olson were in attendance. Richard Mendoza from the Morton County News Journal, NSA Athletic Director Mr. Slag, coach Marty Doll, and Hannah Wolf were also present.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reiner-Pletan moved to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes from the March 16 regular meeting and policy committee meeting, and the April 13 special board meeting minutes. As well as bills and financial reports for March. Feland seconded the motion. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

No public comment.

In unfinished business, the activity co-op with Glen Ullin was discussed. Feland made a motion to accept the activity co-op with Glen Ullin as written and presented, with a second by Lausch. Roll call vote was taken: Reiner-Pletan- Yes; Gilstad- Yes; Lausch- Yes; Feland- Yes; Hoovestol- No; Miller- No; John- Yes

Motion passed with a vote of 5 Yes, to 2 No.

In New Business, the first reading of policy DEBH – Employee Use of Social Media was reviewed. Reiner-Pletan made a motion to approve, with a second by Hoovestol. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

The first reading of policy DEBH- BR – District Social Media Accounts was reviewed.

Gilstad made a motion to approve, with a second by Feland. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

The quarterly pledge of securities was presented to the board and reviewed. Reiner-Pletan made a motion to accept, with a second by Feland. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

With the transition to Infinite Campus, it is an ideal time to formally update the building reconfiguration to include Prairie View Elementary, serving Kindergarten through 5th grade. And High School serving 6th through 12th grades. Hoovestol made a motion stating, "I move that Prairie View Elementary be designated as serving Kindergarten through 5th grade, and the high school be designated as serving 6th through 12th grades." Lausch seconded the motion, all members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

Business Manager Dukart shared an update on certificates of deposit (CDs) and asked the board for a motion to allow her to invest as discussed. Lausch made a motion to give Business Manager Dukart permission to invest in the CDs, with a second by Reiner-Pletan. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

The negotiations committee met before the regular board meeting to discuss wages for hourly/noncertified staff. The committee recommended that the board approve a 3% wage increase for hourly/non-certified staff. Miller made a motion to approve the committee's recommendation, with a second by Gilstad. All members voted, "Aye." The motion passed.

In his report, Supt. Christopherson shared an update on the discussion about parent-teacher conference and spring break dates for 2026-2027. He updated the board on the Almont Gym's progress and upcoming summer projects. He also updated the board on

important upcoming dates and summer school, the TLA Group wrapping up for the year, and the new activity bus. Discussion was had.

Principal Olson shared an update on current events around the school, including the band trip that just returned from Branson, MO, spring sports, upcoming prom, and preparations for the end of the year. He shared that teacher evaluations are complete, he is finalizing the schedule for next year, and he updated the board on the changes that will take place. Mr. Olson shared that state testing is taking place for 6th, 7th, 8th, and 10th graders. He and Mrs. Bennett will find time for the 5th graders to visit the high school and shadow current 6th graders in preparation for the 5th graders coming to the high school next fall.

Principal Bennett shared that PVE is currently working on ND A+ testing and will be completing math and reading fluency testing for spring. STAR testing is complete for the spring. She gave an overview of what summer school will look like at the elementary level. Shared some curriculum renewals that will be coming up in the next few years. She shared the plans for Administrative Professionals Day, Teacher Appreciation Week, and Lunch Hero Day. She also continues to work on the switch to Infinite Campus. Mrs. Bennett also shared that the spring PVE Family Engagement movie night was a success with 85 people in attendance. She thanked the PTO for their help with the event.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 18th at 6:00 pm in the high school conference room.

Lausch moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m., seconded by Hoovestol. All members voted, "Aye." The meeting was adjourned.

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New Salem City Proceedings

NEW SALEM CITY PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 11TH, 2026,
6:30 P.M.
CITY AUDITORIUM

These minutes are being published subject to review and revision by the New Salem City Council.

Gaebe called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Attendance
Council Mayor: Josh Gaebe
Council members present: Chad Goetzfridt, Delton Kautzman, Sheppard Olson, Perrin Goetzfridt, Corey Lausch, Bryan Moen

Others present: City Works Robert Boehm and Dale Ponzer, City Auditor Melissa Davis, Cassidy Clark, Tyrel Schulz, Jon Engelstad

Pledge of Allegiance
Minutes

The council reviewed the April 13th regular city council minutes. Moen moved and C. Goetzfridt seconded to approve the minutes as presented. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Public Comment

Cassy Clark asked the council to consider allowing residents to have up to four chickens (hens only) in town. P. Goetzfridt moved and Kautzman seconded to pursue adopting an ordinance allowing chickens and to refer the topic to the ordinance committee. Lausch will review other community ordinances on chickens and present potential guidelines for a future ordinance at the next meeting. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Police Committee

The council reviewed the April police report. The council had a lengthy discussion on dogs "at large" and aggressive animals. Engelstad recommending owners are cited at the district court level instead of the municipal level. Gaebe plans to check into animal shelters in the Bismarck/Mandan area that the city could contract with to hold stray animals. The council agreed to review our animal ordinances at the next meeting.

Personnel Committee

The council reviewed the April city works report. Kautzman moved and Moen seconded to approve the purchase of the backflow prevention device from DSG and gate valve from Ferguson. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Kautzman moved and Moen seconded to approve the bid from Concrete Mudjacking Services LLC to repair the concrete ramp on the west side of the auditorium for \$3900. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Davis stated 3 applications were received for the city works summer helper position. The council was in agreement to have the personnel committee

complete interviews and hire the best candidate.

