

Board of Equalization April 12, 2011

The Board of Equalization met at 6:00 PM at SE Regional Career and Technology Center-Community Room with the following members present: Mayor Zimmer and Council: Harris, Kuipers, Brandriet, Sitzler, and Forward. Rosendahl was absent. Visitors present: Stacy Zimmer, John Westra, Darwin Gebhardt, Dave Novak, Lori Novak, Jim Olson, Vicki Olson, Tristan Nelson, Natalie Buck, Gary Fitzgerald, and Larry Engel. Employees present: Pat Nelson, E. Rod Rodningen, Marke Roberts, Gary Neuharth, and April Haring.

Visitors and Protests: Dave Novak addressed the Council regarding the possibility of changing the assessments for his property on Main Avenue; he was referred to the Special Assessment Committee for them to review.

New Exemption Applications: Sitzler moved, Forward second to approve application for Property Tax Exemption to Karlgaard Properties LLC for business improvements to Hwy 1 Fuel and Service for 5 years at 100% year one, 80% year two, 60% year three, 40% year four, 20% year five, carried. Forward moved, Harris second to approve application for Property Tax Exemption to John and Amy Bakke for a new home for 2 years at \$100,000, carried.

Homestead Credits and Other Exempt Properties: Haring noted the SE Baptist Church Exemption Application was not received. Brandriet moved, Kuipers second to approve the application of Homestead Credits and other exempt properties, carried.

Assessor Book Changes: Loren and Linda Poppen did give a verbal protest to their property increase to Rod Rodningen but were unable to attend the meeting; no action was taken by the board. Jim and Vickie Olson protested to the board the increase of their property due to an addition to the garage. Rod increased the value of the home by about \$10,000; they argued the current value of their home is unrealistic and would not sell for this price. Sitzler moved, Brandriet second to deny request to lower recommended value by City Assessor, carried. They were referred to the Dickey County Board of Equalization Meeting in June. Forward moved, Brandriet second to approve the changes in valuation as made by the assessor in the assessment book, carried.

Brandriet moved, Kuipers second to adjourn Board of Equalization at 6:26 PM.

City Council Meeting
April 12, 2011

The City Council met in regular session at 6:27 PM at SE Regional Career and Technology Center-Community Room with the same members, visitors, and employees present. Rosendahl arrived at 6:30 PM

Minutes and Auditor Reports: Sitzler moved, Kuipers second to approve minutes and all other reports as presented, carried.

Game of Chance Permits:

Kuipers moved, Forward second to approve game of chance permits as listed, carried:

1. Relay for Life, raffle
2. DECA, raffle

Variance:

Sitzler moved, Brandriet second to approve application for variance by Oakes Public School to build addition to the north side of the gym past regular setbacks. All property owners within 150' of proposed project have signed waiver on application, carried.

Building Permits:

Kuipers moved, Brandriet second to approve building permits as listed, carried:

1. Oakes Public School, Lots 1-4 Block 6 Washburns, new addition
2. Nation O'Brien Construction, Lots 11 & 12 Block 23 Washburns, new home
3. Jerry & Dusty Hollingsworth, Lots 10-12 Block 5 Original Plat, new roof on garage
4. David Bock, W 100' of C 130' OLB O & Add, concrete and gazebo

Bills: Sitzler moved, Brandriet second to approve bills as listed, roll call approved:

B&K Murphy Plumbing	100.18	Capital Bank & Trust	50.00
FCCU	37.50	CSE	275.54
NDPERS 457	50.00	KH-Travel	246.20
AFLAC	106.04	Alltel	387.53
American Welding	8.06	Ameripride	63.98
B&K Murphy Plumbing	165.00	Border States Electric	913.44
Brokers National Life	619.30	Circle R	325.76
Computer Express	400.00	Cretex	240.00
Dakota Improvement	2,217.50	Dakota Valley Electric	2,592.00
Dakota Valley Electric	273.00	Dickey Rural Communications	751.31
Eberline	240.00	Economy Oil	96.50
Embroidery Creations	47.00	Farmland Co-Op	10,377.35
Ferguson Waterworks	1,162.05	Galls	455.28
Jerry Schumacker	2,825.00	Gerrells	1,153.30
Hach Company	417.58	Harold Foss	37.50
Harold Rotunda, CPA	4,500.00	Hawkins, Inc	1,068.76
Hwy 1 Fuel	1,110.48	ITD	27.75
Jacobson Implement	468.27	Job Service ND	27.18
KLJ	6,471.91	Larson Septic Service	430.00
Lau Motors	86.08	Mertz Lumber & Supply	502.09
Michael Todd & Co	4,342.48	Napa	61.43
National Assoc. of Chiefs	50.00	ND One Call	1.30

