

APPROVED  
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
11/4//2024

The Onida City Council met on Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Office with Mayor LaJena Gruis presiding. Present at Roll Call: Casey Clark, Clark Jordre, Marla Mosiman, Jessica Olivier, and Caleb Shepherd. Also present: Tim Gruis, Casey Hight, Bill Stahl, Sheila Ring, Aaron Scheibe, Micaela Mennenger, Luann Backlund, Mike Yackley, Mike Wiley, Greg Lorenz, Jamie Lamb, Brian Ring along with a host of other concerned citizens.

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

**MINUTES:** Motion by Shepherd seconded by Jordre to approve the minutes from the October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 City Council meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIREWORKS / TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS:** Approval has been sought for the lighting of fireworks during the Twas The Night Before Christmas celebration. Motion to approve by Clark seconded by Jordre. All Ayes. Motion carried.

**BANKING:** Representatives of Bank West along with many others were present to discuss the banking change that the Onida City Council agreed to during the October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 city council meeting. Mike Yackley began the discussion pointing out the 44-year history that the city has had with the bank stating that the City of Onida's banking should remain in Onida. Micaela Mennenger was next to speak pointing out that the bank has been reinvesting in the community for many years and gave a presentation on the changes that Bank West could deliver to the city. Brian Ring, speaking for Onida Economic Development, was next to speak reminding the Council that they had requested that the OED come to the August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 city council meeting amid the councils concerns of losing businesses in town and the declining school enrollment with Ring stating his support to keep banking local. Mike Wiley stated his concerns about money leaving the local banks and why wasn't the decision tabled at the October meeting but he also stated that he hoped that there would be no hard feelings in the community with the decision. Jamie Lamb stating his concerns on the damage that this is doing stating that it will look bad for the city to leave the local banks and that this is a crucial mistake, also stating that council had the power to reverse their decision. Other comments were that the city needs to support the local businesses but the local banks could have done a better job at making sure that the city had the best rates. Another person stating that the money should be kept in town but when you get a heck of a deal how do you not take it, this was a good thing that happened. Council members stating that we are elected to be good financial stewards for our community and as for supporting our community what about all the Amazon packages that come into town and vehicles that are purchased outside of town. Even if a business were wanting to come into town, where are they going to find a location to build so as no one will sell their vacant lots. No further action was taken.

**REPORTS:** Superintendent Gruis submitted his report to council stating that they continue to paint curbs, the musical flowers have been installed at the pool park, sewer repair at 601 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street, dump cleaned up and fence installed.

**Sheriff's Office:** Business as usual.

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

Dave and Jane Pitlick – 305 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street – concrete driveway

Kevin and Robbin Paxton – 401 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street – continuation of 16 x 26 north side addition

Christine and Doug Sorensen – 201 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street – 32 x 89 privacy fence

Motion by Jordre seconded by Clark to approve the permits. All ayes. Motion carried.

**ONIDA FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Shepherd spoke on behalf of the fire department and addressed the complaints that he has been receiving about the city plowing snow at the fire hall, which he pointed out is included in the lease, and training being done on city property. Attorney Scheibe stating that he will look over the lease. Motion be Mosiman seconded by Jordre to approve the continued training on city property and the use of city equipment during training. Roll Call: Ayes: Clark, Jordre, and Mosiman. Abstain: Olivier and Shepherd. Motion carried.

**ALCOHOL LICENSE RENEWALS:** Motion by Clark seconded by Mosiman to approve the 2025 liquor licenses for The Blue Goose, J&N Bistro, and The Rustic Emerald. Roll Call: Ayes: Clark, Mosiman, Olivier and Shepherd. Abstain: Jordre. Motion carried.

**PIERRE ANIMAL CLINIC:** Council was presented with the 2025 contract with the Pierre Animal Clinic. Motion to approve by Shepherd seconded by Clark. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion by Clark seconded by Mosiman to go into Executive Session at 7:46 p.m. pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2-(1). All ayes. Motion carried. Motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:50 p.m. by Mosiman seconded by Jordre. All ayes. Motion carried.

**BILLS:** The following bills were presented for payment: SALARIES: Finance 2157.86, Streets 3857.87, Parks 789.22, Water 1445.69, Electric 2149.30, Sewer 1960.02, Garbage 4608.85, Pool 185.07, Council 2000.00. OTHER: Sully County law enforcement 5915.17, SD Retirement contributions 2046.72, EFTPS taxes 2470.27, Lamb's Discount supplies 795.72, SD Treasurer taxes 4070.88, Post Office supplies 245.28, Pierre Solid Waste landfill 86.70, Venture Communications 476.08, Wellmark B/C B/S health insurance 3915.85, Oahe Electric supplier 56355.69, Oahe Electric dues and repairs 833.34, BankWest fee and supplies 725.36, Public Health Lab testing 196.00, One Call locating 13.65, Lamb Chevy repairs 566.98, Banyon support 850.00, Cash postage 12.03, Marco copier 226.40, US Bank loan 73029.14, AFLAC insurance 1383.66, The Onida Watchman publications 182.83, Mid Dakota Rural Water supplier 11175.43, Sovell Oil fuel 677.76, Lamb Motors repairs 201.39, River Bottom Sanitation collections 10484.00, Don's Food Center supplies 81.08, Dustin Volker travel 14.00, Runnings supplies 590.70, Tigers Fire Extinguisher service 290.00, Wesco supplies 736.00, City of Onida deposit refund 100.00, Brett's Spray maintenance 1594.71, Delta Dental insurance 311.52, Stewart Hyde repairs 3571.44, Alex Thorson deposit refund 150.00, Small Engine House supplies 1009.99, May Adam retainer 750.00, Badger Meter supplies 118.53, Riteway supplies 163.25, AGE Corp supplies 1509.50, American Bank and Trust transfer 874261.88. Motion by Clark seconded by Mosiman to pay all bills. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** Motion made by Mosiman seconded by Jordre to adjourn at 9:52 p.m. The next regular City Council meeting will be on Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

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LaJena R. Gruis, Mayor

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Rondha Hiller, Finance Officer

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