

# 2024 Annual Utility Report



Presented March 11, 2025



# Water Department

2024 update

## Warren Myers, Water Commissioner

Throughout the past year, we have made significant strides in improving our water infrastructure. Notably, we successfully replaced three fire hydrants, which are crucial for community safety and fire response. Our efforts have also been centered on compliance with lead and copper regulations, ensuring the safety and quality of our drinking water. To enhance our capabilities in identifying service lines and furthering our compliance efforts, we recently invested in a hydro-vac trailer. This addition will aid us in accurately locating service lines, thus supporting our initiatives related to lead and copper management. In conjunction with these improvements, we are actively continuing our water extension program. This program focuses on extending existing water mains and upsizing them in areas that require better service. As part of this effort, we are also adding fire hydrants to locations that previously lacked them, significantly enhancing public safety. We anticipate that this comprehensive project will reach completion by May or June. The journey has been quite demanding for me personally, and I acknowledge the inconvenience it has caused to the residents of Albion. I am eager to see this project wrapped up.

This year, we faced a challenge at Well 5. During routine testing, we found a rubber substance in the water. This is unusual because rubber is usually linked to tire manufacturing plants near wells. It was the first time this was detected in Nebraska. When Sargent tested the pump, they noticed it was not delivering the expected flow rate. After they removed the pump, we discovered that loose tape from the original installation had wrapped around the motor. We fixed this quickly, and further tests showed that the initial positive test result was due to the degraded tape. We are glad to have resolved this issue and will continue to monitor our water quality closely. Sargent Drilling conducted the annual well and pump test for the city's wells. For Well #4, the average pump efficiency is 72%, which is considered excellent. The well is producing 51 gallons per foot of drawdown, which is a decrease from the last test. Well #5 also has an average pump efficiency of 72%, which is excellent. This well is producing 73 gallons per foot of drawdown, showing an increase compared to last year.

As I look back at the accomplishments of the past year, I am pleased to share that we have made considerable strides in ensuring the reliability and quality of our water services. Looking ahead to 2025, I am eager to continue efforts in enhancing our infrastructure. A key focus will be the replacement of older fire hydrants to ensure swift response capabilities in emergencies. In addition, we will maintain our proactive approach to servicing water main valves, which is crucial for maintaining system integrity. Our initiative to identify and address lead lines within our water distribution network is of utmost importance to us, as it directly impacts the health and safety of our community. With these comprehensive initiatives, I am confident that we will uphold and even elevate the standards of service provided to the residents of Albion. Thank you for your continued trust and support. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Warren Myers, Water Commissioner

# City of Albion Water Department

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## Gallons of water pumped

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
January	5,552,165	5,596,921	5,496,433
February	4,761,542	4,922,317	5,600,247
March	5,742,763	6,525,631	5,984,990
April	11,792,686	9,742,361	7,902,158
May	12,409,338	15,073,749	11,019,794
June	20,848,974	21,078,083	14,556,431
July	18,957,564	16,474,382	17,317,284
August	22,565,730	18,129,087	19,442,355
September	20,819,023	17,417,231	18,862,652
October	14,043,018	9,048,703	16,793,842
November	5,434,890	5,294,751	6,463,448
December	5,493,763	5,429,205	6,311,740
<b>Total</b>	<b>148,421,456</b>	<b>137,732,421</b>	<b>135,751,374</b>
<b>Daily Average</b>	<b>406,634</b>	<b>377,349</b>	<b>370,905</b>
			<b>366 days</b>

# Water Department

## Water Loss

We have the majority of our city facilities now metered, with the exception of the North Campground, and the Sports Complex Concession Stand and East & West Bathrooms.

2024 Recorded Pumpage	135,751,374	gallons	
Billed Water	99,954,208	gallons	
Unbilled City Facility Water	11,446,345	gallons	8.432% of water pumped
Unbilled Fairgrounds Water	1,273,163	gallons	0.938% of water pumped
<b>Water Loss</b>	<b>23,077,658</b>	<b>gallons</b>	<b>17.000% of water pumped</b>

The 17.00% of unaccounted water loss includes the North Campground, Sports Complex Concession Stand & East & West Bathrooms, Fire Hydrant Flushing, 6 Grass Fires, 7 Vehicle Fires.

