

Board of Equalization

April 14, 2026

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

Rodningen addressed the council explaining that 58 Homestead Credit applications were received with 54 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. J Hollingsworth moved, Harris second to table decision until visitors in attendance could meet with Rodningen to review their assessment, carried.

City Council Meeting

April 14, 2026

The City Council met at 6:22 PM at Oakes Community Center with the same members, employees and some of the same visitors present.

Engineer Report: Reber gave an updated on the WTP Improvements with a pre-construction meeting to be scheduled for mid-May. D Hollingsworth moved, Kelly second to pay invoice 008314 to Moore Engineering, carried. Invoice 008315 for WTP technical assistance was presented, Day moved, D Hollingsworth second to pay the invoice, carried. The bid opening for the sanitary manhole replacement was on April 13th. Naastad Brothers was the low bidder, they have worked with the City previously and engineers recommend approved of their bid. J Hollingsworth moved, Day second to award the bid to Naastad Brothers, carried. A second meeting of the Zoning and Planning committee will be scheduled to continue working on the Highway 1 connectivity study.

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

Building Permits: D Hollingsworth moved, Hernandez-Waite second to approve building permits as listed, carried.

- W 1/2 Of 9 & All Of Lots 10 Thru 12 Blk 20 McCarthy's Addn, Deck
- Lot 1 & N 40' Of Lot 2 Blk 12 McCarthy's Addn, Fence

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

1. Catholic Church, Bingo

Bills: J Hollingsworth moved, Hernandez-Waite second to approve bills, carried.

Aflac	887.46	American Welding & Gas	38.68
American Engineering	8000.00	Aqua Pure	2141.80
Avid Hawk	200.00	A W Diesel	607.15
B&K Plumbing	519.88	Bank of ND	41437.63
Bobcat	226.12	City of Fargo	258.00
Code 4	288.63	Computer Express	221.96

Dakota Valley Electric	823.00	DRN	996.16
Groton Ford	184.09	Hastings Plumbing	255.67
Information Technology	175.85	James River Repair	2187.44
Jones & Kelly Attys at Law	280.00	Kustom Machine	3362.13
Napa	800.10	One Call	3.00
NDPERS-Group Ins.	22,219.06	NDPERS-Retirement	14,356.31
ND Sewage Pump Lift station	2100.00	Oakes Enhancement	17,256.35
Oakes Times	185.36	Oakes Truck & Trailer	4350.60
Ottertail	11,223.73	Proforms	1759.27
Prairie Printing	21.41	Praska's Hardware	76.63
Rod's Cleaning	80.00	Starion Bank	2,407.04
Tornado Stop	6263.77	Verizon	600.27
Visa Credit Card-City	1847.15	Visa Credit Card-library	433.92
Visto's Carquest	128.13	Waste Management-Recycle	12,608.27
Zacks Repair	761.40	Salaries	95,640.92
Payroll Taxes	21,853.27		

Visitors: Kausha Magill with the Chamber of Commerce presented two tourism fund requests; one for the 2026 Irrigation Days celebration and one for an ad in a statewide visitor's guide. Day moved, D Hollingsworth second, to approve \$7,000 for Irrigation Days carried. Harris moved, Kelly second to approve \$927 for the visitor's guide, carried. Rachel Kelly was present to talk about a childcare program she has qualified for. The City would need to be the sponsor of the project and funds would pass through the City. We have done this with other similar projects in the past; Johnson will work with Kelly to sign any necessary paperwork. Jeremy Moore presented the council with a conditional use request for temporary RV parking on a residential lot he recently acquired. He had a well detailed plan and answered questions from the council. City attorney F. Kelly advised that the proper procedure involves presenting this to the zoning and planning committee first as they have initial approval of conditional use requests. Moore also presented information about the alley on his recently acquired property that is not plotted as an official City alley at this time. Utility lines run through this part of his property, and it appears the necessary easements for those services are not in place. M Kelly and J Hollingsworth will work with the engineers, and zoning and planning committee to determine best steps to move forward with this situation.

