

APPROVED  
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
11/3//2025

The Onida City Council met on Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Office with Mayor LaJena R. Gruis presiding. Present at Roll Call: Marla Mosiman, Jessica Olivier, Mike Wiley, and Caleb Shepherd. Also present: Tim Gruis, Sheila Ring, Terry Barber, and Tanya Yackley.

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

**MINUTES:** Motion by Shepherd seconded by Wiley to approve the minutes from the October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 City Council meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:** Superintendent Gruis's report consisted of preparation and application of Mag water on Cedar and 4<sup>th</sup> Street, changing of electric poles and updating the wiring on the south side of the 800<sup>th</sup> block of Ash Avenue, winterized the water tower and lift station control rooms, started winter water levels in the water tower, received gravel, and placed gravel in problem alleys, and put a one-inch lift of gravel on the 900<sup>th</sup> block of Fir Avenue. The council was given an estimate for materials to replace three windows and a door in the shop. Motion by Shephard seconded by Wiley to do the shop repairs. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Rausch and Carter.

Gruis also stated that he has been in contract with Brosz Engineering concerning streets in town. Brosz is trying to get an Enrichment Program started. They are contacting towns similar to our size and close in proximity to us stating that if they could get this program started, we would most likely get better bid rates as long as the other areas are also doing similar projects. He also stated that he has been in contact with Oahe Electric concerning the utility pole inspections.

**ARRIVAL:** Gerald Rausch arrived at 6:35 p.m. with Teri Carter arriving at 6:38 p.m.

**Sheriff's Office:** Sheriff Stahl stated that he had Deputy Hight check on the progress occurring at 1000 Dogwood Avenue, formerly known as East Haven, and he said that things look good and that new steps have been built into all entrances of the complex. He also reported that traffic around the school area has been good with usually one person from the sheriff's department patrolling the area.

**WATER USAGE DISPUTE:** The Council discussed a request from Emily Sovell to adjust water charges on her office's utility bill relating to a 2025 winter water repair. The Council took no official action.

**AIRPORT PROJECT:** A \$94,870.13 Engineering Services Agreement was received from Helms Engineering. Terry Barber was present and stated that the project will be another t-hangar (revenue producing hangar) with grant monies to cover 90% of the total project cost and the city covering 10%. Barber explaining that he will have no issues with filling the hangar which is expected to be built in 2027. Motion to approve the agreement by Shepherd seconded by Rausch. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried.

**FIREWORKS / TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS:** Council approved a request to have fireworks for Twas the Night Before Christmas with the only stipulation being that cleanup is to be done immediately following the celebration.

**PHOENIX CENTER RENTAL AGREEMENT:** A revised rental agreement for the use of the Phoenix Center was received from Attorney Scheibe. The revised agreement addresses the use of alcohol in the center and the renter's responsibilities. Scheibe also stated his concerns with how much control the city has with the center considering that the city does not own the building. The city has a 99-year lease agreement with Economic Development and have control over the check book and rental monies coming in. Scheibe stating that a court might see it as a city owned facility. Council advised Hiller to contact Economic Development to see if they would be willing to take over the money factor of the facility. The finance office would still be responsible for renting the facility.

**ELECTION 2026:** With the change made by this year's legislature the city must change its date for elections by following the County's dates. County election dates for 2026 are June 2<sup>nd</sup> and November 3<sup>rd</sup> with Council choosing June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026.

**ALCOHOL LICENSES: NEW AND RENEWALS:** Motion by Wiley seconded by Carter to approve the 2026 renewal liquor license applications for The Blue Goose and The Rustic Emerald and the new 2025 Malt Beverage and S.D. Wine license application for Tunes and Friends LLC. Roll Call: All ayes: Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2025-02:** The first reading of Ordinance 2025-02 was completed. This ordinance deals with amending section 1X.2.7 in our current ordinances. The second read will be completed at the December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 city council meeting.

**BUILDING PERMITS:** The following building permit was presented for approval:

Tunes and Friends, LLC – 212 South Main Street – repairs to inside and outside of building, and electrical and plumbing updates.

Motion by Shepherd seconded by Carter to approve the permit. All ayes. Motion carried.

**BILLS:** The following bills were presented for payment: SALARIES: Finance 2349.18, Streets 3544.13, Parks 1430.42, Water 2132.34, Electric 2785.92, Sewer 1258.10, Garbage 1755.34, Pool 720.16, Council 2000.00. OTHER: Sully County law enforcement 6092.63, SD Retirement contributions 1746.28, EFTPS taxes 1807.22, Lamb’s Discount supplies 224.87, SD Treasurer taxes 3880.52, Post Office supplies 270.23, Venture Communications 480.30, Wellmark B/C B/S health insurance 3568.98, Oahe Electric supplier 53028.68, Oahe Electric dues and repairs 7197.05, Public Health Lab testing 270.00, Lamb Chevy fuel 558.15, Banyon support 865.00, Marco copier 248.27, US Bank loan 73029.14, AFLAC insurance 1035.96, The Onida Watchman publications 368.19, Mid Dakota Rural Water supplier 10882.43, Sovell Oil fuel 250.76, River Bottom Sanitation collections 10674.00, Tigers Fire Extinguisher service 1523.00, Delta Dental insurance 321.00, May Adam retainer 750.00, Badger Meter supplies 132.29, American Bank and Trust credit card and fees 3055.70, Envirotech recycle 817.81, B & B Equipment supplies 4974.25, MDU utilities 46.47, Helms airport 787.30, NASASP dues 39.00, Brownlee Aggregates supplies 32516.41, Nye Lumber supplies 19.20, Wind Circle support 624.46, Ingram Pest service 190.00, Dakota Supply Group supplies 343.40, SDML Workers Comp contributions 6720.00. Motion by Carter seconded by Mosiman to pay all bills. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** Motion made by Mosiman seconded by Wiley to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. The next regular City Council meeting will be on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

---

LaJena R. Gruis, Mayor

---

Rondha Hiller, Finance Officer

Published November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$