\*According to the latest data provided by the EPA, the avg water loss experienced by a PWS is 16%. Dave Jundt, NDEE field rep, stated the goal should be 15% or less and any system will experience at least 5%.

## Water Usage Per Household

Estimates vary, but avg water usage per household in the U.S. is 300 gallons per day. Based on water billed to residential use meters in the amount of 9,416,632 cubic ft (70,436,407 gallons) in 2024, the City of Albion's residential water usage was approximately 252 gallons per household per day, 70% of which is generally used indoors & 30% is used outdoors.

## Test Results

The City's Water System is tested twice each month for coliform bacteria, monthly for fluoride, annually for nitrates. Other tests are based on the schedules set by Nebraska Dept of Environment & Energy.

### RISING/HIGH NITRATE LEVELS

#### Well #4

<b>2012</b>	<b>2.35</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>3.61</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>2.82</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>3.56</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>2.84</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>3.73</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>2.89</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>3.08</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>3.58</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>3.25</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>4.10</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>3.56</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>4.24</b>

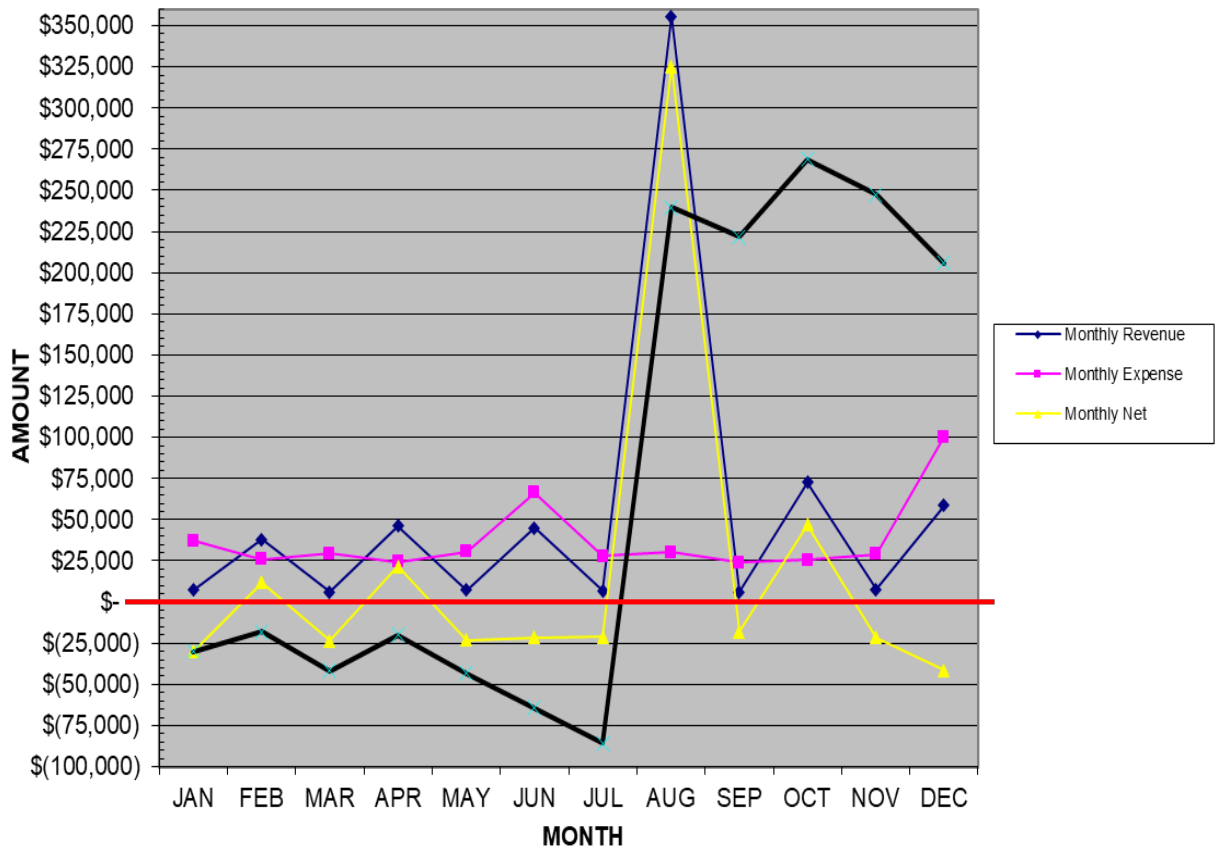
#### Well #5

<b>2021</b>	<b>3.91</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>3.92</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>3.82</b>
<b>2024</b>	<b>4.38</b>

Nitrate levels continue to remain high. Although the MCL is 10, which triggers the treatment of water, additional testing becomes necessary when the numbers reach 5.

2024	WATER CASH FLOW STATEMENT			
	REVENUE	EXPENSE	NET	CUMMULATIVE 2024
JAN	\$ 7,256	\$ 37,325	\$ (30,069)	\$ (30,069)
FEB	\$ 37,982	\$ 25,998	\$ 11,984	\$ (18,085)
MAR	\$ 5,936	\$ 29,482	\$ (23,547)	\$ (41,632)
APR	\$ 46,057	\$ 24,307	\$ 21,750	\$ (19,882)
MAY	\$ 7,246	\$ 30,522	\$ (23,276)	\$ (43,157)
JUN	\$ 45,089	\$ 66,442	\$ (21,353)	\$ (64,511)
JUL	\$ 6,781	\$ 28,019	\$ (21,239)	\$ (85,749)
AUG	\$ 355,823	\$ 30,401	\$ 325,423	\$ 239,674
