

APPROVED  
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
03-06-2023

The Onida City Council met on Monday, March 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the City Office with Mayor LaJena Gruis presiding. Present at Roll Call: Brooke Jacquot, Clark Jordre, Marla Mosiman, Jessica Olivier, Jane Pitlick, and Caleb Shepherd. Also present: Sheila Ring, Tim Gruis, Casey Clark, Maci Clark, and Lee Rausch.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Gruis opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Shepherd seconded by Pitlick to approve the minutes from the February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 City Council meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:** Superintendent Gruis reported that their main job during the past month has been moving snow, hauling snow, and working on snow moving equipment. Gruis reported that there is a water leak in the 800 block of Ginseng Avenue. He has been having difficulties finding the curb stop. He has also done so more checking on new equipment prices. Further discussion was had on purchasing new equipment and the cost associated with such. Thoughts are that we have used much of our equipment past the point of it having any value left. If we were able to purchase newer equipment and be able to make repairs ourselves instead of relying on outside help, there would be cost savings there. Hiller has been in contact with our auditors on the ability to transfer money from the FIT account and use it for the purchase of equipment instead of getting loans and having to pay the interest in which our auditor stated there would be no ill findings by doing this. Shepherd stated that he is all for using monies out of the FIT account up to \$200,000. His thoughts are to purchase a backhoe and there would be enough money left over for a skid steer or something similar and we could use the old payloader and backhoe as trade in equipment or surplus. Jordre stating that there are upgrades that need to be done. Pitlick stating her concerns on the costs and taking money from the account should an emergency of some other sort arise. Motion was made by Shepherd seconded by Olivier to set aside \$200,000 from the FIT account for equipment purchases. Roll Call. All ayes. Motion carried. Gruis was instructed to go and try out some equipment and report back at the April meeting.

**Fire Depart.:** Shepherd stated that the Onida Fire Department would like to be included in the monthly reporting for the OFD as the city gives a substantial contribution every year. To this, he informed the council that the OFD is working on a telehealth project through the state of South Dakota in conjunction with their ambulance calls. With the telehealth they have the ability of a live feed with medical personnel during their ambulance calls. He stated that the goal is to use it on every call. They have used it several times already and he stated that it has been a very useful and positive system and that it is fully funded on a year-to-year basis through the state. He also stated that this month they will be training on water rescues.

**Sheriff Dept.:** No report given.

**TREE GRANT:** Mayor Gruis has found possible grant monies for tree work in Onida in which we could be eligible for up to a \$5000 match. This would be used for the anticipated expense of trimming trees that are in the way of utility lines in the city. Motion by Pitlick seconded by Jordre to approve the grant application and having Mayor Gruis as the authorized signer on the grant. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried.

**GARBAGE COLLECTION CONTRACT:** Hiller informed council that the 2-year contract with River Bottom will be expiring on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. She has put together the new bid documents for our April 2023 meeting. She has been in contact with a couple of companies about the length of the contract. We started out with a two-year contract to see how well this service would work for us. There have been a few problems over the last two years but nothing major with everyone stating that they have been very happy with the service and the decision was made that the new contract will be for a period of three years. Hiller will send out information to those that have expressed interest and will place an ad in The Onida Watchman for same with bid opening to be completed at the April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 city council meeting.

**ELECTION:** Hiller informed the Council that there will be an election this year with Jane Pitlick and Casey Clark filing petitions for Ward 3, a 2-year term. The election is April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**LOCAL BOARD OF EQUALIZATION:** Hiller notified the council that we need to meet as the Local Review Board. The Onida City Council, sitting as a Review Board, will meet on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

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

Rausch Construction – 201 S 5<sup>th</sup> Street – 60 x 100 steel building

Tom and Monette Clark – 302 S 8<sup>th</sup> Street- home remodel

Steve and Judy Foth – 315 S 8<sup>th</sup> Street – bathroom remodel

Onida Methodist Church – 708 Ash Avenue – replacing basement ceiling

Motion by Mosiman, seconded by Jacquot to approve all permits. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion by Shepherd seconded by Jordre to go into Executive Session at 7:34 p.m. pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1). All ayes. Motion carried. Motion by Pitlick seconded by Jordre to come out of Executive Session at 7:58 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

**DEPARTURE:** Jacquot left the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

**ZONING:** Motion by Shepherd seconded by Mosiman to leave City Council at 8:00 p.m.

Motion by Pitlick seconded by Shepherd to go into Zoning at 8:00 p.m.

Hiller presented a change in zoning request from Rausch Construction for 201 S 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Notifications of a zoning change were published in The Onida Watchman and all those within 250 feet of the location were sent letters of notification. Lee Rausch was present to answer any questions regarding the need for the change.

Motion by Pitlick seconded by Mosiman to come out of zoning at 8:05 p.m. Motion by Shepherd seconded by Jordre to go back into City council at 8:05 p.m. Motion by Pitlick seconded by Shepherd to approve the zoning change, Resolution 2023-Zoning and Building permit for Rausch Construction. Roll Call. All ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Jacquot.

**BILLS:** The following bills were presented for payment: Finance 3293.17, Streets 13140.32, Water 2536.89, Electric 3304.21, Sewer 928.04, Garbage 1685.90, Council 2175.95, Parks 70.00. OTHER: Sully County Treasurer law enforcement 5742.92, Lamb's Discount 185.52, S. D. Treasurer taxes 4270.29, Mid-Dakota Rural Water supplier 9524.29, Post Office 210.24, Venture Communications 381.14, Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield health insurance 4524.60, Oahe Electric supplier 61373.66, South Dakota Retirement System contributions 2010.10, E.F.T.P.S taxes 5008.60, BankWest fees and supplies 205.00, Sovell Oil fuel 1762.87, Stewart and Daughters fuel 5353.73, Marco copier contract 205.46, Lamb Chevy repairs 161.95, Badger Meter supplies 2951.81, Helm's and Asso. airport 2933.45, Envirotech rent/recycle 1360.12, Onida Watchman publications 130.27, Crazy B's supplies 102.00 MDU utilities 33.37, AFLAC

insurance 271.74, Lamb Motors repairs 71.48, River Bottom Sanitation collection 9983.60, Sunrise Agency insurance 2118.00, One call locating 11.55, Office of Child Support 628.00, Riter Rogers retainer 577.50, Tim Gruis clothing 250.00, SDML district meeting 120.00, 3E repairs/contract 721.20, Windcircle support 275.00, Wheatland Inn storm cleanup 110.00, Grassland Gourmet district meeting 110.00, Rees Communications supplies 3845.00, Paxton Repairs 1167.96, Share Corporation supplies 274.32, Global Chemicals supplies 478.66,. Motion made by Mosiman seconded by Olivier to pay all bills. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Jacquot.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** Motion was made by Mosiman seconded by Pitlick to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried. The next regular City Council meeting will be April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.

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LaJena Gruis, Mayor

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Rondha Hiller, Finance Officer

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