

City Council Meeting
January 13, 2026

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

Engineer Report: Reber said the street project is considered complete and the GIS Map is updated. Day moved, D. Hollingsworth second to approve invoice 005099 for street engineering, carried. The bid opening for the WTP improvement project will be February 5th at City Hall. The contract amendment for electrical engineering on the project was reviewed. J Hollingsworth moved, Kelly second to approve amendment #1 for \$16,700, carried. Reber presented an invoice for WTP assistance that included two in-person visits from a Moore engineer. D Hollingsworth moved, Hernandez-Waite second to approve invoice 006706 for assistance, carried. The geotechnical company will be in town the week of the 19th to conduct the soil sample testing around the manhole on Main Avenue & 15th Street where there have been ongoing issues. The funding from the state for Lead Line survey has come in, Moore will schedule a few days for door-to-door visits to help people identify their line type.

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

Year-End Financial Statement: D Hollingsworth moved, Day second to approve the report as presented showing Year End Financials for 2025 ending cash balance \$5,272,904.44, carried.

Budget Amendment: Kelly moved, Harris second to approve budget amendments for 2025 fiscal year increasing overall budget by \$1,106,251 due in part to usage of grant funds that was not anticipated, carried.

Pledge of Assets and Designate Depositories: Starion Financial, First Community Credit Union, BankNorth are designated depositories with pledges of \$7,706,712.57, \$0.00, \$215,420.30 accordingly; Day moved, D Hollingsworth second to accept report and depositories designation, carried.

Gaming Site Authorization: J Hollingsworth moved, Hernandez-Waite second to approve application from OEI to conduct gaming at The Last Shot, carried.

Game of Chance Permit: Kelly moved, D Hollingsworth second to approve Oakes Post Prom permit for Superbowl board, carried.

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

Aflac	613.88	American Welding	40.86
Aqua Pure	949.99	Avid Hawk	200.00
Bear Creek Flying Service	2175.00	City of Fargo	28.00
Colliers Securities	500.00	Column Software	223.44
Computer Express	164.99	Dakota Improvement	5175.00
Dakota Supply Group	117.96	Dakota Valley Electric	1068.00
Dickey County	3,201.53	DRN	4792.51
Economy Oil	846.59	Economy Propane	760.05
Fabian Pest Control	105.00	Fronter Builders Supply	33.96
Information Tech	207.80	John Deere Financial	61.74
Kustom Machine	651.78	MOCIC	100.00

Moore Engineering	16029.30	Napa	336.89
ND One Call	1.50	NDPERS-Ins.	23,184.94
NDPERS-Retirement	9,542.62	ND Dept. of Quality	14.56
Novak Electric	1581.89	Oakes Enhancement	12,170.47
Oakes Times	40.00	Oakes Truck & Trailer	4473.39
Omni Site	2,730.00	Ottetail	8,333.65
Praskas	186.32	Riverside Building Center	399.00
Rod's Cleaning	80.00	Starion Bank	2,407.04
Sweeney Controls	1801.85	Sweets & Stories	33.13
Thein Well	4160.10	Tornado Stop	6,249.11
Verizon	658.48	Visa-Library	267.87
Visa-City	4063.24	Vistos	417.06
Waste Management	9,745.70		
Salaries	66,944.45	Payroll Taxes	14,976.26

Committee Reports: D Hollingsworth asked about ticketing repeat offenders parking on streets during snow removal. Chief O'Brien asked him to let him know of any vehicles he is concerned about. Harris informed the council that C. Boyle had put in his two-week notice; will start advertising the position immediately. Raatz thanked Jake Kelly and Mike Kelly for their help with snow removal. He also has one individual in town that would be willing to help part time with removal in the future. B. Larson has agreed to start helping at the water plant part time and is willing to take the certification tests. Chief O'Brien has no concerns with this. Kelly moved, D Hollingsworth second to approve payment of all expenses for Larson to obtain his certification and enroll in the BSC water program, carried. Harris contacted several individuals about joining the city Board of Adjustment and was able to find 3 additional members bringing the total to 5 members, J Hollingsworth moved, Harris second to appoint all 5 members to the board of adjustment, carried.

Unfinished Business: Mayor Sitzler commented that all members had recently been served with a petition for writ of mandamus from Great Plains Oil Company. No council action will be taken at this time. Attorney Kelly asked that an official motion be made to direct his response to the petition. Kelly moved, Harris second to direct Attorney Kelly to resist the writ of mandamus, carried.

New Business: A snow removal bid for the flat portion of the Community Center was received. Most of the snow has melted since the last meeting so full removal is not currently needed. Discussed getting an hourly rate from the bidder if removal is needed later in the season. Harris moved, D Hollingsworth second to reject the bid and request an hourly rate, carried. Employee pay rates were discussed; an increase of 4.5% was included in the budget. Harris moved, Day second to approve increase for all employees as budgeted, carried.

Announcements & Correspondence:

Email from L. Novak was received and distributed.

Mayor Sitzler presented invite to meet with the new state Superintendent of Public instruction at the school January 16th at 12:30pm.

J Hollingsworth moved, Day second to adjourn the meeting at 6:52PM.

MAYOR _____

ATTEST _____

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