ND Public Health Lab	32.00	ND State Radio	110.88
ND Tax Commissioner	1,519.33	NDPERS-Group Insurance	9,280.07
NDPERS-Retirement	3,484.49	Neuharth Law Office	750.00
Newman Signs	46.07	Oakes Area Chamber	170.10
Oakes Body Shop	480.00	OEI	6,694.96
Oakes Feed	12.00	Oakes Public School	1,718.00
Oakes Times	497.28	Oakes Truck & Trailer	588.99
Oakes True Value	225.91	Oakes Vet	30.00
Otter Tail Power	8,544.80	Overhead Door	1,350.00
Pitney Bowes	131.25	Praskas Hardware	1,259.79
Quill	398.22	Ramkota Hotel	138.00
Red River Electric	545.00	Rods Cleaning	225.00
Ron Maddock	50.00	Rons Heating & Appliance	205.94
Starion Bond Services	101,833.28	Sweeney Controls Co	580.12
Sweets and Stories	33.98	USA Blue Book	747.74
Visa	278.92	Vistos Carquest	421.48
Waste Management-Recycling	2,247.40	Waste Management	3,697.88
Waste Management-Cardboard	297.40	Western Agency	113.00
Payroll Taxes	8,853.13	Salaries	29,179.39
Starion – Bank Fees	44.27		

Visitors:

John Westra, requested the Council to reconsider their motion in regards to the demolition of the structure at 401 Grape Avenue, Westra and his brother-in-law wish to purchase the structure and repair into living condition. Forward moved, Kuipers second to rescind original motion and allow property to be sold. Roll call: Rosendahl-abstain, Forward-no, Harris-no, Sitzler-yes, Brandriet-no, Kuipers-yes, motion failed.

Committee Reports: **Sitzler** read letter from Brenda Schmitz requesting use of confetti/streamer gun during parade for this year's Irrigation Days. Sitzler moved, Kuipers second to have letter sent to allow the use of such gun but restrict it to the "downtown" business area on Main Avenue, carried. **Brandriet** informed the Council of the Fire Department discussions regarding the possibility of implementing a property tax levy, the Department is only at the beginning phases of this. **Kuipers** asked Haring for an Armory update. The Armory kitchen is almost complete and painting in different areas is scheduled to be done. **Harris** requested review of Kevin Haring, Water Treatment Operator. Nelson reported Haring is an asset to the City and has exceeded his expectations on the water plant and other city functions. Haring might be able to test this fall for certifications. **Garbage** truck bid was received from Northern Truck Equipment. Harris and Rosendahl discussed the possibility of keeping the existing truck and looking at different options for transporting waste to Gwinner. More information will be gathered for the next meeting on the Waste Management contract and fees and also options for hauling and the trucks required. **Spring Clean-Up** will be scheduled for the week of May 16th. Landfill will be open all week and items will be picked up by the City. **Forward** reported on the progress of resolving the truck route closure on Main Avenue/County Road 3. Forward moved, Sitzler second to extend deadline prohibiting trucks on Main Avenue to May 15, carried.

Rosendahl brought up the importance of public awareness regarding muskrats and their aggressive behavior. Chief Roberts reminded them that shooting is not allowed within the City. **Flooding**, the river has remained steady and protection is in place at the lift station and manholes west of town; a pump has been placed just for precaution. **Blinds**, first reading sales tax request to purchase blinds for the Community Room. **Marketing Grant**, Haring reported the City of Oakes and OEI was awarded a grant of \$18,900 for marketing material. The funding will be used to create and print new brochures, maps, and folders for the community. **Reimbursement Request**, a request was received from Arnie Widmer to pay

for a snow removal bill of \$25. The snow had to be removed from the alley in order to have his propane tank filled, the City was not contacted to do the work but a private contractor was. Brandriet moved, Sitzler second to pay the costs for the snow removal. Roll call: Rosendahl-no, Forward-no, Harris-no, Kuipers-no, Brandriet-yes, Sitzler-yes, motion fails. In the future, if snow needs to be removed the City should be contacted prior to a private contractor.

Moore Engineering:

2010-1 Phase 2 construction is planned to begin Monday, April 18th. A preconstruction meeting will be held Thursday, April 14 at City Hall at 1pm. Property owners have or will be contacted regarding construction. *Main Street Lighting*, Scott's Electric will be in town to complete punch list items regarding the street lights along Main Avenue.

Safe Routes to School Project, Forward moved, Brandriet second to approve and execute the Cost Participation and Maintenance Agreement with ND DOT for project, carried.

Gravel Survey has been calculated and the majority vote in all areas was no; the paving improvement proposal has failed.

New Business:

Gravel Bid, Brandriet moved, Harris second to accept gravel bid from Dakota Improvement for 500 cubic yards at \$6.15 per yard and \$12.04 per yard for gravel from Bear Creek Gravel, carried.

Sales Tax Request, first reading for \$2,500 for extra expenses during the 125th Celebration this June.

Cemetery Mowing, Brandriet moved, Sitzler second to decline offer of \$1,000 per mowing received from Dean Wiek, carried. Nelson is working with Job Service to find employees to do mowing this summer.

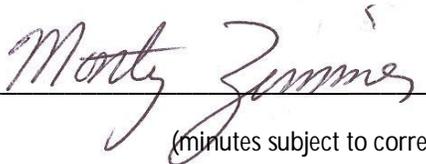
Waste Management Contract, tabled until May meeting in order to gather more information on different options for the garbage hauling.

Announcements & Correspondence:

Safe Water Drinking Act Compliance Award was received by the City Public Works department for completing all the testing and state requirements.

ND Rural Water Training available for small system funding options.

Brandriet moved, Kuipers second to adjourn meeting at 7:45 PM.

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