SEP	\$ 6,111	\$ 24,180	\$ (18,068)	\$ 221,606
OCT	\$ 72,707	\$ 25,644	\$ 47,063	\$ 268,669
NOV	\$ 7,745	\$ 29,106	\$ (21,361)	\$ 247,307
DEC	\$ 58,574	\$ 100,132	\$ (41,558)	\$ 205,749
TOTAL			\$ 205,749	

WATER DEPT 2024 CASH FLOW



# Sewer Department Report 2024

Corey Zoubek, Sewer Commissioner

With my first year in as Sewer Commissioner I have learned some valuable information on the operation of the Sewer Plant, mainly during the wintertime with the cold temperatures. This past year we accomplished the yearly Jetting and Videoing by Johnsons, and they are scheduled to be back this Spring. Also, we will be adding some Manholes on Park Street with line rehab work.

We have sent off information with JEO on the water reel for the application of sludge on the field. This would possibly cut down the man hours it takes to apply sludge to once or twice a month with the number of gallons it could do.

This past August we had the Parshall Flume calibrated for the Influent coming into the plant. You will see on the total flow chart below after the calibration that our numbers decreased for overall daily flow.

On the Maintenance side, we have a pump that needs new seal work. I will also start changing oil in gearboxes throughout the summer. We did have both Lift Stations in town looked over and there is some work on pumps that needs to be done. I found a cost efficient way to make wipers for the Clarifiers that will save the city money.

Overall, in closing I'm still learning new things everyday here and will be retaking my Class 1 Operating license this summer.

Thank you for the opportunity to work for the City of Albion and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Corey Zoubek  
Sewer Commissioner

# CITY OF ALBION

## Wastewater Department

### Gallons of wastewater treated

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
January	4,404,235	4,283,821	3,718,566
February	3,824,390	3,818,303	3,256,928
March	4,051,560	4,117,943	3,235,507
April	4,008,281	3,579,403	3,290,622
May	3,923,081	3,857,747	3,528,334
June	3,964,934	3,894,816	3,731,621
July	4,345,172	4,462,074	3,947,978
August	4,461,291	4,472,655	3,648,593
September	5,198,008	3,822,641	3,363,314
October	4,858,101	3,791,958	3,638,735
November	4,053,357	3,429,997	3,176,315
December	4,365,018	3,547,767	3,176,869
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>51,457,428</b>	<b>47,078,732</b>	<b>41,713,382</b>
<b>Daily Average</b>	<b>140,979</b>	<b>128,982</b>	<b>113,971</b> 366 days

**NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL  
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM**

**2024**

	<b>BOD mg/L</b>	<b>TSS mg/L</b>	<b>AM mg/L</b>	<b>PH</b>
<b>January</b>	1.9	<4	<0.10	7.49
LMA	(25)	(30)	(report)	(6.5-9)
<b>February</b>	1.7	<4	<0.10	7.9
LMA	(25)	(30)	(report)	(6.5-9)
<b>March</b>	1.8	<4	<0.10	7.96
LMA	(25)	(30)	(report)	(6.5-9)
<b>April</b>	1.5	<4	<0.10	8.06
LMA	(25)	(30)	(report)	(6.5-9)
<b>May</b>	1.6	<4	<0.10	8.03
LMA	(25)	(30)	(report)	(6.5-9)
<b>June</b>	1.4	<4	<0.10	7.97
LMA	(25)	(30)	(5.66)	(6.5-9)
<b>July</b>	1.9	<4	<0.10	8.13
LMA	(25)	(30)	(5.66)	(6.5-9)
<b>August</b>	1.7	<4	<0.10	8.15
LMA	(25)	(30)	(5.66)	(6.5-9)
<b>September</b>	1.4	<4	<0.10	8.06
LMA	(25)	(30)	(5.66)	(6.5-9)
<b>October</b>	<1.7	<4	<0.10	8.03
LMA	(25)	(30)	(5.66)	(6.5-9)
<b>November</b>	<1.7	<4	<0.10	7.83
LMA	(25)	(30)	(report)	(6.5-9)
<b>December</b>	<1.8	<4	<0.10	8.08
LMA	(25)	(30)	(report)	(6.5-9)

