

City Council Meeting  
September 8, 2014

The City Council met at 6:00 PM at Oakes Armory with the following members present: Mayor Zimmer and Council: Conklin, Engel, Forward, Harris, Strutz and O'Brien. Visitors present: Stacy Zimmer, Dave Novak, Lori Novak, Greg Gebhardt, Jesse Berg-Moore Engineering and Jerod Klabunde-Moore Engineering. Employees present: Marke Roberts, Pat Nelson, Gary Neuharth, and April Haring.

Property Tax Exemption Hearing

O'Brien moved, Harris second to approve property tax exemption for improvements completed at Lots 4, 5, 6 Block 5 Original Plat, Novak Electric. The exemption will be for five years at 100% year 1, 80% year 2, 60% year 3, 40% year 4 and 20% year 5, roll call approved.

Renaissance Zone Application

Engel moved, Strutz second to approve renaissance zone application for Lucas and Nicole Cline, Lots 1-3 Block 9 Original Plat for roof improvements to the building, roll call approved.

Minutes, Auditor and Court Reports: Conklin moved, Forward second to approve minutes and all other reports as presented, carried. Discussion was held regarding the costs of landfill operation.

Game of Chance Permit

Engel moved, Harris second to approve game of chance permit for the OHS Senior Class to hold a raffle, carried.

Building Permits

Forward moved, Strutz second to approve building permit applications for the following, carried:

1. Chad Bohnenkamp, Lots 1 & 2 Block 35 Washburn's, fence
2. Rodney Buck, Lots 14 & 15 Block 4 Washburn's, addition
3. Kyle Delahoyde, Lot 4 N 15' Lot 5 Block 9 Washburn's, block patio
4. Matthew Handt, Lots 4 & 5 Block 2 Residence Park, addition

Variances

Council tabled application for Doug Harris, Lots 1 & 2 Block 2 St Charles, to build a 1,920 square foot shop (allowed size is 1,200 square feet). Letters will be sent to neighboring property and decision will be made at next meeting.

Harris moved, Engel second to deny application for Greg Gebhardt, S ½ Lot 5 & All Lot 6 Block 10 Washburn's, to place home within allowed set-back. Roll call: Forward-no, O'Brien-no, Conklin-no, Engel-yes, Strutz-no, Harris-yes, motion failed. Letters will be sent to neighboring property and request will be reviewed again at next meeting.

Special meeting was scheduled for September 16, 2014, at 5pm at City Hall.

Bills: Conklin moved, Forward second to approve bills as listed, roll call approved:

NDPERS 457	70.00	Bituminous Paving-Airport	212,596.69
KLJ-Airport	31,479.87	Duckwall Alco	53.39
B&K Murphy Plumbing	433.80	Dakota Improvement	97.50
Dakota Valley Electric	89.71	Farmland CoOp	2,955.42
Hawkins	10,092.42	J&S Backhoe Service	14,650.00
John Deere Financial	46.50	Kustom Machine	6.45
Millers Fresh Food	13.90	Oakes Times	213.60
Wade's Service Center	740.01	Waste Management-Cardboard	337.87

