

APPROVED
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
04-13-2026

The Onida City Council met on Monday, April 13th, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at the City Office with Mayor LaJena R. Gruis presiding. Present at Roll Call: Marla Mosiman, Caleb Shepherd, JR Rausch, and Teri Carter. Also present: Tim Gruis, Sheila Ring, Bill Stahl, and Suzanne Stahl.

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

MINUTES: Motion by Carter seconded by Shepherd to approve the minutes from the March 2nd and March 16th, 2026 City Council meetings. All ayes. Motion carried.

REPORTS: Gruis reported that Price had attended a wastewater collection class and Gruis had attended a pipeline safety and emergency planning class. They have also been busy with alley maintenance, tree trimming, working with ASCO concerning sealcoating streets, maintenance at the Phoenix Center, equipment maintenance, burning the landfill and clean up there. He also informed council that Gruis and Price have started their four-day work week as of April 13th and that the landfill hours are now on summer hours. Gruis mentioned to council that he has been in contact with Oahe Electric and that they have a bucket truck that they are surplus. Gruis would like to purchase the truck for \$15,000 with an agreement that Oahe Electric would have use of the truck should they be in town doing repairs. Motion by Shepherd seconded by Mosiman to purchase the truck for \$15,000. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Olivier and Wiley

Sherriff Dept.: Stahl asked if council had any questions of him and explained that the mystery dog running around town was not a town dog at all and the owner has been found.

DUST CONTROL BILL: Hiller presented a bill to council that she just received for work that was done in October of 2025. There seemed to be some confusion as to who was responsible for the bill as it was done at the CHS complex. Mayor Gruis once again voiced her displeasure about mag water applications and wants to make sure that there are discussions with CHS in the future so that everyone is aware of who is financially responsible when mag water is put down. Rausch thinks a better option would be to have more work done on the road from the highway to the CHS complex. Motion by Rausch seconded by Mosiman to approve the city paying this bill. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Oliver and Wiley.

CELL PHONES: Superintendent Gruis has been in contact with First Net which is part of AT&T who would like to be our cell phone provider. We could get two cell phones with unlimited voice and data plans for a cost of \$84.98 plus required fees and taxes per month. At present we pay \$111.17 per month for one phone. The city superintendent would receive a phone and the finance officer would receive a phone. At present the finance officer uses her personal phone for a lot of communicating including for banking, insurance, taxes, etc. Motion by Shepherd seconded by Carter to approve this switch. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Oliver and Wiley.

CHS DUST COMPLAINTS: Suzanne Stahl was present to discuss the dust problems at her home. This has been an ongoing complaint for quite some time now along with the noise generated around the CHS complex. Mayor Gruis started the conversation out stating that we are a farming community and there many grain bins and augers set up in the general area of CHS so pointing fingers at just one is unjustifiable. Gruis also stated that a noise test was done on March 3rd, 2026 with slamming of the train cart lids. Decibel limits reached were 64.1. Our ordinance states a maximum limit of 65 decibels which means there is no violation here. Stahl said that she had been in contact with a CHS employee with Stahl stating that this employee was surprised that we had grain bins in town. Stahl inquired on the possibility of berms, or trees, or grass being planted around the area to help with the dust problem giving Wittler Seed Farm as an example. Shepherd asked where do you propose that grass be planted? There is no space for it with the way trucks travel through the area. Rausch stating that he wants gravel as it alleviates rodents. Carter stated that she has lived in close proximity to both elevators all her life and the dust is just a problem that comes with the grain hauling process. Rausch stated that he has given this a lot of thought but can not come up with a solution. Stahl asked if we could ask the farmers to mag water the area around their bins with Rausch stating that mag water is a good product but it does not work well in dry conditions. Stahl then asked if we could promise that there will be no more building permits issued for grain bins in the area with council telling her that that was not possible. Stahl then asked if we could make them plant trees or build berms in the area. Once again council's answer was no.

SULLY COUNTY BUDGET REQUEST: Hiller presented council with a request to Sully County for their continued support of our recreation programs. Hiller asked if council would like to ask for \$25,000 as was done last year. Council approved this request.

BUILDING PERMITS: The following permits were presented for approval:

Tate and Karlee Rinehart – 305 S 6th Str – 36 x 16 front deck
Pete and Patty McGee – 206 S 9th Str – replacing rock with concrete
Rod and Rory Mennenger – 400 S 5th Str – privacy fence
Tunes and Friends – 212 S Main Str – 48 x 26 paver patio and fence
Nick and Raechael Wiley – 307 S 8th Str – 10 x 10 shed

Motion to approve all permits by Rausch seconded by Shepherd. All Ayes. Motion carried.

MAY MEETING: Due to the school spring concert on May, 4th the May meeting will be held on May 5th, 2026 with a starting time of 7:00 p.m.

ELECTION UPDATE: Hiller informed council that there will be an election on June 2nd between Mike Yackley and Jessica Olivier. Shepherd and Rausch both turned in their petitions and are unopposed. Mosiman did not turn in a petition, there for her seat is up for appointment.

DRINKING WATER AWARD AND REPORT: Hiller presented copies of the 2025 water quality report to the council. This report is available to the public at the office if anyone is interested. It has also been published in the Onida Watchman and is available on www.onidasd.org. We were also notified by the state of South Dakota that we have again won the Secretary's Award for Drinking Water Excellence.

