

## Board of Equalization

April 8, 2025

The Board of Equalization met at 6:00 PM at Oakes Community Center with the following members present: Mayor Sitzler, Council: Harris, Kelly, Hollingsworth, Mayer and Day. Employees present: Lee Bredeson, Chad Raatz, Matthew O'Brien, Rod Rodningen, Fallon Kelly and Zasha Johnson. Multiple visitors were present.

Rodningen addressed the council explaining that 60 Homestead Credit applications were received with 56 qualifying. He then presented his evaluations and changes for the year. Several individuals in attendance asked for clarification on their property. Rodningen asked those individuals to come into the office the next day so they could review the property together. Several others had come to Rodningen prior to the meeting and he was able to adjust five parcels upon further review. Councilman Harris inquired about the number of commercial sales and what the city sales ratio was for the year. Harris moved, Mayer second to approve residential evaluations and changes as presented, carried. Hollingsworth moved, Kelly second to approve commercial evaluations and changes as presented, carried.

## City Council Meeting

April 8, 2025

The City Council met at 6:27 PM at Oakes Community Center with the same members, employees and some of the same visitors present.

Engineer Report: Reber & Roehrich presented engineers agenda. Street project will be starting up again likely in May. Will work with street committee to review additional areas of work and areas that need correction. Special assessment committee roles and responsibilities were discussed. Day moved, Harris second to introduce and approve resolution appointing members of the special assessment committee, carried. The DWRP grant application for water plant improvements was submitted, waiting for approval.

Minutes, Auditor and Court Reports: Mayer moved, Day second to approve minutes, carried. Harris moved, Hollingsworth second to approve police report, carried. Harris moved, Mayer second to approve auditor reports, carried.

Building Permits: Hollingsworth moved, Harris second to approve building permits as listed, carried.

- All Of Lot 10 & S 1/2 Of Lot 11 & Vac Alley Blk 2 Visto's Subdivision, Front Steps
- S 150' Of Outlot H Letter Outlots, Fence

Game of Chance Permits: Mayer moved, Day second to approve game of chance permits as listed, carried.

1. Catholic Church, Bingo
2. Tiny Tornadoes, Raffle
3. Oakes Golf Club, Raffle

Special Event Permit: Mayer moved, Harris second to approve special event permit as listed, carried.

1. Angry Beaver Lodge, Wedding at Oakes Community Center

Bills: Hollingsworth moved, Day second to approve bills, carried.

Aflac	118.10	Agtegra	818.25
Aqua Pure	1000.00	Avid Hawk	200.00
B&K Plumbing	145.00	Bank of ND	38242.46

Butler Machinery	19908.66	Central States Transportation	900.00
City of Fargo	42.00	Column Software	1151.40
Computer Express	79.98	Corner C Store	58.06
Dakota Valley Electric	707.00	DRN	973.44
Embroidery Creations	133.20	Fabian Pest Control	105.00
Information Technology	151.60	Internal Rev. Services	2607.36
Midwest Pest Control	75.00	Motorola	43,779.00
Napa	471.33	ND League of Cities	250.00
One Call	3.00	NDPERS-Group Ins.	20,127.72
NDPERS-Retirement	9,900.53	Oakes Chamber	20,785.60
Oakes Enhancement	10,431.06	Oakes Times	79.15
Oakes Truck & Trailer	1009.05	Ottertail	8,119.06
Praska's Hardware	314.03	Recycling Center	1296.25
Rod's Cleaning	80.00	Sanitation Products	320.45
Sanford	115.00	Starion Bank	2,407.04
Starion Bond Services	552,897.51	Stunt Cams	2030.00
Sweeney Controls	9895.67	Sweets & Stories	190.35
Team Lab	1074.00	Transource Truck & Equipment	429.36
USA Blue Book	369.28	Verizon	487.90
Visa Credit Card-City	2728.50	Visa Credit Card-library	357.57
Visto's Carquest	146.76	Waste Management-Recycle	9,301.73
Zacks Repair	1128.63	Zasha Johnson	238.00
Payroll Taxes	15,308.85	Salaries	66,125.64

Visitors: Leslie Dethlefsen asked if the council would waive the rental fees for the community center for the Post Prom committee. Mayer moved, Kelly second to waive all rental fees, carried. Kausha Magill presented a request for tourism funds in support of Irrigation Days. Hollingsworth moved, Mayer second to approve \$6,000 for Irrigation Days funding, carried. Magill also talked about the summer concert series at Union Square on Main Street.

Committee Reports: Kelly reported that there are a couple storage tanks at the city shop that are no longer in use and could be sold. Kelly moved, Day second to declare the value of the tanks is less than \$2500.00, carried. Kelly has been working with Wastyn & Associates regarding grant funding for the Highway 1 stoplight. Harris moved, Day second to approve grant research proposal for no more than two months, carried. Day gave updates on the police officers and training. Hollingsworth has spoken with Berntson about well repairs and control panel repair options. Discussed education and training opportunities for water operator testing, will contact Dan Overmoe with Rural Water for more information. Hollingsworth was contacted by someone wanting the concrete from the landfill site, but they are unable to haul it. May be worth checking with the golf course if they need rip-rap. Raatz is scheduled to take the training test for his CDL, Kelly moved, Day second to approve payment of \$150 to Central States Transport for testing fee, carried. No bids were received for the motor-grader. One bidder reached out after the deadline stating they would like to bid. F. Kelly advised to readvertise for bids to give all potential bidders a second chance to submit. Harris moved, Kelly second to readvertise for bids with a minimum bid of \$110,000, carried. Briefly discussed upgrade options for the sewer truck, no action taken at this time.

Unfinished Business: 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Flood Zone Ordinance, Public Hearing was called to order, no written protests were received, no verbal protests were heard. Hollingsworth moved, Harris second that pursuant to NDCC 40-47-05(03) the City Council discussed the grounds for the zoning amendments and determined that the grounds are for the safety of the community and to come into compliance with laws relating to flood insurance, carried. The council then heard the second reading of the ordinance changes, Harris moved, Day second to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, carried. Hollingsworth moved, Day second to close the public hearing, carried. Landfill opening date was discussed and decided that April 26<sup>th</sup> would be the first day from 8am –

2pm and every other Saturday thereafter. Hours may be adjusted based on usage. Mayor Sitzler requested the meeting to discuss the updated draft of the personnel handbook be moved to a special meeting. That meeting was scheduled for April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm.

New Business:

*Spring Clean-Up* – will take place May 8<sup>th</sup>- 10<sup>th</sup> - Thursday & Friday 3pm-8pm and Saturday 8am-2pm. Landfill will be open free of charge (with the exception of shingles).

*Gravel Bids*, two gravel bids were received. Discussion took place regarding the two bids, there is minimal monetary difference between the bids, the city has extensive history with one of the bidders and all experiences with them have been positive. The other bidder has no history of working with the city. Hollingsworth moved, Day second to accept the bid from Dakota Improvement, carried.

Announcements & Correspondence:

Hollingsworth moved, Harris second to authorize Mayor to sign EMS Week Proclamation, carried.

Harris moved, Mayer second to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 PM.

MAYOR \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_

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