Old Business

Davis stated that the city received a grant for the siren replacement project from the Community Foundation. The grant is in the amount of \$13,705 which requires a 50% match. P. Goetzfridt moved and Kautzman seconded to approve the purchase of the AC Siren from Federal Signal without the removal and disposal of the old siren. All voting aye, the motion carried.

New Business

Kautzman moved and Lausch seconded to approve the event permit from Pegasus Illumination for a fireworks display on July 10th, 2026 during ND Country Fest, waiving all fees. All voting aye, the motion carried.

The city is once again experiencing issues with a large number of turkeys. Davis has been in contact with ND Game and Fish and discussed several options to alleviate the burden. P. Goetzfridt moved and Lausch seconded to allow licensed bow hunters to hunt on agricultural land inside city limits. All voting aye, the motion carried.

The council was in agreement to change the June regular meeting date to June 1st at 6:30pm.

Consent Agenda

Lausch moved and P. Goetzfridt seconded to approve the consent agenda. All voting aye, the motion carried; Kautzman abstained.

1. Designation of official newspaper – Morton County News Journal

2. Liquor License Transfers Golden Nugget Saloon to Red Room – 5/16/26 – Graduation Party

Golden Nugget Saloon to Red Room – 5/17/26 – Graduation Party

Golden Nugget Saloon to Red Room – 5/30/26 – Anniversary Party

Golden Nugget Saloon to Red Room – 7/8/26-7/12/26 – ND Country Fest

NS Golf Association to NS City Auditorium – 6/27/26 - Wedding

Kautzman moved and Moen seconded to approve the bills as presented. All voting aye, the motion carried.

941 PAYMENT...\$1,957.95
NDPERS\$2,353.91
.....retirement payment

ND State Tax Commissioner\$165.65
.....state taxes-quarterly
MDU\$3,935.58
.....street lights

WEST RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS.....\$282.99
.....phones

941 PAYMENT...\$1,928.89
MOR- GRAN- SOU ELEC- TRIC\$194.19
.....street lighting

Boehm, Robert .. \$2,289.70
Davis, Melissa ... \$1,459.23
Haff, Tyler\$430.78
Ponzer, Dale.....\$1,970.76
Yellow Bird, Miranda

.....\$1,129.33
Bennett, Shane.....\$92.35
Boehm, Robert ...\$2,282.18
Davis, Melissa ... \$1,459.23
Haff, Tyler\$433.23
Ponzer, Dale.....\$1,816.37
Yellow Bird, Miranda

.....\$1,162.92
CamlockDirect.....\$1,197.81
..... hoses

CENTRAL DAKOTA FRONTIER\$967.80
.....gas, oil, shop supplies

CENTRAL MECHANICAL, INC\$352.96
.....Radiator leak - gym
CHS\$259.20
..... grass seed
CURTIS RUD OIL..\$857.91
..... fuel

Dale Ponzer.....\$318.56
.....2026 clothing allowance
EGGERS ELECTRIC MOTOR\$171.79
.....repair motor

FARMERS LUMBER & GAMBLES\$519.95
.....aud/shop supplies
FORTE\$1,616.00
.....Recording Package
FRONTIER PRECISION ...

.....\$2,156.50
..... marking antenna
GS Publishing, LLC\$736.18
.....publishing
Melissa Davis\$146.03
.....mileage/gym curtain rods

MISSOURI WEST WATER SYSTEM.....\$17,430.36
..... water purchase
MORTON COUNTY AUDITOR\$3,528.00
.....police contract

MORTON COUNTY TREASURER\$2,300.00
.....Assessment Contract
NAPA.....\$690.36
..... equipment parts
ND DEPT OF HEALTH – MI-CRO\$27.00
..... labs

NORTHERN IMPROVEMENT\$610.00
..... omegamix
ONE CALL CONCEPTS
.....\$20.40
PAHLKE STEEL\$58.18
..... steel plates
Robert Boehm\$268.91
..... Magnet lifter
Security First Agency of ND
.....\$6,983.00
.....NDIRF

SIMS VALLEY LLC
.....\$69,342.27
..... Hotel Cleanup
Solem Law Office ..\$401.50
..... legal fees
Kaelberer Construction Inc.
.....\$750.28
.....transfer station roll offs
VESTIS.....\$894.33
..... paper products/rugs
Gaebe adjourned the meeting at 8:12pm. The next regular New Salem City Council meeting will be Monday, June 1st, 2026 at 6:30pm.

Published May 27, 2026

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Jackie Lausch
New Salem-Almont School Board Election
June 9, 2026
Your vote is appreciated for Jackie Lausch

NSA School Board Area #1 Candidate- City of New Salem
"Driven by integrity, honesty, and respect, I'm committed to supporting opportunities for growth for students and strengthening our school district through collaboration and accountability."

- ✓ 2002 New Salem High Alumni
- ✓ Current School Board Member 2020-2026
- ✓ Active board member serving on the Policy, Personnel, Financial, Negotiations, Curriculum, Strategic Planning and Co-Op Committees

Ad paid for by Jackie Lausch