

APPROVED  
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
01/06/2020

The Onida City Council met on Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. at the City Office with Mayor Gary Wickersham presiding. Present at Roll Call: LaJena Gruis, Brooke Jacquot, Justin Mennenger, Marla Mosiman, and Jane Pitlick. Also present: Bill Stahl, Sheila Ring, Emily Sovell, Gerald Rausch, Jennifer Falkenhagen, Eric Falkenhagen, Tim Gruis and Tim Jost.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Pitlick seconded by Mosiman to approve the minutes from the December 2nd, and December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 City Council meetings. All ayes, motion carried.

**REPORTS:** Jost stated that they have been busy with hauling snow for most of the month. Tim Gruis will be attending a wastewater class to get his certification. The old loader sprung a leak so that will be worked on when time allows.

**Sheriff's Dept.:** Stahl reported that the sheriff's department has responded to complaints on: barking dogs, dogs at large, welfare checks, careless driving, truancies and property damage.

**WAGES:** Hiller handed out the new wages for 2020. Motion by Gruis seconded by Mennenger to approve an increase for Deanna Sutton from \$12.00 per hour to \$14.42 per hour. Roll Call: All ayes: Motion carried. Absent: Shepherd. Motion by Jacquot seconded by Pitlick to approve a 3% increase for Anderson, Becker, Gruis, Hiller, Jost, and Knodel, and increases for part time employees and election workers. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Shepherd. The wages will be published separately.

**NEWS PAPER DESIGNATION:** Motion by Pitlick seconded by Jacquot to make The Onida Watchman the official newspaper for the City of Onida. All ayes. Motion carried.

**PROPERTY ISSUES:** Gerald Rausch was present to discuss his properties located at 311 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street and 401 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street. He has thoughts of possibly adding another building on the property and wanted to know how close he could build according to city ordinances. He then stated his objections to the surcharges that are being charged on his property located at 401 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street. He is not happy with these chargers as there is no longer a home sitting on the property. Hiller read from the resolutions, drawn up by the State of South Dakota: Additionally, all water/wastewater surcharge fees will be accessed every month regardless of water being turned off or turned on. Attorney Sovell stated that she believes the City's hands are tied by the reading. Sovell stated that she will confer with the State on the matter.

Jennifer and Eric Falkenhagen were present to discuss the situation with their property located at 201 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Falkenhagen stating her irritation with the city. Falkenhagen stated that they have been on the property and the ground is still too wet to move anything. They also stated that the City said we would install a culvert in the area to aid in the drainage situation. Mayor Wickersham stating that the city had been down there to look into placing a culvert but that there is fiber optics going through the area so that a culvert could not be placed. Wickersham informed Falkenhagen that the City would remove the snow off the street and that Wickersham would remove the snow off the property and with the predicted cold spell coming in the ground should freeze making it possible to move the home. Falkenhagen was encouraged to call Steele and Steele, P. C. and acknowledge the summons that they had received

**ARRIVAL:** Shepherd arrived at 8:08 p.m.

**HEALTH INSURANCE:** Hiller received notice of the new rates for employee health insurance which shows a decrease of 4.4%. The new monthly premium will be \$3769.60 for four employees beginning March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Motion to approve by Pitlick seconded by Gruis. Roll Call. All ayes. Motion carried.

**ELECTION:** Hiller provided the 2020 Municipal Election Calendar to the Council. The election for 2020 will be held on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Vacancies will be published separately.

**BUILDING PERMITS:** The following building permits were presented for approval:

Storm Repair: Bob and Doris Porter 600 S 6<sup>th</sup> St, Clayton and Marvel Buhler 101 S 9<sup>th</sup> Street, 802 Dogwood Avenue, 306 S Main Street, 806 South Main St, and Josh Buhler 804 S Main St. Motion by Pitlick seconded by Gruis to approve all permits. All ayes. Motion carried.

**WATER/SEWER PROJECTS:** Camden Hofer, engineer for Schmucher, Paul, Nohr and Associates, has been in contact with Jost and Hiller concerning the lift station. The lift station pumps are under the design capacity due to restrictions in the existing 6-inch PVC force main. High flow events can overwhelm the lift station. In order to increase the capacity of the lift station, a second force main is proposed. An 8-inch PVC force main is recommended to provide for the flow capacity needed allowing both pumps to provided full-flow capacity. This expense will not be covered by the loan that we have with the State, however Mr. Hofer has been in contact with

Rural Development and there might be an opportunity with them. The expected cost for this is \$364,840. It will need to be determined which way to route the pipe and obtain an easement before anything definitive is planned.

**AUDIT 2018-2019:** A proposal was received from our auditors, Kohlman, Bierschbach and Anderson, LLP to perform an audit of the financial statements of the City of Onida for 2018 and 2019 at a rate not to exceed \$12,200. Motion by Mosiman seconded by Gruis to accept this proposal. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried.

**BILLS:** The following bills were presented for payment: Emily Sovell retainer 500.00, Sully County Treasurer law enforcement 5255.55, S. D. State Treasurer taxes 5663.16, Mid-Dakota Rural Water supplier 8964.00, Sovell Oil fuel 1482.71, Cash postage from petty 12.45, Oahe Electric repairs/payment 416.67, The Onida Watchman publications 157.34, Pierre Solid Waste landfill 1815.44, SD Unemployment contributions 25.97, Badger Meters supplies 203.52, Lamb's Chevy repairs 9.30, Don's Food supplies 30.76, DENR fees 350.00, Helms and Asso. airport 3501.17, Lamb's Discount supplies 284.69, T & R electric supplies 2356.21, Onida Electric repairs 186.03, Border States supplies 891.54, Zander Auto repairs 20.00. Motion was made by Gruis seconded by Shepherd to pay all bills. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion by Gruis seconded by Pitlick to go into executive session at 8:25 pm. in accordance to SDCL 1-25-2 (3). All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Pitlick seconded by Mosiman to come out of executed session at 8:45 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** Motion made by Pitlick seconded by Mennenger to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. The next regular City Council meeting will be February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

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Gary Wickersham, Mayor

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Rondha Hiller, Finance Officer

Published January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the total approximate cost of \$