**NOTES**

**BOD - Biological Oxygen Demand**

**TSS - Total Suspended Solids**

**AM - Ammoniacal Nitrogen**

*(Nitrogen, ammonia total (as N))*

*(Req. Mon. MO AVG)*

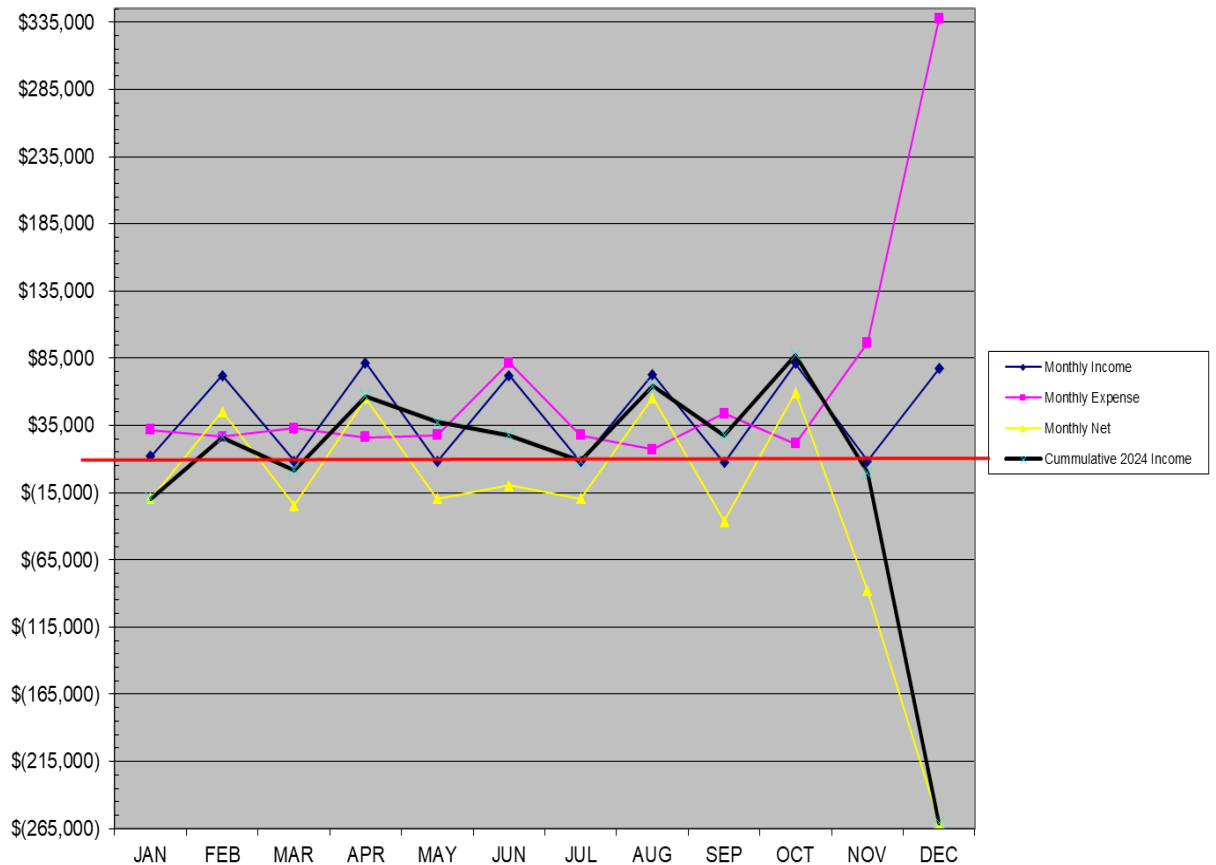
**LMA - Limits Monthly Average**

2024	SEWER CASH FLOW STATEMENT			
	REVENUE	EXPENSE	NET	CUMMULATIVE 2024
JAN	\$ 12,170	\$ 31,537	\$ (19,368)	\$ (19,368)
FEB	\$ 72,132	\$ 26,541	\$ 45,591	\$ 26,223
MAR	\$ 8,374	\$ 32,950	\$ (24,576)	\$ 1,647
APR	\$ 81,636	\$ 26,356	\$ 55,280	\$ 56,927
MAY	\$ 8,146	\$ 27,694	\$ (19,548)	\$ 37,379
JUN	\$ 72,189	\$ 81,627	\$ (9,437)	\$ 27,942
JUL	\$ 8,213	\$ 27,674	\$ (19,461)	\$ 8,481
AUG	\$ 72,854	\$ 17,188	\$ 55,666	\$ 64,147
SEP	\$ 7,391	\$ 43,762	\$ (36,372)	\$ 27,776
OCT	\$ 81,280	\$ 21,541	\$ 59,740	\$ 87,516
NOV	\$ 8,630	\$ 96,478	\$ (87,848)	\$ (332)
DEC	\$ 77,202	\$ 337,509	\$ (260,306)	\$ (260,639)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 510,218</b>	<b>\$ 770,857</b>	<b>\$ (260,639)</b>	

\*WWTF Principal Payment is made each December.

\*\$250,000 in Sewer Bond proceeds available in 2025.

2024 Sewer Dept Cash Flow



# Utility Billing Department

Since implementation in August of 2016, emailed bills continue to be a viable option for billing, both for consumers relying on paperless options, and for the City Office as a way to cut costs and processing times. This option continues to grow at a steady pace, increasing from 17.50% of our bi-monthly bills at the end of 2023 to 19.50% at the end of 2024. The ACH (Automated Clearing House) Bank Draft option also continues to climb, increasing from 38% to 39.50%. Online bill payments remain a viable, popular option, giving the customer the advantage of setting up their payment to draft from their account, on a date of their choosing. It is much like ACH Bank Draft, but instead of the City Office and the bank being in control of their payments, the customer is in control, and they can stop, start and change payments easily and whenever they choose.

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At the end of 2024 we had 11 utility billing customers and 1 non-utility billing customer on cash only basis, compared to 2 and 1, respectively at the same time period, in 2023.

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Much time was spent on the Lead & Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) requirements for both me and the public works staff. This rule was finalized in October of 2024, with initial reporting of all service lines of known and unknown materials due to NDEE, also in October. Many other facets of the rule require compliance by November of 2027. This rule is labor intensive and will require much time and effort in field work, documentation and reporting.

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Thank you for your time. Please contact any one of us for more information or clarification.

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Amber Wynn,  
Utility Billing Clerk**