

City Council Meeting
September 8, 2021

The City Council met at 6:00 PM at Oakes Community Center with the following members present: Mayor O'Brien, Council: Day, Bakke, Harris, and Bagley. Visitors present: Diana Skjefte, Rebecca Udem, Gordon & Kathie Brummund and Audrey O'Brien. Employees present: Jason Paradis, Matt O'Brien, Jeremy Sitzler, Pat Nelson, Darrick Nitschke and Zasha Johnson.

Engineer Report:

No Report.

Minutes, Auditor and Court Report: Bakke moved, Harris second to approve minutes, auditor reports (cash balance, expenditures, revenues, tax income & journal entries) and police department report as presented, carried.

Game of Chance Permit: Harris moved, Bakke second to approve game of chance permits as follows, carried.

1. Oakes Lions – Calendar Raffle
2. Oakes Lions – Raffle
3. Knights of Columbus – Bingo & Calendar Raffle

Building Permit: Bagley moved, Harris second to approve building permits as follows, carried.

1. Schumacker, Concrete Apron, Lots 1-4 Block 22 Outlots and Additions
2. Peterson, Pergola, Lot 12 Block 3 Cline's Addition
3. Kenney, Fence, Lots 1-2 & E 1/2 Lot 3 Block 5 Washburn's Addition

Bills: Bakke moved, Bagley second to approve bills as listed, roll call approved:

Agtegra Coop	618.58	Arthur Strutz	70.00
Avid Hawk	200.00	Brad Mcharry	276.23
Brownies Tree Service	725.00	Central Business Systems	202.20
Chris Larson	624.00	City of Fargo	42.00
Corner C Store	381.57	Dakota Valley Electric	247.00
Dept. of Transportation	11.50	Dickey Rural Networks	832.11
Economy Oil	440.73	Ellendale Concrete	799.50
Fabian Pest Control	205.00	Grainger	86.36
Geffdog Designs	526.00	Hach Company	60.99
Hawkins	2,131.39	Information Tech	38.15
Interstate Engineering	4,484.02	Interstate Power Systems	640.00
James River Repair	151.10	Kamstrup Water Meters	1,014.13
Kustom Machine	213.56	Mertz Lumber & Supply	975.67
Michael Todd	910.59	MottoMobile	925.00
Napa Auto Parts	142.22	ND One Call	17.55
NDPERS-Insurance	15,796.56	NDPERS-Retirement	6,688.23
ND Sewage Pump Lift Station	2,100.00	Novak Electric	668.35
Oakes Enhancement	11,557.77	Oakes Truck & Trailer	3,928.31
Otter Tail	7,434.94	Paradis Law Office	500.00
Praskas Hardware Hank	307.01	Rod's Cleaning	350.00
Sitzler Yardworks	375.00	Starion Bank	2,407.04
Sweets & Stories	156.39	Thein Well	560.00
Tools Plus	358.25	Tornado Stop	2,416.41
USA Blue Book	152.28	Van Diest Supply	1,666.25
Visa-Library	219.99	Visa-City	1,044.17
Visto's	182.12	Waste Management	1,592.22

Waste Management-Landfill	2,897.72	Waste Management	8,804.25
Watchguard	4,995.00	West Side Auto	838.56
Salaries	48,276.76	Payroll Taxes	11,152.15

Visitor:

Kathy Brummund, Spoke about the drainage along the railroad near 10th St North. The water pools near the culvert and the area cannot be mowed. The weeds and cattails have grown quite tall and it has become an attractive nuisance for children. Dakota Improvement has been contacted to clean out the area around the culvert which should allow the water to flow out of the area. **Diana Skjefte**, asked the council if a change could be made to the city ordinance regarding dog bites. She was recently bitten and it took more than a month for the dog to be put down. Chief O'Brien explained the process that is currently in place allows the animal owner to appeal the decision to the District Court and the animal cannot be euthanized until the court rules on the appeal. Discussion was had regarding what changes could be made to speed up and smooth out the process. Skjefte expressed her dissatisfaction in how the case was handled. The council will fully review the ordinances to determine changes that could be made. **Rebecca Udem**, has been working with our website provider to rebuild and redesign the entire layout. The photos on the website are at least 10 years old and many things have changed in town during the last decade. The website provider staffs a professional photographer and has quoted a fee of \$1675.00 to provide all new photos and a promotional video for the website. Bakke moved, Day second to pay for the updated photography using tourism funds, carried. Udem also discussed the opportunity to bring a local television program to town and record an episode here; the council declined to provide funding.

Committee Reports: **Clean-Up Week**, the option of having clean-up week only once a year was discussed. council feels that it is a service residents appreciate and utilize and would like to continue with twice a year. Nelson asked if they could limit the hours to monitor and control the site better, this was agreed upon. Fall clean-up will be held October 4th-9th at the waste disposal site with limited hours. Nelson also let the council know they are looking at lawnmowers for next year. Wait times are 6+ months out after ordering. **Police**, Chief O'Brien explained the difficulty in finding a new officer and that it is an issue departments statewide are having. He has reached out to regional colleges and police academies to make the opening known. SRO position is going well, the school is pleased with the interactions and results so far. DARE program will begin soon.

New Business:

The Hole-In-One Foundation requested a waiver of rental fees for the chairs they used during their fundraiser in August. They are a local 501(c)(3) charity that assists families experiencing life changing hardships. Bakke moved, Harris second to waive the rental fees, carried.

Announcements & Correspondence:

Chamber of Commerce sent a message regarding repairs that were needed on the large set of movable bleachers, no action was taken. **Complaint** regarding the home at 211 N 6th St was received from the neighbors regarding the conditions of the property. The sewer issue that was found has been repaired and there is no standing sewage left in the home. No action will be taken at this time. **Complaint** regarding the same animal involved in the Skjefte situation. Spoke with concerned party and informed him the animal has been euthanized. **Thank you** was received from the Art Conklin family.

Bagley was approached by individuals questioning the laws regarding living situations for registered sex offenders near daycares. Chief O'Brien explained that the law does not prohibit an offender from living next to a daycare. He also explained that when an offender moves they need to notify local law enforcement and a public notice will be issued that identifies the offender and where they will be living.

Bakke moved, Bagley second to adjourn the meeting at 7:30PM.



MAYOR _____ ATTEST _____

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