

City Council Meeting
December 4, 2023

The City Council met at 6:00 PM at Oakes Community Center with the following members present: Mayor O'Brien, Council: Day, Bakke, Harris, Hernandez-Waite and Mayer. Employees present: Matt O'Brien, Lee Bredeson, Dan Brandner, Jason Paradis and Zasha Johnson.

Mayor O'Brien informed the council that he had received a letter from Council member Cindy Bagley and in the letter, she stated she would be resigning as of December 1st, 2023. Bakke moved, Day second to accept the resignation, carried.

Public Hearing: petition to vacate a portion of the alley in Block 4 Washburn's addition was received. No protests or comments were received. Mayer moved, Bakke second to introduce and approve Resolution to Vacate portion of Alley in Block 4 Washburn's Addition, unanimous roll call vote aye, carried.

Engineer Report: Brandon Reber discussed the street project and work that has been completed since the last meeting. A formal resolution is needed to meet requirement for the state, Day introduced and moved to adopt RESOLUTION DIRECTING ENGINEER TO PREPARE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, Hernandez-Waite second, roll call vote Hernandez-Waite-yes, Day-yes, Mayer-yes, Harris-yes, Bakke-no, carried. There was further discussion about the process for moving forward and what steps will need to be taken. A quote from Braun Intertec was presented to complete core sampling throughout the project area, Day moved, Hernandez-Waite second to accept the quote, unanimous roll call vote, carried. Reber clarified that the amount quoted was included in the project estimate of costs. Reber also presented Moore Engineering invoice 36051, Day moved, Hernandez-Waite second to approve payment, carried. Reber informed the council the City has qualified for grant funds to conduct the Lead Line Inventory, Moore has been retained to provide the services, Johnson will work with Reber to provide any information needed.

Minutes, Auditor and Court Report: Day moved, Bakke second to approve minutes, auditor reports and police department report as presented, carried.

Game of Chance Permit: Bakke moved, Day second to approve game of chance permits as presented, carried.

1. Oakes Student Council, 50/50 raffles
2. Oakes Archery Club, Calendar raffle.

Building Permit: Bakke moved, Hernandez-Waite second to approve building permit as presented, carried.

1. Bagley, Lot 11 Blk 22 Washburn's Addition, Storage building with office space.

Bills: Bakke moved, Mayer second to approve bills as listed, roll call approved:

ABC Lock & Key	450.00	Agtegra	4679.81
American Welding	39.83	Aqua Pure	4345.00
Avid Hawk	200.00	City of Fargo	28.00
Colliers Securities	500.00	Computer Express	899.00
Corner C Store	136.55	Dakota Supply Group	1034.79
Dakota Valley	473.48	DRN	760.65
Grotberg Electric	247.62	Hawkins	4516.34
Heritage Insurance	160.00	James River Repair	604.93
Mertz Lumber	445.44	Millers Foods	1.34
Napa	447.31	NDPERS-Insurance	19,895.98
NDPERS-Retirement	8,372.11	ND Water Users	300.00

Novak Electric	567.00	Oakes Area Chamber	3100.00
OEI	16,040.46	Oakes Times	238.33
Omni Site	138.66	Ottertail	5998.50
Paradis Law	500.00	Pat O'Brien	247.50
Priska's Hardware	272.01	Rods Cleaning	80.00
Starion Bank	2,407.04	Steve Berntson	174.23
Streicher's	3451.14	Sweets & Stories	89.23
Sweeny Controls	12281.20	Verizon	497.57
Visa-library	424.10	Visa-city	1492.76
Vistos Carquest	45.57	Waste Management	21,831.28S
Salaries	70,999.75	Payroll Taxes	18,491.30

Visitors: Kausha Magill gave a brief report on the Wine Walk event. Attendees came from several cities and out of state as well and business owners reported increased sales. Thanked the council for their support.

Committee Reports: An anonymous complaint was received regarding the condition of intersections around town. Public works will do what they can to fill holes and improve issues. Chief O'Brien reported that the First Responder Christmas event for the kids went well, turnout was good and the community support is greatly appreciated.

Unfinished Business: Moore Engineering invoice 34781 for support at the water treatment plant was discussed. Bakke moved, Day second to not pay the invoice, carried.

New Business: Employee Appreciation: Bakke moved, Day second to present full and part time employees with Oakes Bucks in appreciation of their work throughout the year, carried. Mayer discussed employee pay and her feeling that the full council should be involved in raises that are not part of the regular annual increases. Cost of Living adjustments were discussed, Bakke moved, Hernandez-Waite second to approve a 5% adjustment for 2024 for all employees with the exception of two public works employees who recently received increases, carried.

Announcements & Correspondence:

Mayer recognized that going forward, especially with the street project, discussions may become intense as differing opinions exist and the council needs to work together to do what is best for the residents of Oakes.

Mayer moved, Day second to adjourn the meeting at 6:42PM.

MAYOR _____

ATTEST _____



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