

The Oakley City Council met in regular session on June 5, 2023, in the meeting room at the Oakley City Office, 415 W. 2nd Street, at 7:00 P.M. Mayor Shane Stephenson presided.

Council members present. Leasa Huddle, Russ Kahle, Trevor Mader, and Kile Zerr were present; Cheryl Stewart was present by phone.

City staff present. City Administrator Brock Sloan, Police Chief Daniel Cooper, and City Clerk Leann Hughes.

Others present. James Wright with Midwest Energy, Inc.

Call to order. Mayor Stephenson called the regular meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s). Mader moved to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2023, regular meeting, as presented. Zerr seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15184).

Approval of AP Payment Register(s). Kahle moved to approve the June 1, 2023, AP Payment Register for checks dated May 31, 2023, in the amount of \$74,640.08 (Check Nos. 505-509; 50189-50194; and 50199-50244). Huddle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15185).

Approval of Time Entry Report. Mader moved to approve the Time Entry Report for April 30, 2023 to May 13, 2023, dated May 17, 2023, for the May 19, 2023, payroll, in the amount of \$65,637.36 for 2,713.78 hours (Check Nos. 17595-17597; ACH Nos. 97828-97860; AP Check Nos. 50186-50188; Wire Nos. 874-877). Zerr seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15186).

Kahle moved to approve the Time Entry Report for May 14, 2023 to May 27, 2023, dated May 31, 2023, for the June 2, 2023, payroll, in the amount of \$55,301.27 for 2,520.64 hours (Check Nos. 17598-17602; ACH Nos. 97861-97910; AP Check Nos. 50195-50198; Wire Nos. 878-881). Zerr seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#1587).

Citizen Request to Speak. None.

Department Head Reports. None.

NEW DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

James Wright – Midwest Energy – Franchise Agreement – Ordinance No. 1178. James Wright, Key Accounts and Member Service Manager with Midwest Energy, Inc., was present to discuss the renewal of the Electric Franchise Agreement for another 20 years. Wright explained the renewal date for the agreement is actually 2026; however, they have a large number of customer renewals in 2026 so they have asked if the City would consider renewing early. He noted the agreement opens up every five years for changes and/or additions and the City is currently receiving Five percent (5%) in franchise fees, which will continue in the new agreement. Discussion followed. Kahle moved to approve Ordinance No. 1178, granting to Midwest Energy, Inc., an Electric Franchise to the City of Oakley, Kansas, for a term of twenty (20) years. Huddle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15188). Wright stated he will provide a copy of the Ordinance to the Oakley Graphic for publication and will forward a signed copy of the Ordinance to the City along with the Proof of Publication after it has been published.

Mayoral Appointments of Staff and Boards.

Mayor Stephenson appointed Dwight Abel to the Airport Board through May 2025. Zerr moved to approve the appointment of Dwight Abel to the Airport Board through May 2025. Mader seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15189).

Mayor Stephenson appointed Don Stephenson to the Airport Board through May 2025. Zerr moved to approve the appointment of Don Stephenson to the Airport Board through May 2025. Kahle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15190).

Mayor Stephenson appointed Bill Schwarz to the Board of Zoning Appeals through May 2026. Zerr moved to approve the appointment of Bill Schwarz to the Board of Zoning Appeals through May 2026. Huddle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15191).

Mayor Stephenson reported he was contacted by Library Director, Victoria Halbleib, that Michael Brockman resigned his position from the Library Board. Mayor Stephenson appointed Pat Parsons to complete the unfulfilled term of Michael Brockman on the Library Board through May 2025. Zerr moved to approve the appointment of Pat Parsons to the Library Board to complete the term of Michael Brockman, who resigned, through May 2025. Mader seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15192).

UNFINISHED DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS: None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/DISCUSSION:

Brock Sloan, City Administrator. Administrator Sloan reported on several items, including:

- Bill Bradstreet began employment as the Landfill as Director on May 22, 2023.
- Casey Stout, who has a Class 1 Water Certification with the State of Kansas, was hired as another floater. Sloan noted that Rod Huffman has announced he is planning on retiring in April of 2024 and he is not certain how long Ben Ellegood plans to continue working, so he is trying to stay ahead of keeping as fully staffed as possible.
- Jodee Reed, Sara McDonald, Teresa Schroeder and Sloan set up a table at the Mitten's Job Fair on May 18th.
- The Street Crew and Midwest Energy put up the Veterans Banners.
- The Tribute Wall was displayed at Bertrand Park May 19, 2023, through May 21, 2023.
- Sloan reported he received a request to allow parking on only one side of the 600 block of Cornell, by the football field. Discussion followed. No action taken at this time.
- Due to the timing of the July payroll, Sloan asked the Council to have annual reviews for himself and the Police Chief at the next Council Meeting on June 19, 2023. The anniversary date for both employees is on July 1, 2023.
- Sloan reported he was contacted by someone interested in some vacant property owned by the City. He suggested a policy be developed for the sale of these properties, to include standards, timelines, etc. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to have Sloan put this together for Council review.
- Sloan asked for thoughts on wages as the 2024 budget process begins. It was the consensus of the Council to continue with two percent (2%) cost of living increase and the two percent (2%) merit increase on anniversary dates. Council Member Kahle asked that Administrator Sloan and Police Chief Cooper meet to discuss the implementation of shift differentials for the police department and revisit increases previously discussed. Sloan noted one problem with a shift differential is having software to properly calculate time.
- Sloan shared a plaque given to the City in appreciation for the support shown to the Run for the Wall XXXIII, 2023; and a Certificate of Appreciation presented to the City of Oakley Tourism in recognition of the City's continuing service and support, on behalf of The GoldStars Tribute Wall TM.

Leann Hughes, City Clerk. No report.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS/DISCUSSION:

Council Member Kahle inquired about the completing the installation of lights at the basketball court in Bertrand Park. Sloan stated one light was placed on the north and there are plans for a second light on the south. He will have Parks Director, Russell Moellering, check on this.

Council Member Stewart reported she has been in contact with citizens concerning whether or not to allow chickens in the city limits. So far, 48 out of 50 citizens she has spoken to, are in favor.

Council Member Mader asked that the Council still consider an Airport lunch, pancake feed, or some other kind of welcome event to bring attention to the Municipal Airport, possibly this Fall.

Mayor Stepheson acknowledged a letter from AdamsBrown, LLC, the City's audit firm, providing the City with information related to the upcoming audit of 2022 financial statements. A copy of this letter was provided at each Council Member's seat at the Council Table.

Adjourn. Kahle moved to adjourn the meeting. Huddle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#15193). Mayor Stephenson adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:37 P.M.

Leann M. Hughes, CMC
City Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The members of the Council acknowledged receipt of a copy of the minutes; said minutes were approved as presented at the June 19, 2023, regular meeting.