

NEWS/PUBLIC NOTICES

WORKFORCE

Continued from pg. 4

ing their futures here in Iowa.

As the state's investment in higher education continues to shrink, Iowa families have been left carrying a greater burden of the cost. Tuition at Iowa's three public universities has risen an average of 36% in the last decade. Iowa's average debt per borrower is \$41,600, totaling \$13.9 billion, which includes both federal and private loans. Tuition at Iowa's community colleges has gone up 21% from 2014 to 2023, and is the third highest in the Midwest.

This year, Iowa House Republicans created the Higher Education Committee. I was hopeful we'd finally see real solutions on how to reduce the rising cost of tuition. Instead, Republican members on the committee spent the entire session chasing culture war battles at the will of special interests, and did nothing to reduce costs for the people of Iowa.

To counter this, Iowa House Democrats introduced legislation to lower tuition costs and give families more certainty. The bill would lock in tuition and fees for all four years for Iowa freshmen at Iowa State University, the University

of Iowa, and the University of Northern Iowa, which will save students about \$2,500 for a degree. It allows students and families to budget with certainty, instead of scrambling to cover unexpected tuition increases.

But Republican lawmakers keep ignoring these issues, and it's led to Iowa's economy being ranked dead last in the nation. Investing in higher education is the key to building Iowa's economy while preventing young people from leaving the state. Our state needs more nurses, teachers, and skilled workers to fill critical shortages, but too many students are priced out of the degrees and training programs.

By keeping the cost of higher education affordable and supporting our trades, community colleges, and universities, we can prepare the next generation of Iowans for high-demand jobs right here at home. And when graduates aren't buried in debt, they're able to buy homes, raise families, and spend money in their communities, and that in turn, strengthens Iowa's towns, main streets, and overall economy.

It's time to tackle the real problems Iowans face at their kitchen tables, because these culture war issues don't pay the bills.

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LEGALS

**City of Allerton
September 4, 2025 6pm
City Hall
Minutes**

1. Mayor Pro Tem Galen Lunsford called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

In attendance- Nicole Alley, Robin Langloss, Donnette Dolison, Barb Mastin, Jamaica and Kira Mc Neeley (residents), Michael Ewing, Shane Langloss, Ben Anderson and Debby Downs (Council), and Syerra Ewing (clerk).

2. Shane motioned to approve the agenda, Michael seconded. Approved 5-0.

3. Ben moved to approve the August 7, 2025 Minutes, Michael seconded. Approved 5-0.

LEGALS

Visitors: Concerns about mowing upkeep at the cemetery and water tower were discussed.

4. Michael moved to approve paid and unpaid bills, Shane seconded. Approved 5-0.

RATHBUN REGIONAL WATER ASSN \$7,540.50
C & E TRUCKING INC. Rock delivery plus contract 218.96

US POST MASTER 131.15
GRM \$46.90

ALBIA NEWSPAPER 150.44
BILL DOWNS 12 hrs cleaning CC 5 hrs CB 218.96

WAYNE CO. TREASURER 1930.45

WAYNE CO. SHERIFF OFFICE 1250.00

ALLERTON LUMBER Park shelter materials 1235.21

State of IA WET 284.66
Jacob Steele Affidavit 800.00

Microbac Labs Reissued 1438.75

1313.00
Agriland FS 1247.02

Aug IPERS 1245.59
Aug Fed Tax 855.07

903.81
Aug Net Wages 6773.01

Pat Ogden-Travel/health ins 210.60

Lockridge Shop lights 37.38
Palmer Power Equipment 117.95

Lawn mower belt 117.95
Corydon Plumbing and Heating CB Heat pump replace 3700.00

Bomgaars Pressure reg. 30.47

Southern IA Plumbing Jet out culverts 8/01 485.00

MFA Buccaneer plus 138.75
Cantera Aggregates 3/8 dusty chips 259.34

Alliant 2539.85

5. Ben motioned to approve Treasurers Report, Galen seconded. Approved 5-0.

6. Ben motioned to enter Public Hearing Regarding sale of 110 E. Pine at 6:15pm, Michael seconded. Approved 5-0.

7. Michael motioned to close Public Hearing and resume reg. meeting at 6:21pm. Ben seconded. Approved 5-0.

8. Ben motioned to approve resolution 2025090401 accepting bid for \$100.00 from Ja-

LEGALS

maica and Kira Mc Neeley for the sale of property at 110 E. Pine with contract to be signed stating condition of nuisance abatement within 9 months from deed transfer date. Debby seconded. Approved 5-0.

9. Ben motioned to approve concrete pad for pop machine in front of Cent. Building, Michael seconded. Approved 5-0.

10. Ben motioned to approve Mayor payout for Doug Downs. \$800.00/year with 4 months shy of 1 year for \$533.33, Debby seconded. Approved 5-0.

11. Consider CVH Contribution (see letter) tabled

12. Ben motioned to send courtesy letters for the addresses listed with ordinance violations. Michael seconded. Approved 5-0.

13. Michael motioned to approve removing water fountains at the Cent. Building and Civic Center due to cost of repair. Debby seconded. Shane-nay, Ben-nay, Galen- yay. Approved 3-2.

14. Michael motioned to approve refrigerator replacement at Civic Center, Ben seconded. Approved 5-0.

Discussion with staff: anonymous complaint was discussed regarding noise after dark in town. Since the location was on private property, no curfew ordinance was violated. Clerk will look into Allerton ordinances regarding noise, but wasn't able to find it during the meeting.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Oct. 9, 2025, 6pm.

Shane motioned to adjourn at 7:15pm, Michael seconded. Approved 5-0.

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