

City Council Meeting
September 9, 2025

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

Engineer Report: Reber presented payment application #8 from Bituminous Paving, J. Hollingsworth moved, Kelly second to approve payment as presented, carried. An initial design meeting for the WTP upgrades will be scheduled in the coming weeks. Reber informed the council that they would be submitting project applications for the state drinking water fund, this does not obligate the city to do the project but keeps them on the list for funding opportunities.

Minutes, Auditor and Police Reports: Harris moved, D Hollingsworth second to approve minutes, carried. J Hollingsworth moved, Harris second to approve police report, carried. Harris moved, D Hollingsworth second to approve auditor reports, carried.

Building Permits: Kelly moved, Day second to approve permit for S ½ Lot 5 all Lot 6 Blk 10 Washburns Addn, front steps and back deck, carried. D. Hollingsworth moved, Hernandez-Waite second to approve permit for Lot 18 Blk 22 Outlots & Additions, curb cut for driveway, carried.

Game of Chance Permits: J. Hollingsworth moved, Harris second to approve permits as listed, carried.

1. The Lions Club - Calendar & Meat Raffle
2. Oakes Hospital Foundation – Calendar Raffle

Special Event Permits: D Hollingsworth moved, Harris carried, to approve special event permits as listed, carried.

1. Angry Bever Lodge – Wedding Dance Oakes Community Center
2. Oakes Golf Club – Wedding Dance Oakes Community Center

Bills: D. Hollingsworth moved, Hernandez-Waite second to approve bills as presented, carried.

Aflac	118.10	Aqua Pure	4805.12
Avid Hawk	200.00	Bear Creek Flying Service	3261.05
Bear Creek Scrap	225.00	Bobcat	52.17
Central Business Systems	173.55	Central States Radar	126.00
Code 4 Services	1017.00	Computer Express	12722.94
Corner C Store	10.98	Dakota Improvement	3118.38
Dakota Supply Group	10803.40	Dakota Valley Electric	245.00
Daniel Kenney	450.00	Dickey County General Fund	9.00
DRN	993.39	Fabian Pest	230.00
Fallon Kelly	900.00	GS Services	1950.00
Harold Rotunda	4900.00	Heritage Ins.	701.00
Information Tech	186.50	Integrity Sales & Auction	2000.00
Interstate Engineering	81279.61	Jones & Kelly Attys at Law	1775.00
Kamstrup	1226.23	Napa	168.26
NDPERS-Insurance	22,210.74	NDPERS-Retirement	9,381.47
Novak Electric	142.00	Oakes Enhancement	14,291.42
Oakes Times	2503.85	Oakes Truck & Trailer	3213.47
One Call	27.20	Ottertail	7863.07
Pitney Bowes	256.26	Praskas	160.93
Rods Cleaning	80.00	Starion Bank	2407.04

Sweets & Stories	109.58	Tornado Stop	2480.18
Veseris	3634.90	Visa-library	31.08
Visa-City	661.76	Vistos	489.77
The Village Family Services	1500.00	Waste Management	13,764.92
Payroll Taxes	15,025.33	Salaries	66,992.26

Committee Reports: Public works department extended an offer of employment that was accepted. Kelly moved, Harris second to officially hire C. Boyle, carried. Kelly talked about aerial spraying for mosquitos; every city is trying to get this done so there is a long waiting list. Effectiveness of previous years' spraying was questioned and if the expense is warranted this late in the year. A resident has requested that a tree on city property be taken down due to dead branches causing a hazard. This city owned lot is adjacent to their lot and it was observed that the resident is using the lot for recreational equipment for children. A letter will be sent to the resident requesting the removal of this equipment due to liability issues. The newly formed tree committee can be asked to survey trees around the city for removal or trimming. The community center roof recently was leaking again during a heavy rain event. Day mentioned the gutter on the North roof may need to be looked at. Public works will reach out to R. Garland for inspection and advice. The last recycling pickup will be September 16th. All recycle totes will be picked up and stored at the city shop. A list of cardboard dumpster locations has been made available, will remind residents to breakdown boxes before placing in the dumpsters. J Hollingsworth thanked L. Bredeson for his years of service to the city, he will be retiring at the end of October. J Hollingsworth also thanked councilman Day for helping during the community night out held on Main Ave. Discussion took place about the water services at Huebner Trail Park on Main Avenue. There are homes that are improperly connected to water mains that are likely not being metered. The property is under new ownership that was not involved in these improper connections, F. Kelly will draft a letter to the owner asking them to discuss options to correct the situation. Water meter replacement is ongoing, a second batch of the letter from F. Kelly will be sent. Public works will reach out to any plumbers that may be willing to assist with the installations.

Unfinished Business: *Tree Committee*, Day provided a list of individuals willing to join the city tree committee, D. Hollingsworth volunteered to be the council member on the committee. J. Hollingsworth moved, Kelly second to approve appointment of all individuals, carried. *Tree Bid*, two bids for tree removal along Highway 1 were received, Harris moved, D. Hollingsworth moved to accept bid from Brownie's Tree Service, carried.

New Business: *Special Assessment Committee*, resignation was received from D. Grosgebauer, B. Meehl has agreed to join the committee. J Hollingsworth moved, D Hollingsworth second to accept resignation and approve appointment of said committee members, carried. Water billing policy for vacant homes, vacant lots was discussed. There had been previous discussion about the ability to cap the line to avoid charges. A new ordinance will be written to clarify that all properties will receive charges. Fall Clean-up will be held Saturday October 4th at the waste disposal site from 8am-3:30pm. D Hollingsworth moved, Harris second to approve 1st Reading of ordinance 14.0206 amendment to remove setback requirements for fences that do not interfere with traffic visibility, carried.

Announcements & Correspondence:

Letter from G. Neuharth concerning recycling was read. Johnson will be attending the League of Cities Annual Conference in Bismarck September 17-19. Special Assessment Committee Hearing is September 23rd at 6pm.

D Hollingsworth moved, Harris second to adjourn the meeting at 7:15PM.

MAYOR _____

ATTEST _____

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

