

City Council Meeting  
May 7, 2018

The City Council met at 6:00 PM at Oakes Community Center with the following members present: Mayor Zimmer and Council: Forward, Harris, O'Brien, and Conklin. Engel was absent. Visitors present: Robert Schaefer, Rocky Foss, Harold Rotunda-CPA, Cavin Berube-Moore Engineering and Jerod Klabunde-Moore Engineering. Employees present: Matt O'Brien, Dennis Cihak, Pat Nelson, Gary Neuharth, and April Haring.

Engineer Report: Working on project close-outs for the lagoon and lift station improvements. Discussed upcoming meeting with Southeast Water Users regarding a potential future partnership for supplying water. Council reviewed information on the proposed street survey will table until later in the season.

Minutes, Auditor and Court Reports: O'Brien moved, Conklin second to approve minutes and all other reports as presented, carried.

Game of Chance Permit: Forward moved, O'Brien second to approve game of chance permits and gaming site authorizations as listed, carried:

1. Oakes Archery Club, calendar raffle
2. Skills USA, raffle
3. Oakes Wrestling Club, 50/50 raffle
4. Oakes Golden Age Club, bingo
5. American Legion, Gaming Site
6. Lions, Gaming Site

Building Permit: Conklin moved, O'Brien second to approve building permits as listed, carried:

1. Francisco Bethancorth, S 70' Lots 17 and 18 Block 4 Original Plat, new garage
2. Rocky Foss, Lots 7 and 8 Block 4 Washburns, garage and addition
3. Rod Seelye, S ½ Lot 3, all Lot 4 and N ½ Lot 5 Block 28 WTL, concrete
4. Alysen Garland, N ½ of Lot 10 and all Lot 11 Block 28 WTL, fence
5. Jim and Beth Bopp, Lots 8 thru 12 Block 16 Original Plat, shed

Special Event Permits:

Harris moved, O'Brien second to approve special event permits as listed, carried:

1. Angry Beaver Lodge, June 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Street Dance; Main Avenue
2. American Legion, June 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Beer Garden-Rodeo; Roughrider Arena
3. American Legion, June 9<sup>th</sup> Softball Tournament, Westside Park

Bills: Conklin moved, O'Brien second to approve bills as listed, roll call approved:

NDPERS 457	50.00	Companion Life	505.69
NDPERS-Life Insurance	0.28	Edward Jones	50.00
NDPERS 457	50.00	Edward Jones	50.00
Homan Design Group	2,212.68	AFLAC	270.08
American Welding	30.05	Ameripride	165.05
Circle R	254.10	City of Fargo	28.00
Computer Express	1,558.99	Dakota Improvement	1,106.10
Dakota Valley Electric-Airport	247.00	Dakota Valley Electric-Sign	29.00
Dickey County Recorder	30.00	Dickey Rural Communications	689.60
Ecolab	106.97	Economy Propane	560.40
Farmland CoOp	2,730.54	Ferguson Waterworks	82.86

Gahner Sanitation	5,292.00	Galls	922.53
General Irrigation	18.44	GS Services	150.00
Hawkins	2,854.60	Information Technology Dept	43.70
James River Repair	787.16	Kellys Welding	355.55
Kustom Machine	42.42	Lau Motors	161.62
Napa	621.47	ND One Call	11.45
ND Sewage Pump Lift Station	1,995.50	NDPERS-Group Insurance	12,880.67
NDPERS-Retirement	7,027.15	Neuharth Law Office	225.00
Novak Electric	1,167.39	Oakes Area Chamber of Commerce	117.00
Oakes Community Clinic	100.00	Oakes Enhancement, Inc	4,151.69
Oakes Times	664.80	Oakes Truck & Trailer	1,828.50
Oakes Veterinary Service	30.00	Office of State Auditor	165.00
Otter Tail Power	7,634.72	Praskas Hardware Hank	371.70
RDO	242.49	Reardon Office Equipment	354.02
Rods Cleaning	310.00	Rons Heating & Appliance	50.00
Sanitation Products	1,020.61	Starion Bank	2,407.04
Sweets & Stories	84.93	Verizon Wireless	422.35
Visa-Library	392.82	Visa-City	1,407.29
Vistos Carquest	129.91	Waste Management-Recycle	806.70
Waste Management-Cardboard	274.86	Waste Management-Landfill	4,897.74
WatchGuard	10,090.00	Wendy Johnson	52.00
Zacks Repair	77.15	Starion/PSN – Bank Fees	483.19
Payroll Taxes	11,641.46	Salaries	38,741.88

#### Visitors:

**Harold Rotunda, CPA** reported on the 2017 Audit. The City's financial position is improving and recommends reviewing the Capital Improvement Plan routinely. Forward moved, O'Brien second to approve 2017 Audit as presented, carried.

**Robert Schaefer** informed the Council of his visit with Don Flaherty, Dickey County Director of Tax Equalization regarding the valuation of his property. Flaherty determined the value of Schaefer's property was incorrectly assessed and recommended him to attend the County Board of Equalization meeting to have it reviewed and discussed on record. Schaefer stated his frustrations on trying to determine how property is assessed. Mayor Zimmer stated he will meet with Don Flaherty and Rod Rodningen to discuss the issue.

#### Committee Reports:

**Vacant Position**, Haring reported no petitions or requests have been received regarding the vacant Council position. The position will remain open until after June election. **Dust Control**, O'Brien moved, Conklin second to apply dust control in recreation areas on west side of town as previous years; tourism funds will be used for the expense, carried. **Concrete**, Harris moved, Forward second to approve improvements of various valley gutters on streets and avenues for the cost of \$2,500-\$3,000, carried. **Gym Roof** estimate was received to discuss potential need to replace roofing due to leaks, will request more estimates to compare costs. **Mayor Zimmer** stated he had met with Gary Neuharth, City Attorney, and expressed his concerns with how things were handled with different events in the past year. Mayor Zimmer informed the Council of his opinion to not re-appoint Neuharth as City Attorney at the June reorganization meeting. Gary Neuharth stated he feels has done his best and does not want to leave his position. He continues to be dedicated to the City and dealing with legal issues daily.

#### Unfinished Business:

None

#### New Business:

**Official Paper Designation**, Conklin moved, Forward second to designate Oakes Times as the official paper for the City of Oakes, carried.

**EMS Week Proclamation**, O'Brien moved, Forward second to proclaim May 20-26 EMS Week in the City of Oakes, carried.

**Tree Planting Incentive**, Conklin proposed a new program to encourage replacement of boulevard trees in residential areas. The program will offer reimbursement to purchase for half the price of the tree up to \$50 with a limit of \$300 per property. Reimbursement will only be made with a copy of original receipt and for trees approved by City. Conklin and Haring will work on acquiring potential sponsorships of the program to determine the budget amount and promote a "first-come, first-serve" reimbursement.

**Tourism Funding Requests-Dickey County Relay for Life**, Forward moved, O'Brien second to deny Tourism Funding Request of \$1,000 to Dickey County Relay for Life due to the location of the venue and lack of funding, carried.

**New Police Officer**, Officer Dennis Cihak was introduced to the Council and sworn in as an Oakes Police Officer.

Announcements & Correspondence:

**2018 Arbor Day Poster & Poetry Contest Winners**, Grades K-1 participated in an Arbor Day Poster Contest and Grades 2-6 participation in an Arbor Day Poetry Contest sponsored by the Tree Committee. Each grade had two winners that were awarded a tree.

O'Brien moved, Forward second to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 PM.

MAYOR Marty Zimmer ATTEST Dino Haring  
(minutes subject to correction and approval at the next regular meeting)