SDPAA/WC RECOMMENDATIONS: Hiller presented forms and policies suggested by SDPAA/WC that we adopt. After review from our attorney, who approved all of these, motion to approve by Carter seconded by Rausch. All ayes. Motion carried.

ALCOHOL: This being the time and place for a hearing on the renewal of Malt Beverage Licenses and no one was present to protest. The following Malt Beverage License Applications were presented to the Council: Don's Food Center, The Blue Goose, and Tunes and Friends. Motion by Carter seconded by Shepherd to approve all applications. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2026-1 FIREWORKS: The first reading of this ordinance was completed. The second reading will be May 5th, 2026.

2026 ANNUAL REPORT: Hiller presented the 2025 Annual Report to council. Motion to approve by Rausch seconded by Mosiman. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Olivier and Wiley.

2024/ 2025 AUDIT PROPOSAL: Hiller provided a proposal from Kohlman, Bierschbach, & Anderson LLP to complete our 2024 and 2025 audit for an amount not to exceed \$16,250. If it is determined that Uniform Guidance is applicable, the fee would increase to \$19,250. Motion to approve proposal by Mosiman seconded by Carter. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Oliver and Wiley.

AIRPORT: Hiller presented an update from our airport engineers, Helm's Engineering, that the aeronautics commission has decided that they will be participating in revenue producing hangar projects again thus making our match being 2.5% instead of the 10% match stated at the November 2025 meeting. There will be a project meeting on this on April 29th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Shepherd seconded by Mosiman to go into Executive Session in accordance to SDCL 1-25-2(1) at 7:27 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried. Motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:01 p.m. by Shepherd seconded by Mosiman. All ayes. Motion carried.

POOL / SUMMER REC: Motion by Carter seconded by Shepherd to hire the following people to lifeguard for the summer of 2026 at a rate of \$20 / hour contingent upon them passing their lifeguard certifications: Carter Mosiman, Jane Yackley, Elliana Nelson, and Jaycee Jaeger. Roll Call: Abstain: Mosiman, Ayes: Shepherd, Rausch, and Carter. Motion carried. Absent: Olivier and Wiley.

Motion by Mosiman seconded by Rausch to hire Preston Kinney as summer rec manager at a rate of \$6000 for the season with him paying out of pocket if he determines that he needs any help. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Olivier and Wiley.

Motion by Carter seconded by Mosiman to hire LaJena Gruis as pool manager at a rate of \$4400.00 for the season. Roll Call All ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Olivier and Wiley.

Pool rates will remain the same which are \$150.00 for a family season pass, \$75.00 for a single season pass, and \$5.00 daily rate. Pool parties are \$75.00 for 2 hours and swimming lessons are \$50.00 per person.

STEP INCREASE: Hiller informed council that David Price has met is three-month probationary period which entitles him to a .50 cent per hour increase. Motion to approve increase by Rausch seconded by Shepherd. Roll Call: all ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Olivier and Wiley.

WAGE INCREASE: Motion by Shepherd seconded by Carter to increase Scott Sutton's wages from \$16.00 per hour to \$18.00 per hour. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Olivier and Wiley.

BILLS: The following bills were presented for payment: Finance 2494.19, Streets 6125.75, Water 2206.09, Electric 2913.93, Sewer 2982.85, Garbage 1635.64, Parks 514.86, Council 1750.00. OTHER: Sully County

Treasurer law enforcement 6275.34, Lamb's Discount 82.03, S. D. Treasurer taxes 4143.39, Mid-Dakota Rural Water supplier 10230.30, Post Office 269.01, Venture Communications 485.74, Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield health insurance 4545.68, Oahe Electric supplier 66576.76, Oahe Electric fee and repairs 620.75, South Dakota Retirement System contributions 2233.46, E.F.T.P.S taxes 6559.29, Sovell Oil fuel 282.24, Marco copier contract 248.27, Public Health Lab testing 20.00, AFLAC insurance 1514.74, River Bottom Sanitation 11741.40, Helms and Asso airport 8017.84, May Adam retainer 750.00, MDU utilities 22.11, SDML workers comp 1074.00, Lamb Chevy repairs 1624.86, Envirotech recycle 817.81, Cholik Signs supplies 1750.00, Onida Watchman publications 457.93, City of Onida deposit refund 150.00, Dakota Supply supplies 1328.37, Badger Meter supplies 132.61, SDARWS dues 445.00, Don's Food Center supplies 108.89, American Bank and Trust fee and supplies 779.92, SD Unemployment contributions 72.93, Dept of Revenue alcohol licenses 450.00, Nye Lumber supplies 110.88, US Bank loans 73029.14, Titan supplies 220.45, Dakota Pump service 780.00, Riteway Business supplies 339.43, Riverfront Broadcasting ads 257.50, Ted Asmussen deposit refund 100.00, Great Plain Outdoor repairs 360.92, MC R Pools certification 376.65, SD DANR certification 35.00, Factor 360 website 560.00, **Dustbusters street repairs/** 2025 8166.40, Environmental Equipment supplies 1300.46. Motion made by Mosiman seconded by Rausch to pay all bills. Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carried. Absent: Olivier and Wiley.

MEETING ADJOURNED: Motion was made by Carter seconded by Shepherd to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

LaJena R. Gruis, Mayor

Rondha Hiller, Finance Officer

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