Waste Management-Landfill	2,016.09	Waste Management-Recycle	1,319.18
Dakota Valley Electric	28.26	Omni Site	470.34
Novak Electric	11,837.50	Capital Bank & Trust	50.00
First Community Credit Union	37.50	NDPERS 457	70.00
Capital Bank & Trust	50.00	FCCU	37.50
AFLAC	106.04	American Welding	20.53
Ameripride Linen	154.82	Circle R	1,198.75
City of Fargo	28.00	Computer Express	650.00
Ecolab	94.19	Farmland CoOp	3,000.87
Gahner Sanitation Service	882.00	Neuharth Law Office	225.00
Hawkins	972.00	Hwy 1 Fuel & Service	945.17
ITD	54.20	KLJ-Airport	30,689.30
Kustom Machine	217.27	Lau Motors	108.67
Mertz Lumber	67.87	Napa Parts	214.80
NDPERS-Group Insurance	14,587.17	NDPERS-Retirement	7,272.83
Newman Signs	35.76	Novak Electric	418.68
Oakes Area Chamber of Commerce	67.00	OEI	11,517.84
Oakes Truck & Trailer	5,324.35	Oakes True Value	102.58
Oakes Veterinary Service	30.00	ND One Call	12.10
Otter Tail Power	6,545.97	Pitney Bowes	61.19
Praskas Hardware Hank	457.64	Quill	54.98
Rods Cleaning	177.50	Security Life Insurance	699.73
Seyer Plumbing & Heating	934.16	Sweeny Controls Company	2,266.00
Sweets & Stories	56.03	Team Laboratory	10.00
Van Diest Supply	1,222.00	Verizon Wireless	452.38
Virginia Pratschner	800.00	Visa-Library	327.57
Visa-City	804.85	Vistos Carquest	190.42
City of Fargo	28.00	Dakota Supply Group	770.44
Dickey Rural Communications	590.71	John Deere Financial	68.95
Kellys Welding	422.80	Waste Management-Cardboard	289.22
Waste Management-Recycling	1,001.92	Ricks Body Shop	50.00
Hawkins	5,654.83	Oakes Times	437.64
Waste Management-Landfill	2,626.61	Waste Management-Landfill	2,870.56
Homan Design Group	181.50	Arnie Widmer	166.08
Best Western	94.00	Bituminous Paving-Airport	746,781.93
Dakota Valley Electric	29.00	Dakota Valley Electric	100.00
Dakota Valley Electric	2,592.60	Design Manufacturing	225.00
Dickey Rural Communications	550.00	Donnas Diner	56.81
Doug Nelson Construction	300.00	Electric Pump	1,758.95
IRS	274.82	J&S Backhoe Service	14,482.50
Kevin Ryckman	200.00	Terracon	13,213.59
ND League of Cities	150.00	ND Surplus Property	90.00
Oakes Public School	107.55	ProForms	136.19
Roelofsen Implement	62.56	Steins, Inc	711.65
Wheat Growers	94.28	Workforce Safety Insurance	250.48
Starion/PSN – Bank Fees	298.60	Payroll Taxes	14,460.18
Quarter Salaries	2,110.19	Salaries	42,911.26

#### Engineer Report

**Phase 3 and Phase 4 Improvements**, corrections and projects for remaining grant money are still being scheduled.

**Water Tower Improvement** preconstruction meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2014, at City Hall.

**Street Improvements** review was presented to the Council. It summarized the streets and avenues that are in need of repairs and included an estimated cost of the project which would be specially assessed to all properties in town. More review will be done by the Council before making a decision.

Committee Reports

**Monarch Butterflies**, concern was expressed to City Hall in regards to monarch butterflies becoming endangered. Request was given to declare an area along 14<sup>th</sup> Street a habitat for the butterflies to aid in protecting them. The Council will look into the request, construction is scheduled for the water tower in the upcoming year. **Advertising**, Engel moved, Strutz second to approve advertising in The Oakes Times for various events throughout the year, carried. **Recycling**, businesses have been requesting to participate in the City's recycling program. Haring will survey the businesses and bring more information to the next Council meeting regarding volume increase and possible rates. **Mosquito Spraying**, ground spraying has been done almost every other night but is not helping. Strutz moved, O'Brien second to schedule aerial spraying, carried. Nelson will check weather reports and schedule.

Preliminary Budget Hearing

2015 Proposed Budget submitted to Council for review. The projected expenses show a reduction in the City's property tax mill levy.

Unfinished Business

**Property Clean-Up** lists were reviewed. City Attorney will have a letter sent to those properties and will specify what needs attention.

New Business:

**Ballot Question-Business Exemption**, Harris moved, O'Brien second to place the question on the November 2014 ballot to grant the option to the City Council to provide property tax emptions to new or expanding retail sector businesses during 2015 or 2016, carried (Strutz voted no).

**Propane Bids**, Strutz moved, Harris second to accept bid for propane from Economy Propane of \$1.65 for the 2014-2015 season, carried.

**First Reading Sales Tax Request** from Tornado Watch for \$2,000 to support this program that is designed to help students and families in need.

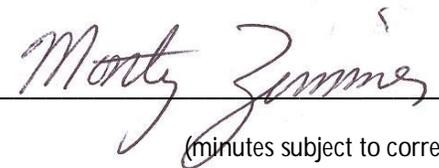
**City App**, Engel requested the City Council to review the possibility of implementing a City App similar to what the school has been using. Discussion was held regarding need and public interest, tabled for more review.

Announcements & Correspondence:

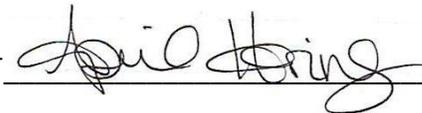
**Thank you** from the Oakes Area Chamber of Commerce for help during Evening in the Park.

Strutz moved, O'Brien second to adjourn meeting at 8:05 PM.

MAYOR

  
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(minutes subject to correction and approval at the next regular meeting)

ATTEST

  
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