Committee Reports: Mayor Sitzler asked about the status of finishing the ceiling in the meeting room and if we were still looking to complete roof repairs. D Hollingsworth was approached by a resident inquiring if the city paid to remove dead trees in the boulevard. Johnson was reviewing ordinance to determine if this only applied to diseased trees such as Dutch Elm or trees considered hazardous. A comment was made earlier in the meeting about difficulty with hearing council members and the possibility of having microphones and a speaker. Johnson will look into options. Harris was approached by a resident with some concerns about zoning and access to their property. City attorney F Kelly explained some options that may be taken regarding the property. J Hollingsworth moved, Kelly second, to perform a survey of this property, J Hollingsworth amended his motion, Kelly seconded the amendment, to proceed with survey pending approval of a quote from Moore Engineering, carried.

Discussed the receipt of a quote from Total Home to replace the floor tiles in the gym. A sample was sent in for asbestos testing, and we are waiting on the results of that test before proceeding. A pile of junk and trash is accumulating in a lot on South 14th Street, City Attorney F. Kelly will write an abatement letter to the property owner. Discussed the condition of the old CDI building and possible plans to demolish it. City

Attorney F. Kelly will send a letter to encourage property owners to begin the process of demolition. A resident approached the city office with concerns about train noise in the northwest section of town. The train is left idling for hours to days at a time while parked and the resident was wondering if anything could be done. City Attorney F. Kelly mentioned a quiet zone process that is done through the federal level, but he has only heard it used for train whistles. D Hollingsworth knows an individual on the LaMoure crew; he will reach out to them for information. Raatz received a quote for \$2,200 to move the compost pile at the landfill, J Hollingsworth moved, D Hollingsworth second to approve quote and proceed with work, carried. Another quote was received for \$1,865 to spray the cattails surrounding the lagoon, D Hollingsworth moved, Hernandez-Waite second, to approve quote and proceed with work, carried. Raatz also informed the council he has hired two summer help high school workers for the season. Chief O'Brien gave an update on the SIRN system and a recent county meeting. Conversation moved back to the ceiling of the meeting room, there were no issues during recent rains so council feels work can be completed.

Unfinished Business: D Hollingsworth moved, Harris second to enter an executive session to discuss negotiation strategy and consult with attorney on order received from the court regarding Great Plains Oil Building Permit, unanimous roll call, carried. The executive session was recorded and called to order at 7:41PM and was attended by Mayor Sitzler, Council: M. Kelly, Day, D Hollingsworth, Harris, J Hollingsworth and Hernandez-Waite. Attorney F. Kelly, Public Works Director Raatz and Auditor Johnson. Executive session was adjourned at 8:05PM and meeting was continued in open session. J Hollingsworth moved, Day second to approve Great Plains Building Permit, unanimous roll call, carried. First reading of the Off Highway Vehicle Ordinance change was presented. The City is still in need of a County JDA rep and County Zoning Committee Rep. D Hollingsworth volunteered to fill the JDA position.

New Business:

Spring Clean-Up – will take place April 25th, 8am-3pm. Landfill will be open free of charge (with the exception of shingles). Electronics disposal will be on April 24th, 12pm to 3pm at the City shop. *Gravel Bids*, two gravel bids were received. Harris moved, D Hollingsworth second to accept the lower bid from Dakota Improvement, carried. *NDIRF* conducted a survey of the insured value of several city owned structures, they believe that many are undervalued and suggest increasing the valuations. J Hollingsworth moved, Kelly second to approve all increases as presented by NDIRF, carried. *County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* was provided to the council along with a resolution to adopt the plan as provided. J Hollingsworth moved, Harris second to introduce and approve A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF OAKES ADOPTING THE DICKEY COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA, MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN 2026, carried.

Announcements & Correspondence:

Proclamations for EMS Week and Arbor Day were presented. A water appropriate notice from the Dickey Sargent Irrigation District was received, as was an invitation from the Lions Club for their 100th Anniversary Celebration. Information about Capital Credit Union and a deposit proposal was reviewed, please reach out with any questions, Anthony Bruhn would be willing to attend a meeting to discuss it further.

D Hollingsworth moved, Day second to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM.

MAYOR _____

ATTEST _____

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

