

City Council Meeting July 8, 2025

The City Council met at 6:00 PM at Oakes Community Center with the following members present: Mayor Sitzler, Council: Hernandez-Waite, Harris, Kelly, Hollingsworth and Day. Employees present: Lee Bredeson, Chad Raatz, Matt O'Brien, Fallon Kelly and Zasha Johnson.

Resignation Letter: was received from Council Member Mayer. F. Kelly briefed the council on the options to fill the vacancy. A special meeting was scheduled for July 29th to review any petitions received or appoint a replacement. The preliminary budget will also be reviewed at the special meeting.

Minutes, Auditor and Police Reports: Hollingsworth moved, Kelly second to approve minutes with correction to a misspelled word, carried. Day moved Harris second to approve police report, carried. Harris moved, Day second to approve auditor reports as presented, carried.

Building Permit: Harris moved, Hollingsworth second to approve permit for a fence at Lots 1 & 2 Block 19 Washburn's Addition, carried.

Gaming of Chance Permit: Day moved, Harris second to approve game of chance permit for Oakes Basketball Boosters, carried.

Bills: Hollingsworth moved, Kelly second to approve bills pending correction of NDLC payment, carried.

Avid Hawk	200.00	Agtegra	4604.26
American Legion	500.00	Aqua Pure	1,294.20
Avid Hawk	200.00	B&B Gardens	158.54
Bearcreek Flying	4105.40	Butler Machine	2253.29
City of Fargo	42.00	Code 4	11783.64
Dakota Improvement	4422.33	Dakota Supply Group	315.43
Dakota Velley Electric	272.00	Dickey Rural Communication	969.99
Frontier Builders Supply	17.69	Heritage Ins.	19747.00
Information Technology	151.60	Kustom Machine	140.10
Napa	642.54	ND League of Cities	1775.00
NDPERS Ins	23184.66	NDPERS Retirement	9908.86
Oakes Enhancement	12223.52	Oakes Times	514.87
One Call	22.50	Ottertail	6739.85
Rods Cleaning	80.00	Rons Heating & Appliance	200.00
Sanitation Products	135.46	Starion Bank	2407.04
Starion Bank	27828.07	Tornado Stop	2812.05
Van Diest Supply	1259.25	Visa-city	3637.25
Vistos	548.85	Waste Management	12328.04
Zacks Repair	235.06		
Payroll Taxes	17204.44	Salaries	75752.15

Committee Reports: Mayor Sitzler gave an update on the pool situation that was discussed at the special meeting June 25th. An architect was spoken to and there is a plan in place to address the leaking at the end of the season. It was questioned whether a city council member can sit on the Park Board or possibly be an ex-officio member and attend meetings, their meetings are open to the public and anyone can attend. The water loss at the pool has brought up the need to perform a water loss audit, to determine any other large leaks or large users that are not currently being billed. There is concern that the wells will need to be cleaned and inspected before the water plant improvement funding is approved, will work with Berntson to

determine need and timing. Hollingsworth and other Fire Department volunteers have been working on hydrant flushing; some are stuck and have been difficult to open. Discussed the need to begin flushing annually as was done in the past. Kelly and Raatz have been searching for a new sewer-jetter truck, they have found one in South Dakota, Raatz will be traveling there tomorrow to look at the truck. The price of the truck is \$30,000 and Kelly believes this is a fair price. Kelly moved, Harris second to approve the purchase for \$30,000 if the truck passes inspection, carried. It was also stated that we should sell the old truck to keep from accumulating old equipment, in the past a potential buyer was identified, will reach out to that individual. Day informed the council that the assessment committee will begin meeting at the end of July; he also reached out to assessment committee members to keep them informed. Dead and dangerous trees have been observed on City boulevards around town; ordinance research indicates the cost of removing these belongs to the city. Day moved to change ordinance 3.0703, motion died for lack of a second. Day moved, Hollingsworth second to get bids for removal of dead trees on boulevard at corner of Maple and 6th, carried. Updates to tree removal ordinances will be added to the agenda for the next meeting to be included in the complete ordinance update taking place. Hollingsworth thanked the Public Works crew for their extra hours on Sunday at the large leak at the Good Samaritan Center. Culverts on 15th Street North are plugged and possibly damaged, will need to be inspected and issues addressed. It was requested to cut a curb to extend a driveway. Hernandez-Waite moved Harris second to allow Oakes Housing Partners to cut their curb four feet for a driveway extension, carried. Hernandez-Waite spoke with Cindy Bagley and she would be willing to help with any issues at the pool as her prior experience may be helpful. This offer of assistance will be passed along to the park board. Raatz shared concern about the new drain at the practice field not draining properly, engineers will need to inspect this area.

Unfinished Business: Second reading of Golf Cart Ordinance, after discussion of several additional requirements, Hollingsworth moved, Harris second to approve ordinance with addition of insurance requirement and passenger limits, carried with Day voting Nay.

New Business: Library report was received and reviewed. Mayor Sitzler opened two tree removal bids received for the cemetery, Day moved Harris second to accept bid from Dakota Improvement, carried. The American Legion had a fireworks display the previous weekend, Day moved, Hollingsworth second to give \$500.00 from tourism funds to help pay for the display, carried.

Announcements & Correspondence: A letter from a concerned citizen was received regarding several issues, one of which was golf carts, that was addressed earlier in the meeting with passage of ordinance. Dogs-at-large is an ongoing issue, each case is dealt with when a call is received. At this time there is nothing in state law to address the motorized scooters being used around town, attorney will review any possible options for this. Other traffic concerns are dealt with when offenses are observed, or complaints are received; it is not illegal to park along Highway One. Engineering will inspect areas of concern pointed out in the letter as well.

Kelly moved, Hollingsworth second to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 PM.

MAYOR _____

ATTEST _____

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

